

## Ethics Bills passed in 2009

HB 345. Lobby Restrictions. Rep. Dee. Prohibits certain elected government officials from acting as a lobbyist for one year after leaving office; and requires the lieutenant governor to disapprove an application for a license when the applicant does not meet the eligibility requirements. <http://le.utah.gov/~2009/htmdoc/hbillhtm/hb0345.htm>

HB 346. Campaign Report Amendments. Rep. Dee. Requires contributions to be reported within 30 days of the day on which they are received; requires contributions and public service assistance that are made in the form of a negotiable instrument or check to be negotiated before the filing deadline for, and included on, interim reports. <http://le.utah.gov/~2009/htmdoc/hbillhtm/hb0346s03.htm>

SB 156. Gift/Meal Provisions for Public Officials. Sen. Bell. Addresses the definition of "tangible personal property"; includes admission to various events in the definition of "gift"; requires reporting of meals costing more than \$25 provided to a public official under certain circumstances. <http://le.utah.gov/~2009/htmdoc/sbillhtm/sb0156.htm>

SB 162. Campaign Fund Use. Sen. Bell. Prohibits the use of campaign and officeholder funds for a purpose that would result in the candidate or officeholder recognizing the funds as taxable income under federal tax law. [This basically prohibits personal use.] <http://le.utah.gov/~2009/htmdoc/sbillhtm/sb0162.htm>

HJR 14. Ethics Training Course. Rep. Fowlke. Requires an annual ethics training course for members of the Legislature and lobbyists, and that the training materials and exercises be available on the Internet to legislators, lobbyists, and to the public. <http://le.utah.gov/~2009/htmdoc/hbillhtm/hjr014.htm>

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In addition to the above bills, the legislature also created an Ethics Committee that has been meeting during the interim to study, analyze and address what other ethics reform are needed.

Their latest recommendation was to create an independent Ethics Commission with five members: three retired judges and two legislators, one from each party. You can follow the Ethics Committee agenda on the legislative web site.