

Georgia Lobbying or Not: Common Scenarios

Factual Background	Lobbying Or Not?
You communicate with a legislator's staff in order to secure an amendment to a pending bill on behalf of a client or employer for compensation.	Lobbying, as this is an effort to influence legislative action for compensation.
You communicate with an assistant to the Governor and ask for a pending regulation to be modified on behalf of a client or employer for compensation.	Lobbying, as this is an effort to influence administrative action for compensation.
You visit the capitol to talk to legislators about a pending bill at a lobby day sponsored by an association you belong to.	Not lobbying, so long as you are not compensated and are a member of an organization that employs or contracts with a lobbyist.
You communicate with a contact at the Department of Health to request information about complying with a particular law on behalf of a client or employer.	Not lobbying, as requesting information regarding compliance with a law is not considered lobbying.
A consultant is paid to create a mailer that is circulated to the general public urging people to contact their legislator to vote "No" on a particular bill.	Lobbying, as any person "specifically hired" to influence the approval or defeat of pending legislation is considered a lobbyist, even if they do not communicate with legislators.
An organization circulates a mailer to the general public urging voters to vote "No" on a question on the ballot.	Not lobbying, but may be considered a political communication for campaign finance purposes.

NOTE: With each advocacy communication, an organization must determine whether the communication constitutes lobbying for Georgia disclosure purposes but also whether the communication constitutes lobbying for IRS 990 purposes.

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