

ETHICAL PRACTICES BOARD

First Floor South, Centennial Building . 658 Cedar Street . St. Paul, MN 55155-1603

Issued to:

Barbara Lawrence, Campaign Manager
(Anthony) Bouza for Governor, #1-2962 GOV
P. O. Box 19454
Minneapolis, MN 55419

RE: Governor-Lieutenant Governor Contribution Limit

ADVISORY OPINION #152

SUMMARY

152. A candidate for governor and a candidate for lieutenant governor, running together, are to be treated as a single entity. If they accept a public subsidy, the total contributions and loans from the candidate for governor and from the candidate for lieutenant governor to their principal campaign committee must not exceed \$20,000 in 1994. Minn. Stat. § 10A.25, subd. 1 (1992); Minn. Stat. § 10A.27, subds. 1 (a), 8, and 10 (1993 Supplement).

FACTS

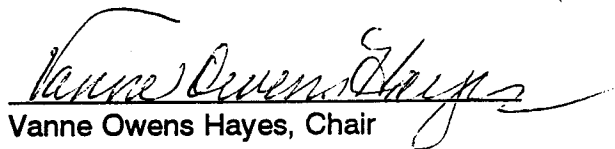
As campaign manager of the Bouza for Governor Committee, you request an advisory opinion from the Ethical Practices Board on the contribution limit applicable to candidates for governor and lieutenant governor running together based on your statement of the following facts:

1. Information published by the Ethical Practices Board states that a candidate for governor/lt. governor who signs and files a public subsidy agreement with the Board must limit personal contributions to up to \$20,000 in 1994.
2. The information about this \$20,000 limit is unclear as to whether the governor candidate and the lieutenant governor candidate may each contribute \$20,000 in 1994 or whether they must limit their joint contributions to a total of \$20,000 in 1994.
3. There are less than 85 days remaining before the September 13, 1994, therefore a prompt ruling by the Board is requested.

OPINION

A candidate for governor and a candidate for lieutenant governor, running together, are to be treated as a single entity. Minn. Stat. § 10A.25, subd. 1 (1992). Because they are a single entity and if they accept a public subsidy, the total contributions and loans from the candidate for governor and from the candidate for lieutenant governor to their principal campaign committee must not exceed \$20,000 in 1994. Minn. Stat. § 10A.27, subds. 1 (a), 8, and 10 (1993 Supplement).

Issued: June 24, 1994


Vanne Owens Hayes, Chair
Ethical Practices Board

PERTINENT STATUTES

Minn. Stat. § 10A.25 LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES provides:

Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 10A.11 to 10A.34 a candidate for governor and a candidate for lieutenant governor, running together, shall be deemed to be a single candidate. . . .

Minn. Stat. § 10A.27 ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS provides:

Subdivision 1. **Contribution limits.** Except as provided in subdivisions 2 and 6*, not candidate shall permit the candidate's principal campaign committee to accept aggregate contributions made or delivered by any individual, political committee, or political fund in excess of the following:

(a) to candidates for governor and lieutenant governor running together, \$2,000 in an election year for the office sought and \$500 in other years;

. . .

Subd. 2. No candidate shall permit the candidate's principal campaign committee to accept contributions from any political party units in aggregate in excess of ten times the amount that may be contributed to that candidate as set forth in subdivision 1.

*Subd. 6. Repealed, 1993 c 318 art 2 s 51.

Subd. 8. No candidate shall permit the candidate's principal campaign committee to accept a loan from other than a financial institution for an amount in excess of the contribution limits imposed by this section. . . .

Subd. 10. **Prohibited contributions.** A candidate who accepts a public subsidy may not contribute to the candidate's own campaign more than ten times the candidate's election year contribution limit under subdivision 1.