

## **Lobbying Rules**

*Updated: Second Session of the 57th Legislature*

### Legislation Assignment

Each lobbyist will be assigned eight pieces of legislation before the start of the session that they must lobby for or against throughout session. Lobbyists will be assigned the proponency for three, the opponency for three, and may pick their side for the last two. Every effort will be made to assign legislation to lobbyists on a variety of topics, and the legislation will not be from the lobbyists' delegation. If an assigned piece of legislation is tabled, given a Rec Do Fail recommendation in committee, or the author either does not attend session or leaves early, then the lobbyist will pick a replacement from a list of alternate pieces of legislation designated before the start of the session. Lobbyists will not be docked points for an unforeseen circumstance preventing an assigned bill from being considered. However, it is the lobbyist's job to contact the lobbying director when they need to select an alternate piece of legislation. If a lobbyist requests swapping out a piece of legislation they were previously assigned, it is up to the Lobbying Director to approve the switch, with final say from the Press Secretary.

### Floor Pass & Chamber Membership

[The Delegation Council will select from one of the following options, which have been assigned alternate colors for ease of distinguishment.]

Lobbyists are allowed to be full-time members of either the House of Representatives or the Senate. These rules are in place to ensure fairness between lobbyists who are full-time members of the legislature, and those who are not. These rules do not restrict any privileges of the legislature, however, the refusal to comply with these rules is grounds for disqualification from the lobbying competition.

Lobbyists are not allowed to be in chambers during their assigned bills without a floor pass from the Lobbying Director. Maximum numbers of floor passes available at any given time are subject to approval by the Speaker of the House and the President *pro tempore* of the Senate, which they may alter at any time. A floor pass allows the lobbyist to be in chambers and caucus with chamber members during the bill, but it prevents them from being able to participate in questions to the author, debate, make motions, make amendments, or say anything over the mic. Lobbyists, however, may encourage chamber members to take any of the actions to further their agenda. Nothing shall prevent a full-time legislative member from voting on any legislation.

### Daily Expectations/Tasks

On Wednesday, the lobbyist's job will be to determine what is needed for each piece of legislation in order to increase its chances of being seen on the floor. The lobbyist should push for the bill to be seen regardless of their assigned side on the bill. Lobbyists are allowed to attend committee meetings, subject to the rules of each chamber, but they shall have no speaking privileges during committee meetings. These meetings should be for the lobbyist to get a better understanding of the legislation, and not to affect its outcome or discuss its contents.

On Thursday - Saturday, lobbyists will see their assigned legislation through completion. If the legislation starts in the House and the lobbyist is assigned the proponentry for it, lobbyists must see the legislation through the House and Senate and the Executive, if possible. Once an assigned piece of legislation has either failed or passed through the whole process, the lobbyist will cease lobbying efforts on that piece, and continue with their remaining ones. Lobbyists should not be attempting to get the body to reconsider bills or votes on bills.

On Sunday, lobbyists will take up to two of the bills they were assigned that failed, or were not seen, and take the following steps. They will discuss with the author(s) about the bill(s) and write a report on why the bill should return next session, and what could be improved to get passage and approval.

Lobbyists are not permitted to excessively pressure committee chairs, floor leadership, or chamber leadership to see their legislation. Should any member of leadership feel that a lobbyist is violating this rule, they should inform the Lobbying Director at once, who shall determine what actions are appropriate, up to, but not exclusive of, deductions of points.

### *Deliverables*

Wednesday - Saturday, the lobbyist shall turn in all materials to [lobbying@okoil.org](mailto:lobbying@okoil.org) or the spreadsheet established by the Lobbying Director by 11:59 p.m. These materials shall consist of the following

1. A status sheet of all of their legislation detailing where they currently stand in the legislative process.
2. A report detailing what they did that day to further the desired outcome of their legislation. Reports should be heavily focused on the research of the bill and how the lobbyist used their resources and actions to try to achieve an outcome, while still endeavoring to detail who they had specifically brought information to and who they may have persuaded to their side on a particular piece of legislation.
3. Any other materials used should be turned in, such as graphics, amendments handed to legislators, or debate lists suggested to legislators.

On Sunday, lobbyists will turn in the following two materials by 11:59 a.m.

1. A status sheet of all of their legislation detailing where they ended in the legislative process.
2. A report detailing why the bills that failed at this session should be brought back, and with suggestions on how to improve them in the future.

### *Point Deductions*

Points can be deducted by the Lobbying Director for the following reasons. The Lobbying Director may determine the amount of points after reviewing the violation, but they must tell the competitor of the point deduction.

1. If a lobbyist is on the floor without a floor pass given by the lobbying director.
2. If a lobbyist does not follow the rules, procedures, and comments made by chamber leadership. For example, if the House is at full capacity and the Speaker says no lobbyists, and a lobbyist does not follow, then a point deduction will occur.
3. If a lobbyist excessively and/or inappropriately pressures committee chairs, floor leaders, or members of the Executive Branch to act in a certain way regarding any piece of legislation.
4. If a lobbyist uses their school to vote as a block in a certain direction on a bill with the sole objective of passing or failing a piece of legislation.
5. If a lobbyist misrepresents the contents or effects of a piece of legislation with the malicious intent to affect the outcome of the bill.
6. Other poor conduct, as determined by the Lobbying Director and approved by the Press Secretary.

## Grading Rubric

# Lobbyists

Requirement	Points Possible	Sample justifications for scores.
Required Submissions & Punctuality	<b>10</b>	<p>10- The lobbyist submitted all of the required submissions in the required quantity for the day and submitted before the deadline.</p> <p>5- The lobbyist made a good faith effort to submit all of the required work products, but failed to meet either the quantity required, or cover all the components required.</p> <p>0- The lobbyist did not make a good faith effort to submit the required quantity or types of submissions required.</p>
Content of Report	<b>25</b>	<p>25- Report is well researched and interesting, providing unique perspectives, interviews from multiple sources, coverage of varied components of the competition, or outside data to support them. Every remaining assigned piece of legislation is covered in equally significant depth.</p> <p>20- Report may be well researched and written on most remaining legislation, but is less thorough on others.</p> <p>15- Report is mildly interesting, provides a clear point of view, but provides little outside data and research, or limits itself to a single source. While all remaining pieces might be covered, some might be done so less thoroughly.</p> <p>10- Report does not cover all remaining pieces of legislation, or lacks significant depth on most of them.</p> <p>5- Report shows little depth on all or most of the requirements.</p> <p>0- Report does not provide interesting points of view, uses no outside information or sources, and does not provide meaningful interviews.</p>
Status Sheet	<b>10</b>	<p>10- Status sheet of legislation includes accurate information on the current status of each of their pieces of legislation.</p> <p>5- Status sheet of legislation either does not contain all legislation, or includes some inaccuracies.</p> <p>0- Status sheet lacks many assigned pieces of legislation and/or contains many inaccuracies.</p>
Writing Quality	<b>5</b>	<p>5- Writing is free of spelling and grammatical errors or stylistic errors.</p> <p>0- Writing contains stylistic errors and/or spelling or grammatical errors.</p>
Bonus	<b>.5</b>	.5 points will be given to those per bill that reached the desired outcome.