

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. 863

02/25/2013 Authored by Winkler and Bernardy
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Elections
03/11/2013 Adoption of Report: Pass and Read Second Time
03/13/2013 By motion, re-referred to the Committee on Judiciary Finance and Policy

A bill for an act

1.1 relating to campaign finance; providing for additional disclosure; making various
1.2 changes to campaign finance and public disclosure law; providing penalties;
1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 10A.01, subdivisions 10, 11, 27,
1.4 28, by adding subdivisions; 10A.02, subdivisions 9, 10, 11, 12, by adding a
1.5 subdivision; 10A.025, subdivisions 2, 3; 10A.105, subdivision 1; 10A.12,
1.6 subdivisions 1, 1a, 2; 10A.121, subdivision 1; 10A.14, subdivision 1, by adding a
1.7 subdivision; 10A.15, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 10A.20, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7,
1.8 by adding a subdivision; 10A.25, subdivisions 2, 2a, 3, 3a; 10A.257, subdivision
1.9 1; 10A.27, subdivisions 1, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15; 10A.323; 13.607, subdivisions 3,
1.10 5a; 211B.32, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,
1.11 chapter 10A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 10A.24; 10A.241;
1.12 10A.242; 10A.25, subdivision 6.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a
subdivision to read:

Subd. 7c. Ballot question political committee. "Ballot question political
committee" means a political committee that makes only expenditures to promote or defeat
a ballot question and disbursements permitted under section 10A.121, subdivision 1.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
to read:

Subd. 7d. Ballot question political fund. "Ballot question political fund" means
a political fund that makes only expenditures to promote or defeat a ballot question and
disbursements permitted under section 10A.121, subdivision 1.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

2.1 Subd. 10. **Candidate.** "Candidate" means an individual who seeks nomination or  
 2.2 election as a state constitutional officer, legislator, or judge. An individual is deemed to seek  
 2.3 nomination or election if the individual has taken the action necessary under the law of this  
 2.4 state to qualify for nomination or election, has received contributions or made expenditures  
 2.5 in excess of \$100, or has given implicit or explicit consent for any other person to receive  
 2.6 contributions or make expenditures in excess of \$100, for the purpose of bringing about the  
 2.7 individual's nomination or election. A candidate remains a candidate until the candidate's  
 2.8 principal campaign committee is dissolved as provided in section ~~10A.24~~ 10A.243.

2.9 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

2.10 Subd. 11. **Contribution.** (a) "Contribution" means money, a negotiable instrument,  
 2.11 or a donation in kind that is given to a political committee, political fund, principal  
 2.12 campaign committee, or party unit. An allocation by an association of general treasury  
 2.13 money to be used for activities that must be or are reported through the association's  
 2.14 political fund is considered to be a contribution for the purposes of disclosure required  
 2.15 by this chapter.

2.16 (b) "Contribution" includes a loan or advance of credit to a political committee,  
 2.17 political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit, if the loan or advance of credit  
 2.18 is: (1) forgiven; or (2) repaid by an individual or an association other than the political  
 2.19 committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit to which the loan  
 2.20 or advance of credit was made. If an advance of credit or a loan is forgiven or repaid as  
 2.21 provided in this paragraph, it is a contribution in the year in which the loan or advance  
 2.22 of credit was made.

2.23 (c) "Contribution" does not include services provided without compensation by an  
 2.24 individual volunteering personal time on behalf of a candidate, ballot question, political  
 2.25 committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit; the publishing or  
 2.26 broadcasting of news items or editorial comments by the news media; or an individual's  
 2.27 unreimbursed personal use of an automobile owned by the individual while volunteering  
 2.28 personal time.

2.29 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 2.30 to read:

2.31 Subd. 16a. **Expressly advocating.** "Expressly advocating" means:

2.32 (1) that a communication clearly identifies a candidate and uses words or phrases  
 2.33 of express advocacy; or

3.1 (2) that a communication, when taken as a whole and with limited reference to  
 3.2 external events, such as the proximity to the election, is susceptible of no interpretation  
 3.3 by a reasonable person other than as advocating the election or defeat of one or more  
 3.4 clearly identified candidates.

3.5 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 3.6 to read:

3.7 Subd. 17c. **General treasury money.** "General treasury money" means money  
 3.8 that an association other than a principal campaign committee, party unit, or political  
 3.9 committee accumulates through membership dues and fees, donations to the association  
 3.10 for its general purposes, and income from the operation of a business. General treasury  
 3.11 money does not include money collected to influence the nomination or election of  
 3.12 candidates or to promote or defeat a ballot question.

3.13 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 3.14 to read:

3.15 Subd. 26a. **Person** "Person" means an individual, an association, a political  
 3.16 subdivision, or a public higher education system.

3.17 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, subdivision 27, is amended to read:

3.18 Subd. 27. **Political committee.** "Political committee" means an association whose  
 3.19 major purpose is to influence the nomination or election of ~~a candidate~~ one or more  
 3.20 candidates or to promote or defeat a ballot question, other than a principal campaign  
 3.21 committee or a political party unit.

