STATE OF MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Committee to Elect (Bobby Joe) Champion (#16649);

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

- 1. The Committee to Elect Bobby Joe Champion ("the Committee") is the principal campaign committee of the Candidate for District 58B. During 2008, the Committee accepted \$9,100 in contributions from special sources. These sources include large givers from whom the Committee accepted \$4,350, registered lobbyists from whom the Committee accepted \$400, and political committees or political funds from which the Committee accepted \$4,350. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$2,800 the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources, which for a state House of Representatives candidate was \$6,300. The \$2,800 in excess contributions were not returned within 60 days as permitted by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
- 2. In letters dated February 10 and March 17, 2009, Board staff notified the Candidate of the possible violation. Records provided by the Committee in response to the notification show that some contributions have already been returned to lobbyists and political committees, but the return of contributions occurred after the 60 day period in which to cure the violation had expired.

- 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 Committee registered with the Board on November 21, 2007.
- 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 2008.
- 5. The Candidate hereby agrees to return to contributors described in paragraph 1 a sufficient amount to bring the Committee into compliance. Copies of the checks and the accompanying letters returning the excess amount must be forwarded to the Board within 60 days after the date this Conciliation Agreement is signed by the Board Chair.
- 6. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$2,800, 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. This penalty may be paid with principal campaign committee funds.
- 7. The Candidate hereby agrees to pay the civil penalty of \$2,800 by making ten (10) monthly payments in the amount of two hundred eighty dollars (\$280.00) each to be received by the Board not later than the 15th of each month beginning on January 15, 2010 and continuing through October 15, 2010. Each payment must be made by check or money order payable to the STATE OF MINNESOTA and received in the Board offices by the due date.

8. It is agreed by the parties upon compliance with the terms of sections five (5) and seven (7), this Conciliation Agreement will be a bar to any civil proceeding under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivisions 3 and 4.

9. It is further understood and agreed, however, that if the provisions of section five (5) or section seven (7) are not completed within the specified time limits, the Board may declare this Conciliation Agreement to be of no further effect and may issue Findings and Orders related to the violations.

10. It is further understood and agreed that this Agreement is confidential until signed by the Candidate and the Board Chair. Once signed, the Agreement shall become a matter of public record, and the statutory requirement of confidentiality shall no longer apply. Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11 and section 10A.28, subdivision 3.

Representative Bobby Joe Champion

Dated: 9/29/09

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Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

A. Hilda Bettermann, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board