



Third Quarter Update 2025

Lobbying

Regulations adopted by the Commission.

The following are regulatory changes approved by the Commission during the past quarter concerning lobbying. To receive updates for all regulations before the Commission, please sign up for our [mailing list here](#).

None.

Advice Letters

The following are advice letters issued by the Commission's Legal Division during the past quarter concerning lobbying. To receive the monthly report with all advice letters issued, please sign up for our [mailing list here](#).

None.

Commission Opinions

None.

Enforcement Matters

The following are summaries of significant enforcement actions approved by the Commission in the past quarter involving violations of the Act's lobbying laws. To receive a monthly report of all enforcement actions, please sign up for our [mailing list here](#).

Lobbying Reporting

In the Matter of A. O. Smith Corporation and Joshua C. Greene; FPPC No. 25/464. Staff Chance Felkins, Commission Counsel. A. O. Smith Corporation is a Lobbyist Employer and was registered to lobby for the 2019 – 2020 legislative session. Joshua C. Greene is A.O. Smith Corporation's responsible officer. A. O. Smith Corporation and Greene failed to timely file a lobbyist employer report, in violation of Government Code Section 86117 (1 count). **Fine: \$2,098 (Tier Two).**

In the Matter of Pebble Beach Caddie Liaison Board and Michael Lehotta; FPPC No. 25/889. Staff: Chance Felkins, Commission Counsel. The respondents were represented by Sara

Lang of Bell McAndrews & Hiltachk, LLP. Pebble Beach Caddie Liaison Board is a Lobbyist Employer and was registered to lobby for the 2019-2020 legislative session. Pebble Beach Caddie Liaison Board failed to timely file two lobbyist employer reports, in violation of Government Code Section 86117 (2 counts). **Fine: \$1,800 (Tier Two).**

In the Matter of Mars, Incorporated and Peter Rowan; FPPC No. 25/965. Staff: Chance Felkins, Commission Counsel. The respondents were represented by Caroline Kilvein of Political Solution LLC. Mars, Incorporated is a Lobbyist Employer and was registered to lobby for the 2019-2020 legislative session. Mars, Incorporated failed to timely file one lobbyist employer report, in violation of Government Code Section 86117 (1 count). **Fine: \$533 (Tier One).**

Legislation

AB 808 (Addis) – Cal-Access Replacement System Clean-Up Bill

Status: Passed in the Senate on 9/12/25 (38-0); passed in the Assembly on 9/13/25 (79-0); enrolled and presented to the Governor on 9/24/25

Short Summary: AB 808 would make several conforming and streamlining amendments to sections in the PRA that become operative after the certification of the Cal-Access Replacement System by the Secretary of State.

Detailed Summary:

Background: Cal-Access is the statewide campaign finance and lobbying reporting platform, created and administered by the Secretary of State. The Cal-Access Replacement System, known as CARS, is currently in development and will be a modernized, data-driven filing and search system. Several sections of the PRA have been amended by prior legislation with delayed operative dates, set to take effect after CARS is certified by SOS.

Eliminates filing by fax: AB 808 would eliminate references to filing by fax in the PRA.

Eliminates references to form-based reporting practices: AB 808 would transition relevant sections of the Political Reform Act away from form-based and paper-based reporting terminology, including by deleting or replacing, as appropriate, references to “forms” and replacing “statement” with “report” throughout the Act. The bill would also streamline the committee registration process and replace “statement of organization” with the term “registration.”

Consolidates short form reporting: Existing law requires a candidate or officeholder who does not have a controlled committee and does not anticipate receiving contributions or making expenditures of \$2,000 or more to file a short form declaring that the candidate or officeholder

anticipates receiving and spending under that threshold. AB 808 would eliminate the short form and would instead require that the candidate report this information on the Statement of Intention, required to be submitted before an individual becomes a candidate.

Clarifies when signature verification is needed: AB 808 would clarify for campaign finance reporting that verification is needed for semiannual and pre-election statements. This would clarify that, once CARS is certified, this verification is not needed for the 24-hour/10-day independent expenditure reports, consistent with current law.

Loan limit: In 2022, the Supreme Court found that limits on the repayment of candidate loans are unconstitutional. ([FEC v. Ted Cruz for Senate, 142 S. Ct. 1638](#)). AB 808 would repeal a provision in the PRA made unenforceable by that decision.

Updated copy of the PRA: Existing law requires the FPPC to annually publish a booklet that includes the provisions of the PRA. AB 808 removes the requirement to publish the PRA in a physical booklet, thereby enabling the FPPC to provide these materials exclusively electronically.