

Policy Statement – 10-4-28a

KRTA POLICY ON LEGISLATIVE INVOLVEMENT

The KRTA, as a body, can vote in regular or special meetings to authorize a formal position on a bill submitted to the legislature. If the KRTA has authorized members to take a formal position, any member may testify about that position during the legislative session. If KRTA has not authorized a member to take a formal position, the member still may testify or support a bill in his or her personal capacity, but not as a member of the KRTA.

It should be noted that certain lobbying activities may require individuals to register as a lobbyist with the Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission.

The term “lobby” is defined in KRS 6.611 (26) as follows:

(26) (a) “Lobby” means to promote, advocate, or oppose the passage, modification, defeat, or executive approval or veto of any legislation by direct communication with any member of the General Assembly, the Governor, the secretary of any cabinet listed in KRS 12.250, or any member of the staff of any of the officials listed in this paragraph.

(b) "Lobbying" does not include:

1. Appearances before public meetings of the committees, subcommittees, task forces, and interim committees of the General Assembly;
2. News, editorial, and advertising statements published in newspapers, journals, or magazines, or broadcast over radio or television;
3. The gathering and furnishing of information and news by bona fide reporters, correspondents, or news bureaus to news media described in paragraph (b)2. of this subsection;
4. Publications primarily designed for, and distributed to, members of bona fide associations or charitable or fraternal nonprofit corporations;
5. Professional services in drafting bills or resolutions, preparing arguments on these bills or resolutions, or in advising clients and rendering opinions as to the construction and the effect of proposed or pending legislation, if the services are not otherwise connected with lobbying; or
6. The action of any person not engaged by an employer who has a direct interest in legislation, if the person, acting under Section 1 of the Kentucky Constitution, assembles together with other persons for their common good, petitions any official listed in this subsection for the redress of grievances, or other proper purposes.