

Please note: The Legislative Ethics Committee might arrive at the same determination but would do so on the basis of the subsequently enacted law RSA 14-C:4-a, et seq.

February 1, 2024

Honorable Alissandra Murray
166 Rosedale Avenue
Manchester N.H. 03103-6439

RE: Advisory Opinion 2023-3

Dear Representative Murray:

The Legislative Ethics Committee, at its meeting on January 29, 2024, considered your request for clarification regarding Advisory Opinion 2023-3, which we issued on December 5, 2023, in response to your request for advice. In your memorandum, dated January 11, 2024, you stated that your employer, Reproductive Freedom Fund of New Hampshire (“RFFNH”), does not intend to conduct any “direct lobbying” on legislation this legislative year but that RFFNH does intend to “publicly direct volunteers to continue to testify and may post updates about bills on social media.” You asked whether your “limited coordination of volunteer testimony and social media activity from (your) employer would require (your) recusal on upcoming legislation under the committee’s interpretation of ‘lobbying, testifying, or otherwise attempting to influence the outcome.’”

The Committee determined that the facts in this matter have not changed. You continue to hold the position of deputy director of RFFNH, a position which gives you a level of responsibility and authority within RFFNH and over that organization’s efforts to influence the outcome of legislation. The work you are performing, including directing individuals to testify on specific legislation or coordinating testimony with social media activity, constitutes activity which is attempting to influence the outcome of legislation.

The Committee affirms the advice it provided in Advisory Opinion 2023-3. You should recuse yourself from participation in any official activities related to legislation on which RFFNH has lobbied, testified or otherwise attempted to influence the outcome.

[Vote 6-0]

Representative Bob Lynn recused and did not participate.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

For the Committee,
Edward M. Gordon
Chairman
Legislative Ethics Committee