

Legislative Ethics Board

BOARD MEMBERS:
SHONTRANA GATES-WERTMAN
SEN. CHRIS GILDON
REP. DAVID HACKNEY
TOM HOEMANN
LARRY HOFF
STEVE O'BAN
SEN. JAMIE PEDERSEN
PAM TAJIMA PRAEGER
REP. MIKE STEELE



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LEGISLATIVE ETHICS BOARD MINUTES November 4, 2024

Present were: Tom Hoemann, Chair; Pam Tajima Praeger, Vice-Chair; Sen. Jamie Pedersen; Sen. Chris Gildon; Larry Hoff (virtual); Rep. David Hackney (virtual); Rep. Mike Steele (virtual); Jennifer Strus, Board Counsel; Suchi Sharma, Senate Counsel (virtual); Ohad Lowy, House Counsel (virtual)

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:11 am.

The chair announced that Board Counsel had received an email from Board member Shontrana Gates Wertman announcing that she was resigning from the Board effective immediately.

The minutes for the October 15, 2024 Board meeting were approved.

The Board reviewed one Employment Disclosure form, submitted by Coco Chang. The Board found no conflict with the disclosure.

The Board continued its discussion about the request for an Advisory Opinion from John Handy. Board counsel reviewed the draft opinion with the Board. Sen. Pedersen moved to approve the opinion as written; Sen. Gildon seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

The Board then discussed the draft opinion about the acceptance of gift cards. It was moved and seconded that the opinion be approved. The motion was approved.

Board counsel discussed the changes to the Contract/Grant Disclosure Form as recommended at the October Board meeting. It was moved and seconded that the form as revised be approved. The motion was approved.

Board counsel then reviewed the changes to the draft ethics bill as recommended at the October Board meeting. Sen. Pedersen then explained the definition he suggested for the term "beneficial interest." He explained that in his definition he did not want to capture an interest a member could have that was not a controlling interest. Sen. Pedersen suggested that Board counsel go through the Act for every place the term "beneficial interest" is used and make sure the definition fits appropriately. Board counsel is to provide the Board with the sections of the Act where the term "beneficial interest" is used and the

suggested amendments to those sections, if needed. It was moved and seconded that the draft be approved subject to the “beneficial interest” amendments. The motion passed.

Board counsel was asked to share the “beneficial interest” definition and amendments with the Executive Ethics Board.

Board counsel was also asked to obtain a code reviser version of the bill with a green sheet.

There was no public testimony.

The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

The Board then moved into executive session to discuss pending complaints.

The executive session was adjourned at 11:32am.



Tom Hoemann, Chair

Date: 12/16/24

The entirety of the public portion of this meeting can be viewed on TVW at the attached link <https://tvw.org/video/legislative-ethics-board-2024111093/?eventID=2024111093>