

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON ETHICAL STANDARDS

RESOLUTION ON ETHICS COUNSEL'S QUESTION 1

ADOPTED May 26, 2009

Question 1 of Ethics Counsel reads as follows:

1. For legislators (and/or their spouses) employed by or serving as paid officials in local governmental entities, under what conditions can they: (a) participate in legislation (in which they do not meet the definition of "personal interest") specifically affecting their locality (e.g. sponsor an emergency appropriation for their locality) or (b) represent the interests of their locality before State agencies and officials (e.g. send a letter on their legislative stationery requesting a State agency grant for that locality)?

BE IT RESOLVED by the Joint Legislative Committee on Ethical Standards:

Whereas, Code 2:1c., which prohibits certain legislative activity with respect to for-profit ventures, by implication, allows members of the Legislature to engage in activity with respect to not-for-profit entities. Code 2:3 allows representation before State agencies of not-for-profit constituencies by members of the Legislature; now, therefore,

It is resolved that members of the Legislature may engage in the conduct and activity set forth in Ethics Counsel's Question 1, except where otherwise prohibited in the Law or Code.