
**Codebook**

This document contains explanations for how each variable was labeled in the dataset used for the study. The dataset is available for download as either a Stata (version 11) .dta file or Excel spreadsheet on my professional website. For more information regarding how lobby laws and other variables were coded, please see the article’s appendix.

**Variable name: fips**

Federal Information Processing Standard numeric codes for each U.S. state ranging 01 to 56.

**Year**

Year of the observation.

**Abbr**

Abbreviation of the U.S. state in which the observation occurred.

**State**

Name of the U.S. state in which the observation occurred.

**Groups**

Total number of unique interest groups registered within the state and during the year listed. Groups are also known as employers, principals, or clients, depending on the state’s legal language.

**SourceGroups**

This is a string variable listing the source of each count of registered interest groups.

“Wilson” indicates that the total is a count of groups published in Wilson (1990).

“GL” indicates that the total was provided by Virginia Gray and David Lowery in one of several publications: Gray and Lowery (1996); Lowery and Brasher (2004, 76 – 77); Lowery, Gray, and Cluverius (2015); or from Newmark (2008, 91).

“Report” indicates that the group count is from an annual state publication, such as annual reports from the Secretary of State or an ethics agency.
“Listcount” indicates that the group count was calculated based on the list of lobbyists and clients, which the author possessed.

“NIMSP” indicates that the group count was provided by the National Institute on Money in State Politics on their webpage, during the spring of 2014.

“Statedoc” indicates that the group count is from a document provided by a state office that lists counts from multiple years.

“Cogel93” indicates that the group count is from a Blue Book published by the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws, in 1993.

“BrasherGL99” indicates that the group count was found in Brasher, Gray, and Lowery (1999).

“Website” indicates that the group count was calculated using an online search tool that numbered or otherwise marked each unique client.

“Cogel88” indicates that the group count is from a Blue Book published by the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws, in 1988.

“Hrebnarthuromas93” indicates that the group count is from Hrebenar and Thomas (1993).

“Tpi” indicates that the group count was provided by the non-profit, advocacy organization Texans for Public Justice, on their webpage or in documents.

**RealGSP**

This is the real gross state product of the U.S. state as measured by the Bureau of Economic Analysis in millions of real 1997 U.S. dollars.

**RealGSP0000000**

This is the real gross state product of the U.S. state as measured by the Bureau of Economic Analysis in trillions of real 1997 U.S. dollars.

**RealGSP20000000**

This variable is $\text{RealGSP0000000} \times \text{RealGSP0000000}$. 

**InitiativeState**

This is a dichotomous indicator for whether direct-democracy techniques could occur within a state. States were marked “1” is referenda or initiatives could occur. These data were taken from Boehmke (2005).
**FoldedRanney6yr**
This is a folded Ranney (1976) index that captures partisan division within the state’s legislature from the past six years. The index is folded so that higher valued indicate more one-party dominance.

**Prof_proceeding**
This is a measure of legislative professionalism as captured by Squire (2007). State legislatures are scored between 0 and 1 based on how similar they are to the United States Congress in terms of session length, legislator pay, and staff resources.

**Definitions**
This is a scale of lobbyist definitions or registration criteria within a state’s set of lobby laws, as measured by Newmark (2005). (See the main text for more information on how this was measured.)

**Prohibitions**
This is a scale of campaign finance and gift-giving prohibitions that apply to lobbyists, as measured by Newmark (2005). (See the main text for more information on how this was measured.)

**Reporting**
This is a scale of reporting burdens for lobbyists as measured by Newmark (2005). (See the main text for more information on how this was measured.)

**DefPro**
This variable is Definitions * Prohibitions.

**DefRep**
This variable is Definitions * Reporting.

**Complete**
Works Cited