3.22 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.01, subdivision 28, is amended to read:

3.23 Subd. 28. **Political fund.** "Political fund" means an accumulation of dues or  
 3.24 voluntary contributions by an association other than a political committee, principal  
 3.25 campaign committee, or party unit, if the accumulation is collected or expended to  
 3.26 influence the nomination or election of ~~a candidate~~ one or more candidates or to promote  
 3.27 or defeat a ballot question. The term "political fund" as used in this chapter may also refer  
 3.28 to the association acting through its political fund.

3.29 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.02, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

3.30 Subd. 9. **Documents; information.** The executive director must inspect all material  
 3.31 filed with the board as promptly as necessary to comply with this chapter ~~and,~~ with other

4.1 provisions of law requiring the filing of a document with the board, and with other  
 4.2 provisions of law under the board's jurisdiction pursuant to subdivision 11. The executive  
 4.3 director must immediately notify ~~the~~ an individual ~~required to file a document with the~~  
 4.4 ~~board~~ if a written complaint is filed with the board alleging, or it otherwise appears, that a  
 4.5 document filed with the board is inaccurate or does not comply with this chapter, or that  
 4.6 the individual has failed to file a document required by this chapter or has failed to comply  
 4.7 with this chapter or other provisions under the board's jurisdiction pursuant to subdivision  
 4.8 11. ~~The executive director may provide an individual required to file a document under~~  
 4.9 ~~this chapter with factual information concerning the limitations on corporate campaign~~  
 4.10 ~~contributions imposed by section 211B.15.~~

4.11 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.02, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

4.12 Subd. 10. **Audits and investigations.** The board may make audits and investigations,  
 4.13 impose statutory civil penalties, and issue orders for compliance with respect to statements  
 4.14 and reports that are filed or that should have been filed under the requirements of this  
 4.15 chapter and provisions under the board's jurisdiction pursuant to subdivision 11. In all  
 4.16 matters relating to its official duties, the board has the power to issue subpoenas and cause  
 4.17 them to be served. If a person does not comply with a subpoena, the board may apply to  
 4.18 the District Court of Ramsey County for issuance of an order compelling obedience to the  
 4.19 subpoena. A person failing to obey the order is punishable by the court as for contempt.

4.20 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

4.21 Subd. 11. **Violations; enforcement.** (a) The board may investigate any alleged  
 4.22 violation of this chapter. The board may also investigate an alleged violation of section  
 4.23 211B.04, 211B.12, or 211B.15 by or related to a candidate, treasurer, principal campaign  
 4.24 committee, political committee, political fund, or party unit, as those terms are defined in  
 4.25 this chapter. The board must investigate any violation that is alleged in a written complaint  
 4.26 filed with the board and must within 30 days after the filing of the complaint make a ~~public~~  
 4.27 ~~finding of whether there is probable cause to believe a violation has occurred~~ findings and  
 4.28 conclusions as to whether a violation has occurred and must issue an order, except that  
 4.29 if the complaint alleges a violation of section 10A.25 or 10A.27, the board must either  
 4.30 enter a conciliation agreement or make a public ~~finding of whether there is probable cause,~~  
 4.31 findings and conclusions as to whether a violation has occurred and must issue an order  
 4.32 within 60 days after the filing of the complaint. The deadline for action on a written  
 4.33 complaint may be extended by majority vote of the board.

5.1 (b) The board may bring legal actions in its own name to recover money raised from  
5.2 contributions subject to the conditions in this paragraph.

5.3 (1) No action may be commenced unless the board has made a formal determination,  
5.4 after an investigation, that the money was raised for political purposes as defined in  
5.5 section 211B.04, subdivision 6, and that the money was used for purposes not permitted  
5.6 under this chapter or under section 211B.12.

5.7 (2) Prior to commencing an action, the board must give the association written  
5.8 notice by certified mail of its intent to take action under this subdivision and must give the  
5.9 association a reasonable opportunity, for a period of not less than 90 days, to recover the  
5.10 money without board intervention. This period must be extended for at least an additional  
5.11 90 days for good cause if the association is actively pursuing recovery of the money. The  
5.12 board may not commence a legal action under this subdivision if the association has  
5.13 commenced a legal action for the recovery of the same money.

5.14 (3) Any funds recovered under this subdivision must be distributed as follows:

5.15 (i) an amount equal to the board's actual costs and disbursements in the action,  
5.16 including court reporter fees for depositions taken in the course of an investigation, must  
5.17 be returned to the board's general operating appropriation account;

5.18 (ii) an amount equal to the reasonable value of legal services provided by the Office  
5.19 of the Attorney General must be deposited into the general operating account of the Office  
5.20 of the Attorney General and is available for general purposes of the office; and

5.21 (iii) any remaining balance must be returned to the association to which the money  
5.22 was originally contributed.

5.23 (4) Notwithstanding clause (3), item (iii), if the candidate of a principal campaign  
5.24 committee is the person who used the association's money for illegal purposes, or if the  
5.25 association or political fund whose money was misused is no longer registered with the  
5.26 board, any money remaining after the payments specified in clause (3), items (i) and (ii),  
5.27 must be deposited into the general account of the state elections campaign account.

