

and which, by reason thereof, is in a position to affect directly and substantially the interest of the official or employee or any of the above named relatives.

(b) If a disqualification pursuant to subsection (a) leaves any body with less than a quorum capable of acting, or if the disqualified official or employee is required by law to act or is the only person authorized to act, the disqualified person shall disclose the nature and circumstances of the conflict and may participate or act.

3-102. Members of General Assembly.

(a) Personal interest tending to impair independence of judgment. -- A personal interest of a member of the General Assembly conflicts with the public interest if it tends to impair his independence of judgment. The conflict disqualifies him from voting upon any question or attempting to influence any legislation to which it relates.

(b) Presumption. -- It is presumed that personal interest tends to impair a legislator's independence of judgment in any of the following circumstances:

(1) Having or acquiring a direct interest, distinct from that of the general public, in an enterprise which would be affected by his vote on proposed legislation.

(2) Benefiting financially from a close economic association with a person whom the legislator knows, or from the facts is presumed to know, has a direct interest in an enterprise or interest which would be affected by the legislator's vote on proposed legislation, differently from other like enterprises or interests; or benefiting financially from a close economic association with a person who is lobbying or who has employed a lobbyist to propose legislation or to influence legislators' votes. "Close economic association" includes and refers to the legislator's employer, employees, and partners in business and professional enterprises; corporations in which the legislator owns 10 percent or more of the outstanding capital stock; and corporations in which the legislator is an officer, director, or agent.

(3) Soliciting, accepting, or agreeing to accept any gift, loan, or payment of a significant value from a person who would be affected by or has an interest in an enterprise which would be affected by the legislator's vote on proposed legislation.

(c) Statement for suspension of disqualification. -- The disqualification arising under this section is suspended if a legislator with an apparent conflict files with the Committee a sworn statement which describes the circumstances of the apparent conflict and the legislation to which it relates and asserts he is able to vote and otherwise participate in legislative action relating