## Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2024 Regular Session

## **Part I: Measure Information**

| Bill Request #: 343   |                   |                      |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Bill #: SB 245  |                   |                      |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Document ID #:</b> <u>6251</u>                             |                   |                      |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bill Title: AN ACT relating to government ethics.             |                   |                      |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sponsor: Senator Adrienne Southworth                          |                   |                      |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unit of Government:   | <u>X</u> City     | X County             | X Urban-County<br>Unified Local |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | X Charter County  | X Consolidated Local | X Government                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Office(s) Impacted: All local government offices and agencies |                   |                      |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Requirement: <u>X</u> Mandatory Optional                      |                   |                      |                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Effect on<br>Powers & Duties:                                 | Modifies Existing | Adds New X El        | iminates Existing               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local Government

SB 245 **Section 1** would prohibit any public agency, including local governments and agencies, spending public money to employ, contract with, or pay any individual or non-profit to engage in lobbying activities, and provides individuals a right to sue for violation of the prohibition. Section 1 defines "public agency" and "public money."

Section 2 would amend KRS 11A.020 to prohibit a public servant using their influence in a matter under the purview of the legislative branch of state government. The proposed amendment would authorize a public servant to respond to requests for information or provide opinions about legislative matters affecting the agency in which they are employed.

## SB 245 would have an indeterminable fiscal impact on local governments.

According to a Lexington Herald-Leader article published February 23, 2024, the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) spent approximately \$141,000 and the

Kentucky League of Cities spent approximately \$140,000 on lobbying the General Assembly in 2023.

KACo is a non-profit member-owned organization of elected county officials in all 120 Kentucky counties. Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) is a nonprofit membership association that serves approximately 380 Kentucky cities and municipal agencies.

KLC reports that, while not paying for lobbying services could save KLC and its membership money, the secondary effects of a ban on spending public resources on lobbying efforts would negatively impact KLC's ability to advocate for the interests of its membership and could thwart city projects.

Input on the fiscal impact of SB 245 was sought from KACo. If input is received this mandate analysis may be amended.

| Data Sourc       | <b>:e(s):</b> | Lexington    | Herald-Le   | ader; Ke | ntucky Le | ague of Citie | es; LRC staff |         |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| <b>Preparer:</b> | Mary S        | Stephens (JI | 3) <b>R</b> | eviewer  | KHC       |               | Date:         | 3/21/24 |