

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the People for (Rick) Hansen committee (16189);

1. People for (Rick) Hansen is the principal campaign committee of Representative Rick Hansen. The aggregate political party unit and terminating principal campaign committee contribution limit was \$10,000 for a candidate for the house of representatives during the 2021-2022 election cycle. The committee's 2021 and amended 2022 year-end reports of receipts and expenditures collectively disclosed a total of \$10,819.44 in contributions from political party units and terminating principal campaign committees. A staff review was opened in June 2023.
2. The Hansen committee stated that it mistakenly failed to include a \$1,350 contribution it received from a party unit in August 2022 within its original 2022 pre-general and year-end reports. After amending the 2022 year-end report, the committee learned it had exceeded the aggregate political party unit and terminating principal campaign committee contribution limit. The committee returned \$819.44 to a party unit in August 2023. The excess amount of \$819.44 was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
3. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions from party units and terminating principal campaign committees in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, during the 2021-2022 election cycle. This is the committee's second violation of the limit on contributions from party units and terminating principal campaign committees. The committee exceeded the same contribution limit by \$100 in 2011; however, that violation was over ten years ago and involved a different treasurer.
4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees that it will transition to using the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter Online application starting with the 2023 reporting year, ensure that the committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions within 60 days of receipt, run appropriate batch compliance reports, and review and correct all compliance warnings.
5. While this is the committee's second violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, the previous violation was more than ten years ago and involved a different treasurer. Therefore, the Board concludes that the appropriate penalty is one times the amount the committee exceeded the aggregate limit for contributions from political party units and terminating principal campaign committees. The committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$819.44, one times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2. Of this amount, \$205 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$614.44 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2025. If the committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

6. The committee also agrees to provide to the Board, within 60 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, a copy of the deposited check or other documentation showing that \$819.44 has been returned to a party unit.

7. 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.

/s/ Rick Hansen
Representative Rick Hansen
People for (Rick) Hansen

Dated: September 12, 2023

/s/ George W. Soule
George W. Soule, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: September 6, 2023