STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

FINDINGS AND ORDER IN THE MATTER OF A CONTRIBUTION DURING THE REGULAR 2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BY ANDREW KOZAK

Summary of Allegations and Responses

On August 10, 2006, the Linda Slocum Volunteer Committee ("the Committee") voluntarily notified the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ("the Board") that the Committee accepted a \$100 contribution from Andrew Kozak during the 2006 regular legislative session. The contribution was received on March 7, 2006. The 2006 regular legislative session was held from March 1, 2006, to May 21, 2006. Mr. Kozak is registered with the Board as a lobbyist.

Minnesota Statutes, section10A.273, subdivision 1(b), prohibits registered lobbyists from making a contribution to a principal campaign committee during a regular legislative session. A lobbyist that violates this section is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000.

By letter dated August 17, 2006, the Board notified Andrew Kozak of the correspondence received from the Committee and the statutory provision that appeared to be violated. Mr. Kozak responded by letter dated August 23, 2006. Mr. Kozak stated, "At the time I did not realize that the prohibition against donations during the legislative session applied to candidates as well as sitting legislators. I was obviously incorrect."

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on September 15, 2006. The Findings are based on the correspondence from the Linda Slocum Volunteer Committee, Mr. Kozak, and Board records.

Relevant Statutes

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1(b). **Contributions during legislative session.** A registered lobbyist, political committee, political fund, or dissolving principal campaign committee, or a party unit established by the party organization within a house of the legislature, must not make a contribution to a candidate for the legislature or for constitutional office, the candidate's principal campaign committee, or a political committee or party unit established by all or a part of the party organization within a house of the legislature during a regular session of the legislature.

Based on the above Summary of Allegations and Responses and Relevant Statutes, the Board makes the following:

Findings of Probable Cause

There is evidence that Andrew Kozak, a registered lobbyist, contributed \$100 to the Linda Slocum Volunteer Committee during the 2006 regular legislative session. The Board finds that Andrew Kozak inadvertently violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1(b).

Based on the above Findings, the Board issues the following:

Order

- 1. The Board imposes a \$100 civil fine on Andrew Kozak for inadvertently violating Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1(b). The penalty is equal to one times the amount of the contribution.
- 2. Andrew Kozak is directed to forward payment of the civil penalty to the Board within 30 days after receipt of this order.
- 3. If Andrew Kozak does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the Ramsey County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273.
- 4. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by Andrew Kozak of the civil penalties imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

Dated: September 15, 2006

Bob Milbert, Chair

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board