

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD  
FINDINGS REGARDING THE 23<sup>rd</sup> SENATE DISTRICT DFL**

**Summary of Allegations and Responses**

In response to an inquiry from the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (“the Board”) Alice Weed, treasurer, 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL (#20417), confirmed that the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO, an association that is not registered with the Board, made contributions to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL on March 3, 2005, and October 19, 2005. The two contributions totaled \$150.

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13, prohibits an unregistered association from making a contribution to a registered political committee in excess of \$100 unless, at the time the contribution was made, the unregistered association provides the recipient with the disclosure required by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.20.

By letter dated June 26, 2006, Alice Weed states “In response to your letter of June 20, 2006, this letter will confirm contributions from Mankato South Central AFL-CIO. ...On June 7, 2006 I did refund \$50 to the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO in the form of a cashier’s check.”

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session at its meeting on August 15, 2006. The Board’s decision was based upon correspondence from Ms. Weed and Board records.

**Relevant Statute**

**Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13. Unregistered association limit; statement; penalty.** (a) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit must not accept a contribution of more than \$100 from an association not registered under this chapter unless the contribution is accompanied by a written statement that meets the disclosure and reporting period requirements imposed by section 10A.20. This statement must be certified as true and correct by an officer of the contributing association. The committee, fund, or party unit that accepts the contribution must include a copy of the statement with the report that discloses the contribution to the board. This subdivision does not apply when a national political party contributes money to its affiliate in this state.

(b) An unregistered association may provide the written statement required by this subdivision to no more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year. Each statement must cover at least the 30 days immediately preceding and including the date on which the contribution was made. An unregistered association or an officer of it is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000, if the association or its officer:

(1) fails to provide a written statement as required by this subdivision; or

(2) fails to register after giving the written statement required by this subdivision to more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year.

(c) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit who accepts a contribution in excess of \$100 from an unregistered association without the required written disclosure statement is subject to a civil penalty up to four times the amount in excess of \$100.

**Based on the above Summary of Allegations and Responses and the Relevant Statute, the Board makes the following:**

**FINDINGS CONCERNING PROBABLE CAUSE**

1. There is evidence that the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL accepted contributions that in total exceed \$100 from the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO, an association that is not registered with the Board, without receiving the required disclosure. The Board finds that the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13.

**Based on the above Findings, the Board issues the following:**

**ORDER**

1. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$50, one times the amount by which the contribution exceeded \$100, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL for accepting a contribution from an unregistered political committee without the disclosure required by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.20.
2. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL is directed to forward to the Board payment of the civil penalty, by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota, within thirty days of receipt of this order.
3. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL is directed to forward to the Board a copy of the letter and check returning the excess contribution to the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO.
4. If the 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District DFL does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the appropriate County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivision 4.
5. The Board investigation of this matter is hereby made a part of the public records of the Board pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by the civil penalty imposed herein, this matter is concluded.

Dated: August 15, 2006

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Milbert, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board