STATE OF MINNESOTA

CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION

AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Friends of Kurt Bills Committee (#16947);

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

- 1. The Friends of Kurt Bills Committee ("the Committee") is the principal campaign committee of Representative Kurt Bills. During 2010, the Committee accepted \$6,800 in contributions from special sources. These sources include large givers from whom the Committee accepted \$5,650, lobbyists from whom the Committee accepted \$250, and political committees or political funds from which the Committee accepted \$900. The total amount of these contributions exceeded by \$300 the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources, which for a state representative candidate was \$6,500. The \$300 in excess contributions was not returned within 60 days, and thus, is deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
- 2. In correspondence received August 17, 2011, Robert Dove, treasurer, states "While entering the last of the 2010 entries prior to the Jan 31, 2011 financial filing date, the Campaign Finance Reporter (CFR) software alerted me that the committee had received and entered contributions of

\$300 more than the aggregate limit from special source contributors... On that day, our committee returned \$300 of contributions to [two] committees... In no way was there any intent to violate either the letter or the spirit of the statute."

- 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 October 23, 2009.
- 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 2010.
- 5. The Committee has returned \$300 to two political committees mentioned in paragraph 1.

 Copies of the checks and the accompanying letters returning the excess amount were provided to the Board.
- 6. The Candidate agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$300, 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. The Committee hereby agrees to forward to the Board \$300 by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota within 30 days after the date this Agreement is signed by both parties. It is agreed by the parties that payment of the civil penalty of \$300 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, however, that failure to pay the civil penalty of \$300 within the time specified in paragraph 7 above is a violation of the terms of this conciliation agreement and the Board may declare this agreement to be null and void and may take further

9. 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 Kurt Bills

action to resolve this matter.

Approved by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

y Dated: September 6, 2011

John Scanlon, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board