

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL
Public Hearing

NOVEMBER 12, 2024

SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF
COMMISSIONER STEVE GELLER

45 Article V of the Broward County Code of Ordinances, Section 26-67, et seq., the following
 46 Standards of Conduct shall apply to each Elected Official:

47 (1) *Acceptance of gifts.*

48 a. No Elected Official or relative, registered domestic partner, or
 49 governmental office staff of any Elected Official, shall accept ~~any gift,~~
 50 directly or indirectly, any gift of food and/or nonalcoholic beverages
 51 with a value in excess of \$25.00 or any other gift with a value in
 52 excess of \$5.00, from lobbyists registered with the governmental
 53 entity on whose behalf they (or their registered domestic partner or
 54 relative) serve, or from any principal or employer of any such
 55 registered lobbyist, or from vendors or contractors of such
 56 governmental entity. In order to effectuate this provision, no lobbyist
 57 shall engage in any lobbying activity prior to registering as a lobbyist
 58 with the applicable governmental entity. For purposes of this
 59 paragraph, neither Broward County, any municipality within Broward
 60 County, nor any other governmental entity shall be considered a
 61 registered lobbyist, a principal or employer of a registered lobbyist,
 62 or a vendor or contractor of any governmental entity within Broward
 63 County.

64 . . .

65 e. When not otherwise permitted by this part (c)(1), "Acceptance of
 66 Gifts," the following items may be accepted to the full extent
 67 permissible under state law:

- 68 1. Items customarily given to express condolences or sympathy,
69 such as flowers, food items, or cards, given to an Elected
70 Official in connection with the death or significant injury or
71 illness of the Elected Official or an immediate family member
72 of the Elected Official;
- 73 2. Training, including the payment or reimbursement of
74 expenses incurred in connection therewith, provided the
75 training relates to the Elected Official's public service. The
76 receipt of such training is deemed to directly benefit the public
77 on whose behalf the Elected Official serves;
- 78 3. ~~Nonalcoholic beverages; and~~
- 79 4. Admission tickets to charitable events available to the public,
80 provided that any Elected Official or governmental office staff
81 of the Elected Official who receives such tickets ~~shall:~~
- 82 a. Within fifteen (15) days after receiving such tickets,
83 files for public inspection a disclosure form stating the
84 name of the donor, the value of the tickets received,
85 and the date and location of the event; and
- 86 b. Within thirty (30) days after the event, reimburses the
87 donor for the value of the food and beverages
88 consumed by the person(s) using the tickets; and
- 89 4. Admission to an Official Event for an Elected Official, or
90 governmental office staff of an Elected Official, as well as

91 food, beverages, and commemorative items received by the
92 Elected Official or governmental office staff of an Elected
93 Official at the Official Event, provided that such food,
94 beverages, and commemorative items are available to all
95 attendees of the Official Event.

96 An Official Event is any event where:

- 97 a. At least thirty (30) persons not affiliated with the donor
98 have been invited to attend, including multiple Elected
99 Officials; and the Elected Official attends the event in
100 their official capacity; or
- 101 b. The Elected Official's governmental entity has officially
102 sponsored the event; or
- 103 c. The Elected Official was invited to the event in their
104 official capacity and the governmental entity's legal
105 counsel or chief budget officer has determined in
106 writing that attendance at the event serves a public
107 purpose.

108 For purposes of this Section 1-19(c)4, a person affiliated with
109 a donor means:

- 110 a. The donor's relative as defined in Section 112.3135,
111 Florida Statutes.
- 112 b. The donor's employee or employer; or

113 c. Any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a
114 business enterprise with the donor as a partner, joint
115 venturer, corporate shareholder where the shares of
116 such corporation are not listed on any national or
117 regional stock exchange, or co-owner of property.

118 ...

119 Section 2. Section 26-73 of the Broward County Code of Ordinances is hereby
120 amended to read as follows:

121 **Sec. 26-73. Code of Ethics.**

122 (a) Solicitation or Acceptance of Gifts.

123 (1) Except as otherwise stated in the Code, County employees shall not solicit
124 or accept any gift, regardless of value, in their official capacity as
125 employees, nor shall they solicit or accept any gift in either an official or
126 personal capacity that may be reasonably perceived to be given to
127 encourage or discourage them from taking any action in connection with
128 their County employment.

129 ...

130 ~~(6) Notwithstanding Section 26-73(a)(1), the office staff of County~~
131 ~~Commissioners may, with written approval of the County Commissioner for~~
132 ~~whom the staff member works, accept gifts of food and/or nonalcoholic~~
133 ~~beverages with a value not greater than \$25.00.~~

134 ...