

## Lobbying principals financial disclosure

## Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board has released a listing of the amount spent by principals to compensate lobbyists and to influence legislative action, administrative action, and official action by a metropolitan governmental unit during 2016. The expenditure totals were disclosed on the Annual Principal Reports, which were due on March 15, 2017. The listing of the reported expenditures by principals, which may be sorted alphabetically by association or by amount, is available at this link.

The reports filed so far disclose that \$57,692,947 was spent in 2016 to influence the official actions of the legislature, administrative agencies, and metropolitan governmental units.

The amount spent to influence administrative action by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in cases of rate setting, power plant and power line siting, and granting of certificates of need is reported separately on the Annual Principal Reports. In 2016, principals reported spending \$6,340,176 to influence administrative actions of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.

A list of principals that made expenditures to influence administrative action by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission is available at this link.

Below is a table showing the total spending reported on the Annual Principal Reports for the last five years. A principal is permitted to round the amount reported to the nearest \$20,000.

|      | Amount Spent to Influence   | Amount Spent to       | Total        |
|------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|      | Legislative Actions,        | Influence the Actions | Amount of    |
| Year | Administrative Actions, and | of the MN Public      | Spending     |
|      | Actions of Metropolitan     | Utilities Commission  | Reported by  |
|      | Governmental Units          |                       | Principals   |
| 2016 | \$57,692,947                | \$6,340,176           | \$64,033,123 |
| 2015 | \$63,979,699                | \$5,177,019           | \$69,156,718 |
| 2014 | \$64,733,179                | \$5,673,292           | \$70,406,471 |
| 2013 | \$69,420,091                | \$5,337,767           | \$74,757,858 |
| 2012 | \$59,725,768                | \$2,749,590           | \$62,475,358 |

To make the data on principal spending more accessible to the public the Board has developed a new download page from which a user may download a spreadsheet of expenditures for one or multiple years. the download page is located at <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.org/10.1001/

For more information, contact Jeff Sigurdson at 651-539-1189 or jeff.sigurdson@state.mn.us