

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: June 9, 2026

Consent Regular
 Public Hearing

Department: County Administration

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve on public hearing on June 9, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.: AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDING SECTION 2-353(a) OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE TO INCREASE THE LOBBYIST REGISTRATION FEE TO TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00) PER PRINCIPAL ON AN ANNUAL BASIS AND PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE REGISTRATION FEE BASED ON THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND TO REVISIT THE REGISTRATION FEE BY THE BOARD NOT TO EXCEED FIVE YEARS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Summary: Since 2009, the lobbyist registration Ordinance has provided for a one (1)-time registration fee of \$25 with each registration form submitted. The existing registration fee no longer reflects the administrative costs associated with maintaining and administering the Central Lobbyist Registry. As such, and to bring the County in congruence with similarly situated governments, staff recommends amending Section 2-353(a) of the Palm Beach County Code to increase the lobbyist registration fee to \$200 per principal paid annually and providing for annual adjustments to the registration fee based on the Consumer Price Index, to ensure that the fee remains reasonable over time and avoids the need for frequent future amendments. The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) may revisit and consider changes to the lobbyist registration fee at any time and shall do so at least every five years. Countywide (DB).

Background and Policy Issues: The lobbyist registration fee in Section 2-353(a) has not been updated since 2009. The proposed change in lobbyist registration fee more accurately reflects the administrative costs associated with maintaining the registry.

Attachment(s):

- 1. Ordinance

Recommended by:  5/24/26
Deputy County Administrator Date

Approved by:  6/11/26
County Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues		(\$72,000)	(\$72,000)	(\$72,000)	(\$72,000)
Program Income					
In-Kind Match					
NET FISCAL IMPACT		(\$72,000)	(\$72,000)	(\$72,000)	(\$72,000)

# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)					
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Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes No X
 Does this Item include the use of Federal funds? Yes No X
 Does this Item include the use of State funds? Yes No X

Budget Account No.: 2925

Fund 0001 Dept 645 Unit 6450 Object Lobbying Fee Program Code/Period 2925

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Impact will be annually based on the \$200 lobbying registration fee.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: _____

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:

Shirley M. Strickland
 OFMB
GA 5/7

Frankie Grady 5/11/26
 Contract Development and Control
 26.5.11.26

B. Legal Sufficiency: *ESW 5.7.26*
NS 5/7

[Signature]
 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Alessandro
 Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT)

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
30 COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

31 **SECTION 1. Modification of Lobbyist Registration Fee**

32 Section 2-353(a), Palm Beach County Code, entitled "Registration and expenditures" is
33 hereby amended to read as follows (additions are underscored, deletions are ~~stricken~~):

34 (a) *Registration required.* Prior to lobbying, all lobbyists shall submit an original, fully
35 executed registration form to county administration, which shall serve as the official location for
36 countywide lobbyist registration and which shall be known as the "Central Lobbyist Registry."
37 The registration may be submitted in paper or electronic form pursuant to countywide policies and
38 procedures. Each lobbyist is required to submit a separate registration for each principal
39 represented.

40 ~~A registration fee of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) must be included with each registration~~
41 ~~form submitted.~~

42 A registration fee of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per principal shall be paid on an annual
43 basis and must be included with each registration. Beginning October 1, 2026, and each October
44 1 thereafter, annually, each lobbyist is required to renew their registration for each principal
45 registered. Beginning October 1, 2026, and each October 1 thereafter, annually, the registration fee
46 shall be automatically adjusted based on the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for
47 All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), U.S. City Average, All Items, as published by the United States
48 Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the twelve-month period ending June 30 of the preceding year. The
49 adjusted fee shall be rounded to the nearest whole dollar. County administration shall publish the
50 adjusted registration fee annually.

51 Registrations in effect on the effective date of this ordinance shall remain subject to the
52 registration fee in effect at the time of registration until the registrant's next required renewal, at
53 which time the amended registration fee shall apply.

54 A registrant, or principal who is represented by the registrant, shall promptly send a written
55 statement to county administration canceling the registration for a principal upon termination of
56 the lobbyist's representation of that principal. This statement shall be signed by the lobbyist or
57 principal. Lobbying prior to registration is prohibited. It is the responsibility of the lobbyist to keep
58 all information contained in the registration form current and up to date.

59 The Board of County Commissioners may revisit and consider changes to the lobbyist
60 registration fee at any time, and shall do so at least every five years.

61 **SECTION 2. Severability**

62 If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance is for any
63 reason held to be unconstitutional, inoperative, or void, such holding shall not affect the remainder
64 of this ordinance.

65 **SECTION 3. Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances**

66 The provisions of this ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Laws and
67 Ordinances of Palm Beach County, Florida. The sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or
68 relettered to accomplish such, and the word "ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article,"
69 or any other appropriate word.

70 **SECTION 4. Repeal of Laws in Conflict**

71 All local laws and ordinances in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are
72 hereby repealed.

73

74 **SECTION 5. Effective Date**

75 This ordinance shall become effective upon filing with the Department of State.

76 **APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach

77 County, Florida, this ___ day of _____, 2026.

78 ATTEST:

79
80 MIKE CARUSO,
81 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT
82 COURT & COMPTROLLER

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

83
84
85 By: _____
86 Deputy Clerk

By: _____
Sara Baxter, Mayor

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89 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

90
91 By:  _____
92 County Attorney

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96 Filed with the Department of State on the ___ day of _____, 2026.
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