

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

**CONCILIATION
AGREEMENT**

In the matter of the Koenen (Lyle) Senate Campaign Committee (17407);

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Senator Lyle Koenen (hereinafter referred to as the Candidate) hereby agree as follows:

1. The Koenen (Lyle) Senate Campaign Committee (the Committee) is the principal campaign committee of Senator Lyle Koenen. On its 2013 Year-end Report of Receipts and Expenditures, the Committee reported that it had accepted \$6,305 in contributions from special sources. These sources include registered lobbyists, from whom the Committee accepted \$1,830, and political committees or political funds, from which the Committee accepted \$4,475. The total amount of these contributions exceeds the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources during the 2013-2014 election cycle segment, which for a state senate candidate is \$6,000. The \$305 in excess contributions was not returned within 90 days, and thus, is deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
2. In a telephone conversation with Board staff on July 17, 2014, the Candidate stated that the Committee had returned those special source contributions that could be returned within the 90 day window permitted by Minn. Stat. § 10A.15, subdivision 3. The Candidate said, however, that after those contributions had been returned, the Committee still exceeded the special source limit by \$305.
3. Board records show that this is the first election cycle segment in which the Committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the special source limit. The Committee registered with the Board on March 15, 2012.
4. The parties agree that the Committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources resulting in an inadvertent violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, in the 2013-2014 election cycle segment.
5. To resolve this matter informally, and to avoid these violations in the future, the Candidate and the Committee agree that they will:
 - a. Return \$305 to contributors described in paragraph 1 to bring the Committee into compliance with the special source limit. Copies of the checks used to return the excess contributions must be provided to the Board within 30 days after the date this conciliation agreement is signed by both parties; and
 - b. Ensure that the Committee's treasurer reviews contributions within 60 days of receipt and checks contributions against applicable campaign finance limits. Contributions reviewed within this timeframe will allow the Committee to detect violations of the campaign finance laws and also provide the Committee with 30 days to return a contribution to its source before it is deemed accepted.

6. The Candidate agrees that the Board's acceptance of this agreement constitutes the imposition of a civil penalty in the amount of \$200 against the Candidate for accepting special source contributions in excess of the limit imposed by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11. The penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2017. If the Candidate violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11 before January 1, 2017, the civil penalty is due immediately. If the Candidate does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subd. 11 within that timeframe, the civil penalty is waived.

7. If the Candidate 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/ Lyle Koenen Dated: 10/19/2014
Senator Lyle Koenen

/s/ Deanna Wiener Dated: 10/7/2014
Deanna Wiener, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board