

**Advisory Opinion 2015-4**  
**Response to a Request for an Advisory Opinion**  
**from Senate Legal Counsel Richard J. Lehmann**  
**on Behalf of Senator Gary L. Daniels**  
**(December 1, 2015)**

**Please Note: For clarity, references to and excerpts from provisions of statutes or the Ethics Guidelines have been updated to conform to subsequent changes in numbering and language, where the changes have not affected the substance of the Opinion.**

Senate Legal Counsel Richard J. Lehmann has submitted a request for an Advisory Opinion on behalf of Senator Gary L. Daniels about whether, consistent with applicable statutes and the Ethics Guidelines, Senator Daniels may accept payment of the costs of travel, lodging, and meals related to attendance at an event.

According to the information submitted by Attorney Lehmann, Senator Daniels has been invited to attend an event in Philadelphia on December 11-13, 2015, which will be focused on policies that governments and corporations can use to attract and retain veterans of the United States armed forces as employees. The event will consist of seminars concerning these topics, as well as a tour of the Technology Lab at the Comcast Center.

Based on the information provided by Attorney Lehmann about the event's purpose and activities, the event, as described, qualifies as a *bona fide* conference, meeting, seminar or educational program. See Interpretive Ruling 2013-1.

Accordingly, the Committee advises that acceptance of payment for expenses associated with attendance at the event qualifies for the exemption from the prohibition on "Gifts" under RSA 14-C:3, as "Expense Reimbursement" under RSA 14-C:2, IV(b)(10).

Senator Daniels must report his acceptance of the complimentary travel, lodging, and meals in accordance with RSA 14-C:4.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

Honorable Donna Sytek, Chairman  
Senator Sharon M. Carson, Vice Chairman  
Representative Janet G. Wall  
Senator Martha Fuller Clark  
Representative David A. Welch  
Honorable John A. Graham  
Attorney David H. Bradley

For the Committee,  
Honorable Donna Sytek  
Chairman

[Vote: 7-0]