



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Shines Light on the Lobbying Process and Issues 2005 Lobbying Report

Compiles and Releases total amount spent and earned by lobbyist firms

SACRAMENTO, CA - Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today released the *Lobbying California State Government* report, which indicates a record total of \$228 million was spent on lobbying activity during the 2005 calendar year. For the first time since 2000, Secretary McPherson compiled and released the report to the public on the expenditures of the lobbying employers and the revenue of the lobbying firms in California.

"I am pleased to have been able to compile this report for the people of California," said Secretary of State McPherson. "It is part of my commitment to bring transparency to the democratic process and make government more accountable to the people."

Bob Stern, President of the Center for Governmental Studies, said "this lobbying report provides the public with important information about how much money is being spent influencing the Legislature and California state government. The Secretary of State should be commended for compiling this information and compiling it in an easily read format."

The top five lobbying organizations in terms of cumulative spending were:

- California Teachers Association - \$9,456,813
- AT&T and its affiliates - \$4,065,146
- Western States Petroleum Association - \$3,130,034
- California Chamber of Commerce - \$2,570,516
- California State Council of Service Employees - \$2,014,715

The top five lobbying firms in terms of cumulative payments were:

- KP Advocates - \$4,706,161
- Nielsen, Merksamer, Parrinello, Mueller & Naylor LLP - \$4,129,228
- Aaron Read & Associates - \$4,013,465
- Sloat Higgins Jensen & Associates - \$3,990,225
- Capitol Advocacy, LLC - \$3,229,195

The 2005 lobbying report summarizes total payments made by the 2,639 lobbying entities - employers that use in-house lobbyists or contract with lobbying firms - that submitted their quarterly financial disclosure statements to the Secretary of State

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between January 1 and December 31, 2005. Only lobbyist employers and firms that filed online are included in this report. Entities with receipts or expenditures under \$5,000, the amount required to file electronically, are not included. In addition to salaries and fees, the reports also include gifts and overhead costs for each entity.

When filing lobbying disclosure reports, the various organizations affiliate themselves with a specific industry. The top industry is "Government" followed by "Miscellaneous," which includes any group that does not fit into one of the specific industry categories. The top five lobbying industries are:

- Government - \$35,167,319
- Miscellaneous - \$29,677,149
- Health - \$24,431,294
- Education - \$22,183,698
- Manufacturing/Industrial - \$20,521,241

The complete report is available on the Secretary McPherson's website at http://www.ss.ca.gov/prd/Lobreport2005/lobbying_reports.htm. For more information, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.