STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Becker-Finn (Jamie) for 42B committee (17940);

1. The Becker-Finn (Jamie) for 42B committee is the principal campaign committee of Representative Jamie Becker-Finn. The committee reported receiving a combined total of \$10,040.44 in contributions from political party units and terminating principal campaign committees in 2017 and 2018. This amount exceeded by \$40.44 the \$10,000 limit on contributions from these sources to a House candidate during the 2017-2018 election cycle. The \$40.44 that exceeded the limit was not returned within 90 days and therefore is deemed to be accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

2. Representative Becker-Finn said that the committee will return at least \$40.44 to a party unit that gave a contribution to the committee in 2018.

3. Representative Becker-Finn stated that she believed the violation was caused by the committee initially thinking that a contribution of \$100 made electronically, without an accompanying Board registration number, was from an individual when it was actually from a terminating principal campaign committee. The contribution was categorized properly within the Campaign Finance Reporter software. However, the committee appears to have forgotten to reclassify it as a contribution from a terminating candidate committee, once it realized that was the case, within a spreadsheet it used to track its compliance with contribution limits. The committee also did not enter an in-kind contribution of \$450 from a party unit in the software in a timely manner. If that contribution had been entered shortly after it was received, the software would have provided a warning and the committee would have had time to return the excess funds within 90 days of exceeding the \$10,000 limit.

4. The parties agree that the committee accepted excessive contributions from party units and terminating principal campaign committees in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2, during the 2017-2018 election cycle. This is the committee's first violation of the limit on contributions from party units and terminating principal campaign committees.

5. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee agrees to:

a. Ensure that the committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions, including in-kind contributions, into the Campaign Finance Reporter software within 60 days of receipt;

- b. Ensure that each contribution entered into the software is properly categorized as a contribution from an individual, lobbyist, party unit, terminating principal campaign committee, political committee or fund, or association not registered with the Board; and
- c. Run a batch compliance report after each time contributions are entered and take steps to remedy any violations the software identifies so that problems may be resolved within the 90 days provided by statute for the return of a contribution before it is deemed accepted.

6. The committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$40.44, the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 2. Payment of \$40.44 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties.

7. The committee also agrees to provide to the Board, within 90 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties, copies of the deposited check or other documentation showing that at least \$40.44 was received by the party unit to which it was returned.

8. 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.

<u>/s/ Jamie Becker-Finn</u> Representative Jamie Becker-Finn Becker-Finn (Jamie) for 42B Dated: June 30, 2019

/s/ Margaret Leppik [Margaret Leppik, Chair Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: June 5, 2019