

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of Minnesota State College Faculty;

1. The DFL Senate Caucus is a political party unit registered with the Board. The party unit's September 2018 report of receipts and expenditures first disclosed a \$400 incoming contribution from Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF), a labor union that does not have a political committee or fund registered with the Board.
2. The 13th Senate District DFL is a political party unit registered with the Board. The party unit's 2018 pre-general report of receipts and expenditures first disclosed a \$410 incoming contribution from MSCF.
3. Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 13, prohibits an unregistered association from giving a contribution that exceeds \$200 unless the association also provides a written disclosure statement with the contribution that meets the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.20. If an unregistered association gives a contribution in excess of \$200, the recipient is required to provide the disclosure statement to the Board when filing the report of receipts and expenditures that first discloses the contribution. MSCF did not provide the required disclosure statement to the DFL Senate Caucus or to the 13th Senate District DFL. A contribution that is not returned within 90 days of being deposited is deemed to be accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
4. Mark Grant, chair of the MSCF's Legislative Committee, explained that the contributions should have been given via a political fund registered with the Board with which the MSCF is affiliated, but were mistakenly made directly by MSCF. The DFL Senate Caucus has provided a photocopy of a check sent in August 2019 returning the \$400 contribution it received to MSCF. The 13th Senate District DFL's treasurer has stated that a check returning \$210 of the \$410 contribution it received was sent to MSCF in November 2019.
5. The parties agree that MSCF gave two contributions in excess of \$200 to party units without the required disclosure statement in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 13. MSCF has not previously violated the disclosure requirement regarding contributions from unregistered associations.
6. To avoid a similar violation in the future, MSCF agrees that it will not give a contribution in excess of \$200 to a political committee or fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit,

without either providing with the contribution a disclosure statement in the form required by statute, registering with the Board as a political committee or fund, or seeking advice from Board staff.

7. MSCF agrees to provide to the Board, within 90 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, copies of the deposited checks or other documentation showing that the \$400 returned by the DFL Senate Caucus and the \$210 returned by the 13th Senate District DFL was received by MSCF.

8. MSCF also agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$410 for giving contributions in excess of \$200 without the disclosure statement required by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 13. The civil penalty is the total amount of the two contributions that exceeded \$200 per contribution. Of this amount, \$105 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$305 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2021. If MSCF violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 13, before January 1, 2021, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If MSCF does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 13, before January 1, 2021, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

9. If MSCF 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/ Mark Grant
Mark Grant, Legislative Committee Chair
Minnesota State College Faculty

Dated: January 17, 2020

/s/ Margaret Leppik
Margaret Leppik, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: December 4, 2019