

STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION
AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Ray Cox for State Representative (#15762);

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §10A.28, subd. 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Representative Ray Cox hereby agree as follows:

1. During 2004, the Ray Cox for State Representative Committee ("the Committee") accepted \$5,750 in contributions from special sources. These sources include registered lobbyists from whom the Committee accepted \$150, and political committees or political funds from which the Committee accepted \$5,600. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$50 the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources, which for this candidate was \$5,700. The amount of the excess contributions was not returned to the contributors within 60 days as required by Minn. Stat. §10A.15, subd. 3.

2. In a letter received on March 10, 2005, Representative Cox indicated that the committee exceeded the contribution limit by \$50 and stated "not including the MN Association of Realtors contribution as a political committee contribution was inadvertent on my part, as I did not know they were a political action committee. When

the...contribution is moved to the proper category it increases my political committee contributions above the prescribed \$5,700 limit."

3. Board records show that this is the first calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the applicable aggregate contribution limit. The Ray Cox for State Representative Committee registered with the Board on January 5, 2002.

4. The parties agree that the Ray Cox for State Representative Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minn. Stat. §10A. 27, subd. 11, in calendar year 2004.

5. Representative Cox hereby agrees to return to donors of the contributions, described in paragraph one, an amount sufficient to bring the committee in compliance with Minn. Stat. 10A.27, subd. 11. Copies of the checks and the accompanying letters returning the contributions must be forwarded to the Board within 30 days after the date this Conciliation Agreement is signed by the Board chair.

6. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$50, one times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the applicable limit, to be paid to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state.

7. Representative Cox hereby agrees to forward to the Board \$50 by check or money order payable to the STATE OF MINNESOTA within 30 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board chair. It is agreed by the parties that the copies of the checks and the accompanying letters returning the contributions, payment of the civil penalty of \$50, and this Conciliation Agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minn. Stat. §10A.28, subs. 3 & 4.

8. It is further understood and agreed, however, that if the excess amount is not returned as specified in paragraph 5 above, or the civil penalty of \$50 is not paid within the time specified in paragraph 7 above, then Representative Cox will be personally liable to pay a civil penalty, under Minn. Stat. §§10A.28 and 10A.34, subd. 1, in an amount calculated as follows:

(a) \$100 or two times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the statutory limit, if payment is received 31 to 60 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board Chair;

(b) \$150 or three times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the statutory limit, if payment is received 61 to 90 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board Chair;

(c) \$200 or four times the amount by which the contributions exceeded the statutory limit, if payment is received 91 to 120 days after the date this Agreement is signed by the Board Chair.

9. It is further understood and agreed that this Agreement is confidential until signed by Representative Cox and the Board Chair; the signed Agreement then shall become a matter of public record, and the statutory requirement of confidentiality shall no longer apply. Minn. Stat. §§10A.02, subd. 11 and 10A.28, subd. 3.

Ray Cox

Representative Ray Cox

Dated: 3/28/05

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

By Terri Ashmore

Terri Ashmore, chair

Dated: 3/31/05

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board