

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**CONCILIATION  
AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the Citizens for Runbeck (Linda) Committee (17046);

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Representative Linda Runbeck (the Candidate) agree as follows:

1. The Citizens for Runbeck (Linda) Committee (the Committee) is the principal campaign committee of Representative Linda Runbeck. On its 2013 year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures and its 2014 pre-primary-election Report of Receipts and Expenditures, the Committee reported that it had accepted \$1,050 in total contributions from one individual during the two year period. The total amount of these contributions exceeds the applicable individual contribution limit during the 2013-2014 election cycle, which for a state representative candidate is \$1,000. The \$50 in excess contributions was not returned within 90 days, and thus, is deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. In a letter to the Board dated October 27, 2014, the Candidate stated that the Committee inadvertently violated the contribution limit. The Candidate said that the excess contributions had now been returned to the donor and provided a copy of the check and the letter returning the excess contribution. The Candidate also stated that the error could have been averted if the Committee had combined contribution records into one database following the changes in state law that created the two-year election segments. In fact, the Committee would have been notified of the excess contribution if the Committee had updated its Campaign Finance Reporter software to the current version available. The current version of the software automatically combines contribution records for the two-year election cycle for the purpose of checking applicable limits.
3. Board records show that this is the second instance in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the individual contribution limit. The prior violation occurred in 2011. The Committee registered with the Board on February 25, 2010.
4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from an individual resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(5), in the 2013-2014 election cycle.
5. To resolve this matter informally, and to avoid these violations in the future, the Candidate and the Committee agree that they will:
  - a. Continue to update the Campaign Finance Reporter software to the current version as distributed by the Board; and
  - b. Ensure that the Committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the CFR software within 60 days of receipt. Contributions reviewed and entered within this timeframe will allow the Committee to detect violations of the campaign finance laws and also provide the Committee with 30 days to return a contribution to its source before it is deemed accepted.

6. The Candidate agrees that the Board's acceptance of this agreement constitutes the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$50 against the Candidate for accepting individual contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(5). The penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2017. If the Candidate violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 1(a)(5) before January 1, 2017, the civil penalty is due immediately. If the Candidate does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subd. 1(a)(5) within that timeframe, the civil penalty is waived.

7. If the Candidate does not comply with the provisions of this agreement, this matter may be reopened by the Board and the Board may take such actions as it deems appropriate.

/s/ Linda Runbeck Dated: 11/23/2014  
Representative Linda Runbeck

/s/ Gary Goldsmith Dated: 11/18/2014  
Gary Goldsmith, Executive Director  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Agreement approved by Board at meeting of November 18, 2014

/s/ Deanna Wiener  
Deanna Wiener, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board