

ORDINANCE NO. 20230323-003

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4-8 OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO LOBBYING.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. Subsection (A) and (E) of City Code Section 4-8-5 (*Registration*) are amended to read:

§ 4-8-5 REGISTRATION.

- (A) A person who meets a threshold under § 4-8-3 (*Registration Requirement*) shall register not later than the fifth [~~working~~] business day after the person first directly communicates with a City official to lobby. A person who is required to register must file an annual registration on the anniversary of the initial registration until the registration is terminated.
- (E) If there is a change in the information reported on a registrant's registration form, including a new client or municipal matter, the registrant shall provide a written update to the information reported in the registrant's registration form not later than the tenth [~~working~~] business day after the date the person first directly communicates with a City Official to lobby on a new municipal question or for a new client, or after the date of the change of any other information required to be reported.

PART 2. Subsections (B), (F), and (G) of City Code Section 4-8-11 (*Late Filing Fee*) are amended to read:

§ 4-8-11 LATE FILING FEE.

- (B) The city clerk shall determine from any available evidence whether a report under this chapter is late.
 - (1) A registration or activity report that is not timely filed is late. Reports are late if filed after 11:59 p.m. on the due date. If the last day to perform an act is a Saturday, Sunday, or City holiday, Section 1-1-5 (Calculation of Time) applies, and the due date is the next date that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or City holiday.
 - (2) A registration or activity report is not properly filed without [~~a~~] all required fees, including accrued late fees, being paid timely. Accordingly, a registration or activity report filed without the required fees being paid timely is late. The city clerk may use an electronic form that will prevent a filer from submitting a required report until all registration, renewal, or late fees owed by a registrant or employee lobbyist are paid.

- (F) On making a determination that a report is late, the clerk shall [~~immediately~~] not later than the next business day send, by email, or other traceable method, a notice of the determination to the person responsible for the filing, notifying the person of the fee for late filing, and charging the fee. Late fees are due by 11:59 p.m. on the 10th day after the notice of determination is sent and are subject to Section 1-1-5 (Calculation of Time).
- (G) [~~If the late fee is not paid before the 10th day after the date on which the notice is sent by the city clerk to the person responsible for filing the report, the person is liable to the City for an additional late fee.~~] The city clerk will apply additional late fees on the first business day occurring after the 10th day after the date the city clerk sent the notice of determination.
- (1) Until the person files the activity report, [~~the clerk shall send a written notice by email to the person every 10th day.~~] [T]the person is liable for an additional late fee each time the clerk sends a 10-day notice up to a cumulative maximum of \$500 per report.
- (2) The clerk need not send additional notices when the total of the late fees has reached the maximum amount and may not send the notices more frequently than every 10th day.

PART 3. This ordinance takes effect on April 3, 2023.

PASSED AND APPROVED

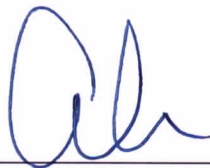
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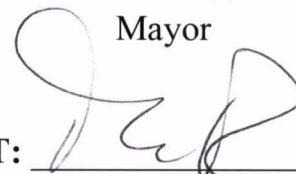
Kirk Watson
Mayor

APPROVED:



Anne L. Morgan
City Attorney

ATTEST:



Myrna Rios
City Clerk