



Prohibition on accepting contributions during the legislative session

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

The 2020 legislative session begins February 11, 2020

The general prohibition - candidates

Candidates and their principal campaign committees are prohibited from soliciting or accepting contributions during a regular legislative session from political committees, political funds, associations not registered with the Board, and registered lobbyists. Except as noted in the next sentence, this prohibition applies to all candidates registered with the Board, not just to incumbent legislators and constitutional officers.

Exception: This prohibition does not apply to judicial and special election candidates.

General prohibition – party caucus committees

The general prohibition on soliciting or accepting contributions during a regular legislative session from the sources specified in the above paragraph also applies to the four political committees of party caucuses.

The prohibition does not apply to state or local party units.

Solicitation from special sources

Candidates and caucus committees may not solicit contributions from the sources listed in the top paragraph even if the contributions are to be made after the session ends.

Restriction on solicitation by all party units

All party units, including state and local units, are prohibited from soliciting or accepting contributions during a regular legislative session from the sources listed in the top paragraph if the solicitation takes place at, or as part of, an event hosted by a candidate for legislative or constitutional office.

Who you can accept contributions from during the session?

Candidates and caucus committees can accept contributions during the session from party units and from individuals who are not lobbyists.

When does the prohibition apply?

The prohibition applies during the entire first day through the entire last day of the session.

For 2020, the prohibition begins at 12:01:01 AM February 11th.

When does the prohibition end?

The prohibition ends at 12:01:01 AM on the day following the day of adjournment of the 2020 regular session.

What if I accidentally accept a prohibited contribution during the session?

Campaign finance statutes provide that a treasurer can return a contribution within 90 days after it is deposited and thus cure a violation. If you accidentally accept a prohibited sessional contribution and return it within 90 days of deposit, the potential violation will be cured.