

General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 255

LCO No. **1872**

GOVERNMENT

Referred to Committee on ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

ECTIONS

Introduced by: (GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROVISIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2024) (a) As used in this section, 2 (1) "municipality" means each town, city or borough, whether 3 consolidated or unconsolidated, and includes any district, and (2) 4 "district" has the same meaning as provided in section 7-324 of the 5 general statutes. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act, municipal charter or ordinance, not later than October 6 7 1, 2025, each municipality shall adopt a conflict of interest provision for 8 its elected and appointed officials, officers and employees which shall 9 contain: (A) The municipality's definition of "conflict of interest" or the 10 model definition set forth in subsection (b) of this section, and (B) any 11 actions that are required to be taken by the municipality if a conflict of 12 interest is determined to exist, except that the provisions of this 13 subsection shall not apply to any municipality that has established a 14 conflict of interest policy prior to January 1, 2025.

15 (b) For purposes of complying with the requirements of subsection 16 (a) of this section, a municipality may adopt the following model 17 definition of conflict of interest in lieu of creating its own definition: A 18 conflict of interest exists where an official, officer or employee believes 19 or expects that such official, officer or employee, or any person within 20 such official's, officer's or employee's immediate family, or any business 21 associate of such official, officer or employee, or any business by which 22 the official, officer or employee is employed, or any business with which 23 the official, officer or employee is associated, will derive a direct 24 monetary gain or suffer a direct monetary loss, as the case may be, by 25 reason of such official's, officer's or employee's official activity, but 26 excluding any official action taken by the official, officer or employee in 27 which any benefit or detriment is shared with a substantial segment of 28 the population of the municipality.

29 (c) Not later than January 15, 2026, each municipality shall submit a 30 notice to the Office of State Ethics, in a manner prescribed by the office, 31 certifying whether the municipality (1) has adopted a conflict of interest 32 provision in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this 33 section, or (2) is exempt from such requirement under subsection (a) of 34 this section. Any such notice shall include a copy of the conflict of 35 interest provision adopted by such municipality. The Office of State Ethics shall publish a copy of each municipality's conflict of interest 36 37 provision submitted under this subsection on the office's Internet web 38 site.

39 (d) Not later than January 15, 2026, and as updated thereafter, each 40 municipality shall publish any conflict of interest provision adopted by 41 such municipality on its Internet web site in an easily accessible location. 42 If the conflict of interest provision is part of an established code of ethics 43 adopted by a municipality, the publication of the code of ethics on the 44 municipal Internet web site in an easily accessible location shall satisfy 45 the requirements of this subsection. If the municipality does not have an 46 Internet web site, the municipality shall make its conflict of interest 47 provision or code of ethics available to the public at the town or city 48 clerk's office.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	New section

GAE Joint Favorable