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***LA Ethics 1* Endorses Financial Disclosure Clarifications**

Baton Rouge, La. (June 9, 2008) – *LA Ethics 1*, the statewide coalition of business and civic organizations pushing for governmental ethics reform in Louisiana, today endorsed Senate Bill 718 by Senator Daniel Martiny, which clarifies financial disclosure requirements for state boards and commissions. The bill creates a fourth financial reporting tier that will establish an equitable disclosure process for boards and commissions, many of which are composed of volunteers and receive little to no compensation. SB718 is scheduled to be heard in the House and Governmental Affairs committee in the near future.

“*LA Ethics 1* is proud of the work that our citizens, our legislators, and our governor have done to move Louisiana to the top of the lists for governmental ethics laws and enforcement. With recent projects wins such as the relocation of Albemarle Corporation’s headquarters, we are already beginning to see the economic development benefits related to these reforms,” said coalition spokesperson Adam Knapp. “This bill addresses an important concern for many state boards and commissions’ volunteers, a fair and uniform financial disclosure process commensurate with the level of compensation and authority.”

As currently amended, SB718 will require the following disclosure information from members of state boards and commissions and their spouses: employment, business positions, business income sources, association with nonprofits, and income from government and/or gaming interests. Additionally, the bill will require mandatory ethics training for all members.

About *LA Ethics 1*:

LA Ethics 1 is a statewide coalition of prominent Louisiana business and civic organizations that support a reform agenda designed to position our state as a national model for governmental ethics laws and enforcement. For additional information on this effort and the latest listing of organizations comprising ***LA Ethics 1***, please visit www.LAethics1.com.

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