STATE OF MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD

CONCILIATION AGREEMENT

In the matter of the Limmer (Warren) for Senate committee (13262);

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.28, subdivision 3, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and Senator Warren Limmer (the candidate) agree as follows:

- 1. The Limmer (Warren) for Senate committee is the principal campaign committee of Senator Warren Limmer. On its 2017 year-end report of receipts and expenditures, the committee reported that it had accepted \$7,350 in total contributions from special sources. These sources include registered lobbyists, from whom the committee accepted \$1,850, and political committees or political funds, from which the committee accepted \$5,500. The total amount of these contributions exceeds the applicable limit on aggregate contributions from special sources during the 2017-2018 non-election segment, which for a state senate candidate is \$6,600. The \$750 that exceeded the limit was not returned within 90 days, and was therefore deemed accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
- 2. In a letter from the candidate, he stated that the committee had inadvertently received contributions in excess of the aggregate special sources limit. The committee issued three refund checks totaling \$750 to special source contributors on January 31, 2018, and March 7, 2018.
- 3. Board records show that this is the second instance in which the committee reported acceptance of contributions that exceeded the special source limit. The first violation was in 2013. The committee registered with the Board on December 5, 1994.
- 4. The parties agree that the committee accepted excessive contributions from special sources in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, in the 2017-2018 non-election 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. Ensure that the committee's treasurer reviews and enters contributions into the Campaign Finance Reporter software within 60 days of receipt;
 - 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 within the 90 days that statutes provide for the return of a contribution before it is deemed accepted;
 - c. Update the Campaign Finance Reporter software whenever the software notifies the user that an update is available; and
 - d. Contact Board technical staff to report and receive assistance with any software problems.

- 6. The committee agrees to the imposition of a civil penalty of \$1,500, two 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, \$375 is due within 30 days of the date the agreement is signed by both parties. The remaining \$1,125 of the penalty is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2021. If the committee violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, before January 1, 2021, the outstanding civil penalty is due immediately. If the committee does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.27, subdivision 11, before January 1, 2021, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.
- 7. This conciliation agreement replaces the June 6, 2018, conciliation agreement between the Board and the Limmer (Warren) for Senate Committee. Payment of the \$375 civil penalty has already been paid by the committee.
- 8. 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.

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Senator Warren Limmer
Limmer (Warren) for Senate Committee

Margaret Legik Dated: 6/24/19

Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board