

## **LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code - Campaign Consultants, Recusal Notifications, Major Developer Disclosures]

**Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to require campaign consultants to provide information necessary for their clients to fully disclose campaign spending, and repeal the requirement that such consultants register with the Ethics Commission; repeal the requirement that members of City boards and commissions file a notice with the Ethics Commission after recusing from participation in a matter based on a financial conflict of interest; and require developers of certain large projects to provide information on nonprofit donations for lobbyist activities so that recipients can accurately register and report such activities, and repeal the requirement that developers register with the Ethics Commission.**

### **Existing Law**

The Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code requires campaign consultants to register with the Ethics Commission and comply with specified reporting requirements. The Ethics Commission is required to compile and report this information to the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor after the close of each quarter; preserve all reports, statements, and other records required under these rules; adopt rules and regulations to implement these requirements; and provide formal and informal advice regarding these requirements. The Ethics Commission has the authority to impose late fines and other penalties for failure to comply with these requirements. Each campaign consultant must also elect whether to voluntarily comply with a specified Code of Conduct.

The Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code requires any member of a City board or commission, excluding the Board of Supervisors, who is required to file a statement of economic interests to notify the Ethics Commission each time the member recuses themselves.

The Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code requires any developer of a major project, as defined in that Code, to file five disclosure forms with the Ethics Commission containing information about certain donations to nonprofit organizations the developer may have made. The Ethics Commission has the authority to impose late fines and other penalties for failure to comply with these disclosure requirements.

### **Amendments to Current Law**

The proposed ordinance amends the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code by 1) requiring campaign consultants to provide information necessary for their clients to fully disclose campaign spending, instead of registering themselves with the Ethics Commission; 2) repealing the requirement that members of City boards and commissions file a notice with

the Ethics Commission after recusing from participation in a matter based on a financial conflict of interest, while maintaining the other existing disclosure and recusal requirements; and 3) requiring developers of certain large projects to provide information on nonprofit donations for lobbyist activities so that recipients can accurately register and report such activities, instead of registering themselves with the Ethics Commission.

#### Background Information

The proposed amendments to the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code must be approved by the Ethics Commission by a supermajority vote of at least four members of the Commission, and approved by a supermajority vote of at least eight members of the Board of Supervisors.

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