## STATE OF MINNESOTA

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

**CONCILIATION** 

**AGREEMENT** 

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

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Representative Rick Hansen (hereinafter referred to as "the Candidate") hereby agree as follows:

- 1. During 2007, the People for (Rick) Hansen Committee ("the Committee") accepted \$1,330 in contributions from special sources. These sources include registered lobbyists from whom the Committee accepted \$405, and political committees or political funds from which the Committee accepted \$925. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$130 the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources, which in 2007 was \$1,200 for a house of representatives candidate. The amount of \$130 in excess contributions was not returned within 60 days as required by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
- 2. As a part of the \$405 in contributions received from registered lobbyists the Committee accepted a \$100 contribution from Brian Rice and a \$35 contribution from Gary Botzek. In correspondence dated February 23, 2008, Suzanne Hansen, treasurer, states "...the aggregate amount of contributions from lobbyists, political funds and committees exceeded the \$1,200 by \$130. However, we refunded \$135 to two

lobbyists. These were refunded more than 60 days after receipt. ...These two checks did not have lobbyist...Registration numbers on them and so they were entered as individual contributions. At the end of the year when compiling the annual report, we discovered the two contributors were lobbyists. ...I attempted to have compliance with the requirements and would have refunded the contributions earlier if we had known they were lobbyist contributions." Ms. Hansen provided copies of the checks received from Mr. Rice and Mr. Botzek to substantiate that the contributions were made without the required lobbyist registration number.

- 3. Board records show that this is the second calendar year in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the applicable aggregate contribution limit. The Committee registered with the Board on July 29, 2004.
- 4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A. 27, subdivision 11, in calendar year 2007.
- 5. The Committee states that it has returned \$135 to Mr. Botzek and Mr. Rice. Copies of the checks and letters returning the contributions must be forwarded to the Board within 30 days after the date this agreement is signed by the Board Chair.
- 6. The Board imposes no civil penalty on the Committee because there was no registration number to identify the contributions from lobbyists that resulted in the special source violation.

7. It is agreed by the parties that providing the copies specified in paragraph 5, and this Conciliation Agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivisions 3 and 4.

8. It is further understood and agreed that this Agreement is confidential until signed by the Candidate 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. Minnesota Statutes, sections 10A.02, subdivision 11 and 10A.28, subdivision 3.

Representative Rick Hansen

Dated:

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Sven Wehrwein, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board