

Proposal 7: REQUIRE ELECTRONIC FILING OF ALL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS



ISSUE

Many elected officials file handwritten financial disclosure statements, which increases the burden on staff and are sometimes illegible.

Many elected officials choose to file their annual financial disclosure statements by hand in written form, rather than using the electronic portal maintained by the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government for this purpose. These filings create an administrative burden for the agency, as staff must then enter the data into the database by hand, and slows down the process of posting elected officials' financial disclosure statements on the agency's website. In addition, the handwriting is sometimes illegible and, therefore, hinders transparency to public.

SOLUTION

Require electronic filing of all financial disclosure statements.

This proposal would ease and speed up the agency's receipt and processing of such statements, which will make them more readily available for public inspection. In addition, it would promote transparency, as all fields would be legible.

Please note, draft bill language is available upon request.