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## Gov. Perry Vetoes SB 2468

June 19, 2009

### TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Sections 14 and 15 of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 2468 of the 81st Texas Legislature, Regular Session, due to the following objections:

*Senate Bill No. 2468 is a piecemeal approach to addressing the issue of lobbying at the county and municipal level. The bill's restrictions on local government officers only apply to Harris County. However, if local lobbying is an issue for one Texas political subdivision, then the legislature should consider the issue on a state-wide basis to avoid creating differing and confusing standards of ethical conduct. The Texas Constitution prohibits criminal penalties that apply in one part of the state but not in other parts. This bill would have created that unconstitutional situation.*

*The regulation of lobbying by former state officers and employees is governed by Government Code Section 572.054, which is under the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission. I urge the sponsors of this bill to work with the Ethics Commission over the interim to develop appropriate language, similar to that found in Section 572.054, for legislative consideration that would apply uniform lobbying standards to all levels of Texas government.*

Since the Legislature by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this the 19th day of June, 2009.

**RICK PERRY**

Governor of Texas

**ATTESTED BY:**

**COBY SHORTER, III**

Deputy Secretary of State

For a detailed view of this bill, visit <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=81R&Bill=SB2468>.