STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the People for (Gregory) Davids Committee (12604);

1. The People for (Gregory) Davids Committee is the principal campaign committee of Representative Greg Davids. The aggregate special source contribution limit, which includes contributions from lobbyists, political committees and funds, and associations not registered with the Board, was \$14,500 for state house candidates during the 2021-2022 election cycle segment. The committee's amended 2021 and 2022 year-end reports of receipts and expenditures disclosed a combined total of \$14,950 in special source contributions. A staff review was opened in April of 2023.

2. The Davids committee began working with Board staff in early 2023 regarding a balance adjustment. As part of the review of bank statements and reports for the balance adjustment, the Davids committee realized that it had not reported \$700 in contributions received in 2021. Representative Davids reports that he told the previous treasurer to return the \$700 in 2021, but the contributions were not returned by the treasurer, and not included on the original 2021 year-end report. After filing the amended 2021 year-end report in March 2023, the Davids committee discovered that it had exceeded the \$14,500 aggregate special source limit by \$450. The Davids committee returned the excess \$450 to lobbyists on March 16, 2023. However, \$450 in excess special source contributions was not returned within 90 days of deposit and is therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.

3. The Davids committee's previous treasurer passed away in 2022. As such, the current treasurer and Representative Davids do not know why the contributions were not returned in 2021, nor why the contributions were not included on the 2021 year-end report.

4. The parties agree that the committee inadvertently accepted \$450 in excessive contributions from special source contributors in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, during the 2021-2022 election cycle segment. This is the committee's first violation of the aggregate special source limit.¹

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

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

b. 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

¹ The Davids committee exceeded the aggregate special source limit during the 2011-2012 election cycle; however, a lobbyist did not include their registration number when making a contribution to the Davids committee, causing the limit to be exceeded. The Davids committee returned the funds to the lobbyist. The Board did not issue a penalty against the Davids committee.

within the 90 days provided by statute for the return of a contribution before it is deemed accepted.

6. The Davids committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$450, one times the amount of the violation, for accepting contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. Of this amount, \$115 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$335 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2025. If the committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, before January 1, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, 2025, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

7. 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/ Greg Davids</u> Representative Greg Davids People for (Gregory) Davids Committee Dated: May 3, 2023

<u>/s/ George W. Soule</u> George W. Soule, Chair Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board Dated: April 26, 2023