

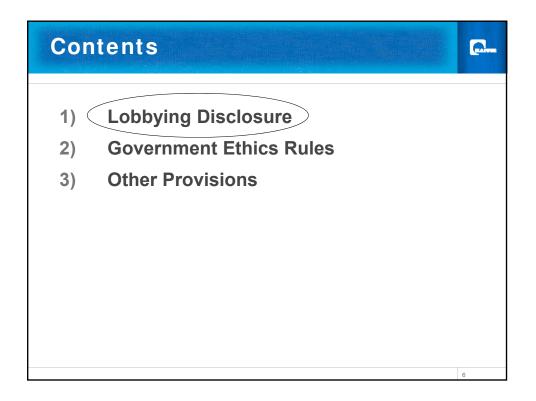
Key Takeaways

- Under the federal lobbying law and almost all state and local laws, "lobbying" is defined more broadly than under the IRC.
- Virtually no lobbying statutes provide exceptions specifically for nonprofits, which are generally treated the same as other entities engaged in advocacy.
- Registration and reporting obligations are not typically onerous and should not discourage advocacy – but note that there can be other implications for both the organization and the individual lobbyist(s).

Key Takeaways (cont.)

- Lobbying regulators generally provide comprehensive and helpful guidance for filers and should be consulted before registering.
- Formal enforcement and significant penalties are rare; public attention and reputational harm are the greater risk.
- Organizations engaged in advocacy are well advised to have in place policies, procedures, and training re: lobbying issues and compliance.





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Title search: Advocacy Rules Beyond the IRC: Federal and State Lobbying and Ethics Compliance

Also available as part of the eCourse <u>Advocacy Boundaries and Rules for Nonprofit Organizations</u>

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