

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

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Tou Xiong for Senate committee (18715);

1. Tou Xiong for Senate is the principal campaign committee of Senator Tou Xiong, who was a candidate for Senate District 44. The aggregate special source contribution limit, which includes contributions from lobbyists, political committees and funds, and associations not registered with the Board, was \$7,300 for candidates for state senate during the 2023-2024 election cycle segment. The committee's 2023 and 2024 year-end reports of receipts and expenditures disclosed a total of \$7,675 in special source contributions, which exceeded the limit by \$375.
2. Senator Xiong self-reported the violation to the Board by email on February 1, 2025. Senator Xiong stated that more than \$375 was refunded to special source contributors in early 2025. Senator Xiong later explained that contribution checks were retrieved from the committee's post office box and then deposited on two occasions in 2024, but the committee did not immediately review whether those contributions would cause the committee to exceed the aggregate special source limit. Senator Xiong said that he self-reported the issue as soon as the committee became aware of it. The excess amount was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3. Senator Xiong provided a copy of a deposited refund check that was used to return \$250 of the excess special source contributions to a political fund.
3. The Xiong committee and the Board agree that the committee inadvertently accepted excessive contributions from special source contributors in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, during the 2023-2024 election cycle segment. The committee registered with the Board in 2021 and has no prior violations of the aggregate special source limit.
4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees that its treasurer or the candidate will review the amount of each contribution and enter it within 60 days of receipt within the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter Online application.
5. The Xiong committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$100 for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. Payment is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The amount of the civil penalty was determined in part by the fact that this was a first-time violation of the aggregate special source limit that was self-reported to the Board.
6. The Xiong committee also agrees to provide to the Board, within 60 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, a copy of a deposited check or other documentation showing that the remaining excess amount of \$125 has been refunded to one or more special source contributors.

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/ Tou Xiong
Senator Tou Xiong
Tou Xiong for Senate

Dated: May 1, 2025

/s/ Faris Rashid
Faris Rashid, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: April 8, 2025