

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas Constitution.**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025

HJR 1006

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5 By: Representative B. McKenzie  
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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION**

8  
9 AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION PROVIDING  
10 THAT A GOVERNMENTAL BODY SHALL NOT USE STATE OR LOCAL  
11 FUNDS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH A LOBBYIST FOR  
12 THE PURPOSE OF LOBBYING ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENTAL  
13 BODY.  
14

**Subtitle**

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17 AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS  
18 CONSTITUTION PROVIDING THAT A  
19 GOVERNMENTAL BODY SHALL NOT USE STATE OR  
20 LOCAL FUNDS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT  
21 WITH A LOBBYIST FOR LOBBYING PURPOSES.  
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
24 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL  
25 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:  
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27 That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of  
28 the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state  
29 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives  
30 and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election  
31 adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of  
32 the State of Arkansas, to wit:  
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34 SECTION 1. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, is amended to add an  
35 additional section to read as follows:

36 § 32. Use of state or local funds to contract with lobbyist.



1       (a) A governmental body shall not use state or local funds to enter  
2 into a contract with a lobbyist for the purpose of lobbying on behalf of the  
3 governmental body.

4       (b) The prohibition under subsection (a) of this amendment includes  
5 without limitation the use of state or local funds by a governmental body to  
6 pay membership dues to an organization that engages in lobbying on behalf of  
7 the governmental body or similar governmental bodies, including without  
8 limitation employing one (1) or more persons registered as a lobbyist to  
9 lobby on behalf of the governmental body or similar governmental bodies, if  
10 state or local funds are used to pay the membership dues.

11       (c) This section does not prohibit a governmental body from employing  
12 one (1) or more individuals to engage in lobbying on behalf of the  
13 governmental body, including without limitation one (1) or more individuals  
14 registered as lobbyists.

15       (d) As used in this section:

16           (1)(A) "Administrative action" means a decision on, or proposal,  
17 consideration, or making of a rule, regulation, ratemaking proceeding, or  
18 policy action by a governmental body.

19           (B) "Administrative action" does not include ministerial  
20 action;

21           (2) "Governmental body" means an office, department, commission,  
22 council, board, committee, legislative body, agency, or other establishment  
23 of the executive, judicial, or legislative branch of the state, municipality,  
24 county, school district, improvement district, or any political district or  
25 subdivision thereof;

26           (3)(A) "Income" means any money or anything of value received or  
27 to be received as a claim for future services, whether in the form of a  
28 retainer, fee, salary, expense, allowance, forbearance, forgiveness,  
29 interest, dividend, royalty, rent, or any other form of recompense or any  
30 combination thereof.

31           (B) "Income" includes a payment made under obligation for  
32 services or other value received;

33           (4) "Legislative action" means introduction, sponsorship,  
34 consideration, debate, amendment, passage, defeat, approval, veto, or any  
35 other official action or nonaction on any bill, ordinance, law, resolution,  
36 amendment, nomination, appointment, report, or other matter pending or

1 proposed before a committee or house of the General Assembly, a quorum court,  
2 or a city council or board of directors of a municipality;

3 (5) "Legislator" means a person who is a member of the General  
4 Assembly, a quorum court of a county, or the city council or board of  
5 directors of a municipality;

6 (6) "Lobbying" means communicating directly or soliciting others  
7 to communicate with a public servant with the purpose of influencing  
8 legislative action or administrative action;

9 (7) "Lobbyist" means a person who:

10 (A) Receives income or reimbursement in a combined amount  
11 of four hundred dollars (\$400) or more in a calendar quarter for lobbying one  
12 (1) or more governmental bodies;

13 (B) Expends four hundred dollars (\$400) or more in a  
14 calendar quarter for lobbying one (1) or more governmental bodies, excluding  
15 the cost of personal travel, lodging, meals, or dues; or

16 (C) Expends four hundred dollars (\$400) or more in a  
17 calendar quarter, including postage, for the express purpose of soliciting  
18 others to communicate with a public servant to influence any legislative  
19 action or administrative action of one (1) or more governmental bodies unless  
20 the communication has been filed with the Secretary of State or the  
21 communication has been published in the news media. If the communication is  
22 filed with the Secretary of State, the filing shall include the approximate  
23 number of recipients;

24 (8)(A) "Person" means a business, individual, union,  
25 association, firm, committee, club, or other organization or group of  
26 persons.

27 (B) As used in subdivision (d)(8)(A) of this section,  
28 "business" includes without limitation a corporation, partnership, sole  
29 proprietorship, firm, enterprise, franchise, association, organization, self-  
30 employed individual, receivership, trust, or any legal entity through which  
31 business is conducted;

32 (9)(A) "Public appointee" means an individual who is appointed  
33 to a governmental body.

34 (B) "Public appointee" does not include an individual  
35 appointed to an elective office;

36 (10)(A) "Public employee" means an individual who is employed by

1 a governmental body or who is appointed to serve a governmental body.

2 (B) "Public employee" does not include a public official  
3 or a public appointee;

4 (11) "Public official" means a legislator or any other person  
5 holding an elective office of any governmental body, whether elected or  
6 appointed to the office, and shall include such persons during the time  
7 period between the date they were elected and the date they took office;

8 (12) "Public servant" means all public officials, public  
9 employees, and public appointees; and

10 (13) "State or local funds" means all money derived from state  
11 or local revenues.

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13 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment to the Arkansas  
14 Constitution is effective on and after January 1, 2027.

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16 SECTION 3. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed  
17 amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election  
18 ballot:

19 (1) The title of this Joint Resolution shall be the ballot  
20 title; and

21 (2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment  
22 Providing that a Governmental Body Shall Not Use State or Local Funds to  
23 Enter Into a Contract with a Lobbyist for the Purpose of Lobbying on Behalf  
24 of the Governmental Body."

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