

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

**Findings and Order In The Matter Of Contributions Made By
The Citizens 4 Mike Lovas Committee
To a Candidate Seeking Office in Another State**

Summary of the Facts

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9, clause (d), prohibits contributions from a principal campaign committee to a candidate for a political subdivision office in any state. There is no specified civil penalty for a principal campaign committee that violates this statute, but the amount of a prohibited contribution must be returned to the principal campaign committee.

The 2010 Year-End Report of Receipts and Expenditures filed by the Citizens 4 Mike Lovas for Minnesota Committee (“the Committee”) disclosed a \$65 contribution to the Friends of Tulsi Tamayo Committee, the campaign committee of a candidate for political office in another state.

By letter dated February 10, 2011, Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board staff notified Mike Lovas of the potential violation. Mr. Lovas informed the Board that rather than asking the recipient to return the contribution he would replace it with his personal funds. Because his principal campaign committee has terminated its registration he will send the check to the Board for deposit in the general fund of the state.

The matter was considered by the Board in executive session on April 19, 2011. The Board’s decision was based upon the Report of Receipts and Expenditures filed by the Committee and Board records.

Based on the above Summary of Facts and the Relevant Statute, the Board makes the following:

Findings Concerning Probable Cause

1. There is probable cause to believe that the Citizens 4 Mike Lovas Committee contributed \$65 to a committee seeking office in another state, in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 9, clause (d).
2. There is no probable cause to believe that this violation was intentional or done with the intent to circumvent the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 10A.
3. In lieu of recovering the contribution from the Friends of Tulsi Tamayo Committee, Mike Lovas has forwarded a check in the amount of \$65 for deposit in the general fund of the state to remedy the violation.

