

## Richland County Committee

### Agenda Item Cover

#### Agenda Item Name: Ethics Ordinance

|  |                     |                       |   |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Department</b>                            | Corporation Counsel | <b>Presented By:</b>  | Corporation Counsel                     |
| <b>Date of Meeting:</b>                      | 03 February 2022    | <b>Action Needed:</b> | Vote                                    |
| <b>Disclosure:</b>                           | Open Session        | <b>Authority:</b>     | Structure F                             |
| <b>Date submitted:</b>                       | 01 February 2022    | <b>Referred by:</b>   |   |
| <b>Action needed by no later than (date)</b> | N/A                 | <b>Resolution</b>     | N/A, <u>needed</u> , prepared, reviewed |

#### Recommendation and/or action language:

Motion to.... recommend ordinance adoption by the Richland County Board, with amendments, (Pending discussion with corporation counsel).

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#### Background: *(preferred one page or less with focus on options and decision points)*

Richland County Corporation Counsel has drafted a revised ethics ordinance for the committee to review, discuss and provide guidance. The drafted ordinance is composed with an effort to incorporate the repeal into the new ordinance so it can all be passed at once.

Questions remain on several of the highlighted sections of the draft, examples:

- Preferences on a new definition of "substantial value"? Current proposal; "...is defined as anything of such financial, sentimental or other value that it would be unreasonable to believe that it would not affect the impartiality of the recipient.
- What should the deadline for filing the Statement of Economic Interest be?
- Should a complainant be required to identify themselves when filing a complaint? Originally anonymous complaints were accepted, but it was later amended to requiring the name of the complainant on the complaint.

These are a few of the issues that counsel will be addressing with the committee in efforts to finalize the document.

#### Attachments and References:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Ethics Ordinance - DARFT |  |
|                          |  |

#### Financial Review:

(please check one)

|                          |                   |             |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | In adopted budget | Fund Number |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|

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|   |                         |                          |  |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|
|   | Apportionment<br>needed | Requested Fund<br>Number |  |
|   | Other funding Source    |                          |  |
| X | No financial impact     |                          |  |

*(summary of current and future impacts)*

No foreseeable financial impacts

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**Approval:**

*Michael Windle*

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Department Head  
applicable)

**Review:**

*Clinton Langreck*

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Administrator, or Elected Office (if