

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

**CONCILIATION AGREEMENT**

In the Matter of the Campaign of Ann Johnson Stewart (18453);

1. The principal campaign committee of Senator Ann Johnson Stewart informed the Board that it inadvertently accepted three contributions of \$10 each made by lobbyist Hubert (Buck) Humphrey via ActBlue during a regular session of the legislature. The contributions were made on February 2, March 2, and May 2, 2021. Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, prohibits a candidate for the legislature from accepting a contribution from a registered lobbyist during a regular session of the legislature and the legislature was in regular session on those dates. The contributions were not returned within 90 days of deposit and are therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. The committee's treasurer, Susan Christiansen, stated that the contributions were not accompanied by Mr. Humphrey's Board registration number, as required by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5. Because Mr. Humphrey's first name was formatted differently within the committee's records than it was within the Board's Campaign Finance Reporter software, the software initially did not provide the committee with a compliance warning regarding the contributions. When the committee learned that the contributions were made by a registered lobbyist, Ms. Christiansen promptly contacted Board staff and then refunded the prohibited contributions. Ms. Christiansen provided documentation from ActBlue showing that the three contributions were refunded on November 7, 2021.
3. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted contributions from a registered lobbyist during a regular session of the legislature in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1. This is the committee's first violation of the restrictions on contributions during the legislative session.
4. To avoid a similar violation in the future, the committee has modified its ActBlue contribution form and will continue to use that form, which asks whether a contributor is a registered lobbyist and allows a contributor that is a lobbyist to enter their Board registration number.

5. 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.

/s/ Ann Johnson Stewart  
Senator Ann Johnson Stewart  
Campaign of Ann Johnson Stewart

Dated: December 6, 2021

/s/ Stephen Swanson  
Stephen Swanson, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Dated: December 1, 2021