

**Amendment 2**  
**to**  
**Council Bill 119968: SEEC Lobbying Regulations**  
**Sponsor: CP González**

Exempt membership communications from being considered expenditures

1. Amend the definition of "Expenditure" in Section 2.06.010 on page2 of Council Bill 119968, as follows:

**2.06.010 Definitions ((:))**

\* \* \*

~~F-)~~ "Lobby" and "lobbying" each mean communications with ~~((city council))~~ City Council members, ~~((legislative department staff,))~~ the ~~((mayor))~~ Mayor, ~~((or the mayor's staff))~~ City officers or employees or agents either of the Legislative Department or working in the Mayor's office, a department director, or a deputy director or other employee who reports directly to a department director in an attempt to influence any of those individuals to develop, propose, draft, consider or reconsider, promote, adopt, enact, reject, take favorable action upon, approve, disapprove, veto, or fail to take action upon legislation.

"Lobby" and "lobbying" do not include the following:

1. Communications or other actions by any City officer or employee or agent acting within the scope of his or her employment authority or contract with the City;
2. Communications or other actions related to existing or proposed collective bargaining agreement(s) with the City or other legislation ~~((which))~~ that could affect specific existing or proposed collective bargaining agreements with the City;

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3. Communications or other actions by members of the news media related to news and feature reporting, commentary, and editorial opinion in a regularly-published periodical, on television or radio, or on a regularly-maintained (~~Internet~~) internet website or other means of electronic communication devoted to the dissemination of news or opinion and not created solely to influence ((a)) specific ((~~piece of~~)) legislation.

4. An association's or other organization's act of communicating with the members of that association or organization.

\* \* \*

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**Effect:** The proposed amendment would add in a provision from State Law ([RCW 42.17A.005](#) “Lobby”) that exempts internal communications from being covered by the State’s lobbying laws. This would allow organizations to communicate internally regarding legislation without triggering the City’s lobbying laws.

For example, under the proposed legislation, a nonprofit’s messages to its membership regarding legislation pending in front of the Council could count as grassroots lobbying. The proposed amendment would clarify that those communications are not considered grassroots lobbying