

- SUBJECT:** Restricting certain lobbyist expenditures from political campaigns
- COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Phelan, Guerra, Harless, Holland, Hunter, P. King, Raymond, Springer
- 0 nays
- 5 absent — Hernandez, Deshotel, Parker, E. Rodriguez, Smithee
- WITNESSES:** For — None
- Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Karen Kelley; Mohan Rao; Gregory Young)
- BACKGROUND:** Government Code sec. 305.029(b) prohibits registered lobbyists who were formerly candidates or officeholders from using the political contributions that they received as candidates or officeholders to make contributions to other candidates, officeholders, or political committees.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 2677 would prohibit a registered lobbyist, and anyone acting on the lobbyist's behalf and with the lobbyist's consent, from knowingly making or authorizing lobbying expenditures, political contributions, or political expenditures from political contributions accepted by:
- the lobbyist when the lobbyist was a candidate or officeholder;
 - a specific-purpose committee that supported the lobbyist as a candidate or assisted the lobbyist as an officeholder; or
 - a political committee that accepted political contributions from the lobbyist or above-described specific-purpose committee in the two years immediately before the political contributions or expenditures were made.
- A person who knowingly made or authorized political contributions or direct campaign expenditures from political contributions the person

accepted as a candidate or officeholder also could not lobby for the next two years after such expenditures or contributions were made.

This prohibition would not apply to individuals who communicated directly with the legislative or executive branch only to influence legislation or administrative action on behalf of nonprofit organizations, low-income individuals, or individuals with disabilities and who did not receive compensation other than reimbursement for actual expenses for engaging in the communication.

The bill would take effect September 27, 2019, and would apply only to political contributions, political expenditures, direct campaign expenditures, and lobbying expenditures made on or after that date.