

It is important that the information referred to be disclosed be
presented in such a way that it can be readily used and understood by all those who
are interested. The purpose of registration could be better defined if the
information thus was produced in an intelligible manner.

It has been argued before your Committee that the cost of implementing
such a system would be prohibitive. We have discussed the cost of operating the
system required by the Federal lobbying law in the United States both with respect
to domestic lobbyists and foreign agents, as well as the system in California and
we are impressed with the fact that they operate efficiently with a relatively
small staff. For example, in Washington, D.C. where the number of lobbyists is
large, only six people are engaged in the registration process.

We recommend that the Assistant Deputy Register General be
charged with the responsibility of administering the
register of lobbyists. This office will maintain records of
the information required to be filed and will make same
available to the general public on a cost recovery basis.

We recommend that there be no cost associated with the
filing of information on lobbying activities.

We recommend that all those who fall within the definition
of lobbyist be required to register with the Assistant
Deputy Register General.

We recommend that within 10 days of the commencement of the
conduct of a specific lobbying activity the lobbyist be
required to notify the Assistant Deputy Register General
and disclose the necessary information. The lobbyist shall
file a registration notice within 10 days of ceasing work on
a particular lobbying activity.

We recommend that the Assistant Deputy Register General be
authorized to check the Office for Delinquents.