

EXHIBIT A - STATE COMPARISONS FOR ETHICS REFORM

		Other States	Current SC Law	SC Ethics Reform Commission Recommendations
ETHICS OVERSIGHT¹	State Ethics Commission: Enforcement	33 states have state commissions with investigative, adjudicatory, and/or other types of jurisdiction over the legislature.	SC is one of only six states where the state ethics commission has no jurisdiction over the legislature.	Grant the State Ethics Commission jurisdiction over the executive and legislative branches.
	State Ethics Commission: Appointment Power	12 states allow multiple branches to independently appoint members to the state ethics commission.	SC is one of 22 states with hybrid types of appointments, including gubernatorial appointments with legislative confirmation.	Create new State Ethics Commission with appointments made by the Governor, Senate, and House.
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST²	Disclosure of Sources of Income	47 states require some type of income disclosure of private and public sources.	SC is the ONLY state to require just one source of income to be disclosed: government income.	Revise SEI requirements to include all sources of income, both public and private, including the name and address of the source and the type of income (how the income was earned).
	Disclosure of Income Amounts	11 states require the amount of income to be disclosed: five require the exact amount, and six require categorical amounts.	SC only requires the amount of government income to be disclosed.	Require amounts of income to be disclosed when that income is from a lobbyist principal and/or from a business that contracts with a governmental entity.
	Disclosure of Fiduciary Positions	38 states require fiduciary positions to be disclosed.	SC does not require fiduciary positions to be disclosed.	Require fiduciary positions to be disclosed, whether compensated or uncompensated.
	Disclosure of Client Identification	22 states require some types of client identification disclosure.	SC is one of only five states to only require client-lobbyists to be disclosed.	Require disclosure of professional or consulting services rendered to individual clients.
	Disclosure of Government Contracts	27 states require some disclosure of government contracts, including government contracts with a spouse or immediate family member, with a business with which he/she is associated, and/or at all levels of government.	SC only requires disclosure of government contracts between the public official and the governmental entity for which he/she serves.	Require disclosure of amounts of income received by a public official, spouse, and/or business with which he/she associated that contract with any governmental entity.
TRANSPARENCY³	FOIA: Response Time	34 states have a statutory time limit requiring at least an initial response within ten days.	SC is one of only three states with a statutory time limit of more than ten days for an initial response.	Reduce response time to seven calendar days for an initial response, and if approved, then 30 calendar days from the date of original request or if approved with a fee, then 30 calendar days after receipt of deposit.
	FOIA: Legislative Exemption	35 states apply FOIA to the legislature in full.	SC is one of 15 states to exempt the legislature in whole or in part.	Remove the legislative exemption for FOIA to include all legislative records except for records regarding draft legislation.

¹ National Conference of State Legislatures: “State Ethics Committees;” “Membership and Qualification for the State Ethics Commission;” and “State Ethics Oversight Agencies.”

² National Conference of State Legislatures: “Personal Disclosure for State Legislators: Income Requirements;” and “Statutory Restrictions on Legislators Contracting with the State and Disclosure Requirements.”

³ Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press: “Open Government Guide.”

*NCSL identifies legislators rather than all public officials in its state-by-state research.