



# IOWA HOUSE DEMOCRATS

## BILL SUMMARY

# Disclosure Requirements SF 2323

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**Status of Bill:** House Calendar

**Committee:** State Government (23-0, Senate 50-0)

**Research Analyst:** Brian Guillaume; 281-5159; brian.guillaume@legis.iowa.gov

**Lead Democrat:** Rep Oldson

**Floor Manager:** Rep Koester

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### **Background**

Last year it was discovered that a couple who served as two-chairs of Governor Kim Reynold's Campaign were working as foreign agents on behalf of Saudi Arabia. The couple was working against a bill that would have allowed victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11<sup>th</sup> to sue Saudi Arabia. The couple received over \$100,000 from Saudi Arabia for their work.

The couple had donated \$100 to the Reynolds campaign. The Governor said she would donate the \$100 to a 9/11 Charity. The Tunnel to Towers Foundation received the \$100 from Governor Reynolds' campaign, but returned it after realizing it was from the couple who did work on behalf of Saudi Arabia.

### **Bill Summary**

The legislation requires more strict disclosure requirements for positions that are subject to Senate Confirmation as well as state employment.

### **Senate Confirmation**

Governor appointees subject to Senate Confirmation are required to disclose if they have filed as a foreign agent under the Federal Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Any member of a board, committee, commission, or council who was subject to Senate confirmation is also required to disclose if they have registered as a foreign agent.

### **State Employment**

The legislation requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to establish rules for the hiring of non-merit employees to disclose if they have registered as foreign agents. The bill also requires any employee of a state agency to disclose if they have registered as a foreign agent to the hiring authority.

The penalty for non-disclosure is a serious misdemeanor, which could lead to a maximum of 1 year in prison and a fine of no more than \$1,875.

The bill also prohibits outside employment or activities that require registration as a foreign agent for state employees and officials.

Guillaume, Brian [LEGIS]G:\Caucus Staff\bguillaume\2018 Session\State Government\Bill Summary\SF 2323.docx\March 19, 2018\2:16 PM