

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the Matter of lobbyist William Harper (4036);

1. The principal campaign committee of Curtis Johnson, a candidate for House District 40B, informed the Board in August 2024 that it had inadvertently accepted a \$250 contribution made by lobbyist William Harper via ActBlue on February 22, 2024, during a regular session of the legislature. The contribution was not accompanied by Mr. Harper's Board registration number as required by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5. Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, prohibits a registered lobbyist from making a contribution to a candidate for the legislature during a regular session of the legislature.
2. Mr. Harper stated that he was not aware that the prohibition on contributions made by lobbyists during the legislative session applies to contributions to nonincumbent candidates. Mr. Harper acknowledged that he did not provide the Johnson committee with his Board registration number when the contribution was made. The Johnson committee issued a refund check to Mr. Harper in August 2024.
3. The parties agree that Mr. Harper made a contribution to a candidate for the legislature during a regular session of the legislature in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1. Mr. Harper has been a registered lobbyist since February 2023 and this is his first violation of the restrictions on contributions during the legislative session.
4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, Mr. Harper agrees that he will not make a contribution during a regular legislative session to any candidate for the legislature or for constitutional office, or to any legislative party unit. Mr. Harper will ensure that any contribution made to a candidate is accompanied by his Board registration number as required by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5.
5. Mr. Harper agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$100 for making a contribution prohibited by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1. The amount of the civil penalty was determined in part by the fact that this was a first-time violation.
6. Mr. Harper 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 \$250 has been returned to him by the Johnson committee.

7. If Mr. Harper 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/ William Harper
William Harper, Lobbyist

Dated: September 9, 2024

/s/ David Asp
David Asp, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: September 4, 2024