



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Public Records Division - Lobbyist Section

Alan N. Cote  
Director

Marie D. Marra  
Supervisor, Lobbyist Section

May 18, 2010  
LAO/10-17

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your March 16, 2010 email request for an advisory opinion. See G.L. c. 3, § 41 (2008 ed.). Specifically, you inquired whether a non-profit organization that co-hosts a "thank you" celebration for legislative officials who sponsored and passed a particular bill should report the expense on its disclosure statement.

In addition to expenses related to lobbying efforts, employers of executive and/or legislative agents must also disclose certain other expenses. The statute provides in relevant part that such employers must also report:

...[a]ll expenditures for or on behalf of the statewide constitutional officers, officers and employees of such offices, *members of the general court, officers and employees of the general court*, officers and employees of the executive branch and officers and employees of an authority, and the total amount thereof incurred or paid separately by such employer during the reporting period...

G.L. c. 3, § 47 (2008 ed.) (Emphasis added).

Accordingly, despite the fact that there may be no lobbying occurring, as the legislation has already passed in this instance, the event and the expenses in connection therewith must be reported pursuant to G.L. c. 3, § 47, since members of the general

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court will attend and partake in the event. To the extent that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] pays any part of the event, the expense should be reported on its disclosure  
statement for the relevant reporting period.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan N. Cote", written in a cursive style.

Alan N. Cote  
Director