

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

**CONCILIATION
AGREEMENT**

In the Matter of Rebecca (Gagnon) for MN House 62B (Registration No. 18213);

1. On September 24, 2018, Rebecca Gagnon confirmed that on March 6, 2018, the Rebecca (Gagnon) for MN House 62B committee had accepted a \$300 contribution from the IUPAT District Council 82 PAC (IUPAT 82). Rebecca (Gagnon) for MN House 62B is the principal campaign committee of candidate Rebecca Gagnon for a seat in the state house of representatives. The IUPAT District Council 82 PAC is a political fund registered with the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. On March 6, 2018, the Minnesota legislature was in regular session. Consequently, the Gagnon committee's acceptance of the contribution from the IUPAT 82 political fund violated the provision in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), that prohibits state candidate committees from accepting contributions from political funds during a regular session of the legislature.

2. On September 24, 2018, Ms. Gagnon told Board staff that the IUPAT 82 political fund's name was on the contribution check. Ms. Gagnon said that the committee nonetheless accepted the check because she mistakenly believed that contributions from unions were allowed during the legislative session. Ms. Gagnon stated that the committee had not yet returned \$300 to the IUPAT 82 political fund. Because the contribution was not returned within 90 days of receipt, it was deemed to be accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

3. To resolve this matter informally, and to avoid these violations in the future, the Gagnon committee agrees that it will do the following:

- a. Continue to file reports with the Board using the Campaign Finance Reporter software.
- b. Ensure that the committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the Campaign Finance Reporter software within 60 days of receipt, and runs and reviews a batch compliance report after each data entry session. Running the batch compliance report will tell the treasurer when a contribution from a prohibited source has been received during the legislative session. The treasurer then will have time to return any prohibited contributions before the end of the 90-day grace period.
- c. Return \$300 to the IUPAT District Council 82 PAC political fund and provide documentation of the return of the contribution to the Board.

4. To resolve this matter informally, the Gagnon committee further agrees to the imposition against the committee of a civil penalty in the amount of \$300 for accepting a contribution from a political fund during the legislative session in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (a). Of this penalty, \$75 is due within 30 days of the date this agreement is signed by both parties and the remaining \$225 is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2021. If the Gagnon committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), before January 1, 2021, the stayed portion of the civil penalty is due immediately and the Board may impose such other penalties as may be appropriate. If the Gagnon committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), before January 1, 2021, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

5. If the committee 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.

Agreement approved by Board at meeting of October 3, 2018

/s/ Carolyn Flynn
Carolyn Flynn, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

/s/ Rebecca Gagnon
Rebecca Gagnon, Candidate
Rebecca (Gagnon) for MN House 62B

Dated: 10/3/2018