


**DISCLOSURE OF APPEARANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 23(b)(3)**

	PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION
Name of public employee:	John Velis
Title or Position:	Senator
Agency/Department:	Massachusetts Senate
Agency address:	State House 24 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02133
Office Phone:	617-722-1415
Office E-mail:	John.velis@masenate.gov
	<p>In my capacity as a state, county or municipal employee, I am expected to take certain actions in the performance of my official duties. Under the circumstances, a reasonable person could conclude that a person or organization could unduly enjoy my favor or improperly influence me when I perform my official duties, or that I am likely to act or fail to act as a result of kinship, rank, position or undue influence of a party or person.</p> <p>I am filing this disclosure to disclose the facts about this relationship or affiliation and to dispel the appearance of a conflict of interest.</p>
	APPEARANCE OF FAVORITISM OR INFLUENCE
Describe the issue that is coming before you for action or decision.	The Senate will be considering S4, the FY23 Senate Budget, the week of May 23, 2022, and one of the amendments to the bill, Amendment 131, would extend the killed in the line of duty benefit to all public employees. This benefit would be a 1-time payment of \$300,000 to the family of a public employee who was killed or died from injuries received while in the performance of their duties. The amendment would also amend a public service scholarship program to provide scholarships to, among other recipients, the children and spouses of public employees who were killed or died from injuries received while in the performance of their duties.
What responsibility do you have for taking action or making a decision?	As a Senator, one of my duties is voting on amendments, including Amendment 131.
Explain your relationship or affiliation to the person or organization.	I am a public employee.
How do your official actions or decision matter to the person	My family could benefit if this amendment becomes law and I die while in in the performance of my duties as a public employee.

or organization?	
Optional: Additional facts – e.g., why there is a low risk of undue favoritism or improper influence.	Amendment 131 is general legislation and I am filing this disclosure out of an abundance of caution to dispel any appearance of a conflict of interest.
If you cannot confirm this statement, you should recuse yourself.	WRITE AN X TO CONFIRM THE STATEMENT BELOW. <u> X </u> Taking into account the facts that I have disclosed above, I feel that I can perform my official duties objectively and fairly.
Employee signature:	
Date:	5.24.2022

Attach additional pages if necessary.

Not elected to your public position – file with your appointing authority.

Elected state or county employees – file with the State Ethics Commission.

Members of the General Court – file with the House or Senate clerk or the State Ethics Commission.

Elected municipal employee – file with the City Clerk or Town Clerk.

Elected regional school committee member – file with the clerk or secretary of the committee.