

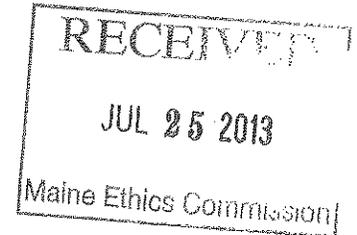
July 29, 2013



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE  
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July 25, 2013

Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices  
135 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0315  
Jonathan Wayne, Executive Director

Dear Mr. Wayne:

In reference to Kathleen Hansberry of the Humane Society of the United States and request waiver of preliminary penalties, I strongly request that the penalties be assessed.

I also question Ms. Hansberry's statement that she was not required to register as a lobbyist until April of 2013. I believe Ms. Hansberry accompanied Mr. Jay Nutting at meetings concerning L.D. 1474, "An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Hunting of Bear." These meetings would have taken place early in the year, before a sponsor for the bill had been established.

I believe by definitions outlined in Title 3 MRSA Section 312-A, Ms. Hansberry's communication with either the 'covered official' and/or with Mr. Nutting concerning LD 1474 at these meetings should be interpreted as direct and indirect lobbying.

Mr. Nutting's filed report reflects an amount of \$2100 billed as lobbying on behalf of the Humane Society of the United States for the month of January alone. If Ms. Hansberry was assisting with drafting, modifying, seeking a sponsor or trying to influence any covered official during this period of time when she attended meetings with Mr. Nutting, then I believe she should have been registered as a Lobbyist or Lobbyist Associate.

To verify if she was involved as early as January, I feel the Commission should speak with Senator Ed Mazurak, Representative Denise Harlow, Representative Mike Shaw, and Mr. Jay Nutting and ask them if Ms. Hansberry were present at these meetings and if so, what role she played during these meetings.

I do not believe Ms. Hansberry has intentionally provided a false statement to the Commission but perhaps has misinterpreted the definitions of lobbying outlined in statute. Even if that is the case, I believe it is imperative that she be held to the same standard as all other lobbyist that follow the rules and regulations set forth by the State of Maine.

Thank you,  
Dale Crafts  
State Representative  
District 104

District 104 Lisbon (part)

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