

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

**CONCILIATION  
AGREEMENT**

In the Matter of Lobbyist Sarah Stoesz (Registration No. 8835);

1. On August 6, 2018, lobbyist Sarah Stoesz self-reported to the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board that she had made a \$300 contribution to Kelly Morrison for Minnesota House on March 14, 2018. Kelly Morrison for Minnesota House is the principal campaign committee of candidate Kelly Morrison for a seat in the state house of representatives. On March 14, 2018, the Minnesota legislature was in regular session. Consequently, Ms. Stoesz's contribution violated the provision in Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), that prohibits lobbyists from making contributions to state candidate committees during a regular session of the legislature.
2. In the August 6<sup>th</sup> letter to the Board, Ms. Stoesz stated that she did not realize when she made the contribution that it was prohibited. Ms. Stoesz states that she now is aware of the sessional contribution prohibition and that her principal organization has taken steps to ensure that all of its lobbyists also are aware of the prohibition.
3. The contribution check from Ms. Stoesz did not include her Board registration number as required by Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5, or otherwise indicate that she was a lobbyist. A copy of the contribution check was provided to the Board to verify that it did not include a registration number.
4. The Morrison committee returned the prohibited contribution on July 26, 2018. Because the contribution was not returned within 90 days, the contribution was deemed to be accepted under Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 3.
5. To resolve this matter informally and to avoid these violations in the future, Ms. Stoesz agrees that, as long as she is registered as a lobbyist, she will do the following:
  - a. Include her name and Board registration number on all contributions that she makes to state-level candidates; and
  - b. Refrain from making contributions during regular sessions of the Minnesota legislature to state candidate committees or to legislative caucuses.
6. To resolve this matter informally, Ms. Stoesz further agrees to the imposition against her of a civil penalty in the amount of \$300 for making a contribution to a state candidate committee during the legislative session in violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (b) and for not including her Board registration number with her contribution in

violation of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5. Of this penalty, \$75 is due within 30 days of the date this agreement is signed by both parties and the remaining \$225 is, by the terms of this agreement, stayed until January 1, 2021. If Ms. Stoesz violates Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5, or Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), before January 1, 2021, the stayed portion of the civil penalty is due immediately and the Board may impose such other penalties as may be appropriate. If Ms. Stoesz does not violate Minnesota Statutes section 10A.15, subdivision 5, or Minnesota Statutes section 10A.273, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), before January 1, 2021, the outstanding civil penalty is waived.

7. If Ms. Stoesz 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/ Sarah Stoesz Dated: September 13, 2018  
Sarah Stoesz, Lobbyist

/s/ Jeff Sigurdson Dated: September 12, 2018  
Jeff Sigurdson, Executive Director  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Agreement approved by Board at meeting of September 12, 2018

/s/ Carolyn Flynn  
Carolyn Flynn, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board