5.28 (5) Any action by the board under this paragraph must be commenced not later than  
5.29 four years after the improper use of money is shown on a report filed with the board or the  
5.30 board has actual knowledge of improper use. No action may be commenced under this  
5.31 paragraph for improper uses disclosed on reports for calendar years prior to 2011.

5.32 (6) If the board prevails in an action brought under this subdivision and the court  
5.33 makes a finding that the misuse of funds was willful, the court may enter judgment in favor  
5.34 of the board and against the person misusing the funds in the amount of the misused funds.

5.35 (b) (c) Within a reasonable time after beginning an investigation of an individual  
5.36 or association, the board must notify the individual or association of the fact of the

6.1 investigation. The board must not make a finding of whether there is probable cause to  
 6.2 believe a violation has occurred without notifying the individual or association of the  
 6.3 nature of the allegations and affording an opportunity to answer those allegations.

6.4 ~~(e)~~ (d) A hearing or action of the board concerning a complaint or investigation  
 6.5 other than a finding concerning probable cause or a conciliation agreement is confidential.  
 6.6 Until the board makes a public finding concerning probable cause or enters a conciliation  
 6.7 agreement:

6.8 (1) a member, employee, or agent of the board must not disclose to an individual  
 6.9 information obtained by that member, employee, or agent concerning a complaint or  
 6.10 investigation except as required to carry out the investigation or take action in the matter  
 6.11 as authorized by this chapter; and

6.12 (2) an individual who discloses information contrary to this subdivision is subject  
 6.13 to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000.

6.14 (e) A matter that is under the board's jurisdiction pursuant to this section and that  
 6.15 may result in a criminal offense must be finally disposed of by the board before the alleged  
 6.16 violation may be prosecuted by a county attorney.

6.17 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.02, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 6.18 to read:

6.19 Subd. 11b. **Data privacy related to electronic reporting system.** The board may  
 6.20 develop and maintain systems to enable treasurers to enter and store electronic records  
 6.21 online for the purpose of complying with this chapter. Data entered into such systems  
 6.22 by treasurers or their authorized agents is not government data under chapter 13 and  
 6.23 may not be accessed or used by the board for any purpose without the treasurer's written  
 6.24 consent. Data from such systems that has been submitted to the board as a filed report is  
 6.25 government data under chapter 13.

6.26 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.02, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

6.27 Subd. 12. **Advisory opinions.** (a) The board may issue and publish advisory  
 6.28 opinions on the requirements of this chapter and of those sections listed in subdivision 11  
 6.29 based upon real or hypothetical situations. An application for an advisory opinion may  
 6.30 be made only by ~~an individual or association~~ a person who is subject to chapter 10A and  
 6.31 who wishes to use the opinion to guide the ~~individual's or the association's~~ person's own  
 6.32 conduct. The board must issue written opinions on all such questions submitted to it  
 6.33 within 30 days after receipt of written application, unless a majority of the board agrees  
 6.34 to extend the time limit.

7.1 (b) A written advisory opinion issued by the board is binding on the board in a  
 7.2 subsequent board proceeding concerning the person making or covered by the request and  
 7.3 is a defense in a judicial proceeding that involves the subject matter of the opinion and is  
 7.4 brought against the person making or covered by the request unless:

7.5 (1) the board has amended or revoked the opinion before the initiation of the board  
 7.6 or judicial proceeding, has notified the person making or covered by the request of its  
 7.7 action, and has allowed at least 30 days for the person to do anything that might be  
 7.8 necessary to comply with the amended or revoked opinion;

7.9 (2) the request has omitted or misstated material facts; or

7.10 (3) the person making or covered by the request has not acted in good faith in  
 7.11 reliance on the opinion.

7.12 (c) A request for an opinion and the opinion itself are nonpublic data. The board,  
 7.13 however, may publish an opinion or a summary of an opinion, but may not include in the  
 7.14 publication the name of the requester, the name of a person covered by a request from an  
 7.15 agency or political subdivision, or any other information that might identify the requester,  
 7.16 unless the person consents to the inclusion.

7.17 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.025, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

7.18 Subd. 2. **Penalty for false statements.** (a) A report or statement required to be filed  
 7.19 under this chapter must be signed and certified as true by the individual required to file the  
 7.20 report. The signature may be an electronic signature consisting of a password assigned  
 7.21 by the board.

7.22 (b) An individual who signs and certifies shall not sign and certify to be true a  
 7.23 report or statement knowing it contains false information or who knowingly knowing it  
 7.24 omits required information is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and subject to a civil penalty  
 7.25 imposed by the board of up to \$3,000.

7.26 (c) An individual shall not knowingly provide false or incomplete information to  
 7.27 a treasurer with the intent that the treasurer will rely on that information in signing and  
 7.28 certifying to be true a report or statement.

7.29 (d) A person who violates paragraph (b) or (c) is subject to a civil penalty imposed  
 7.30 by the board of up to \$3,000. A violation of paragraph (b) or (c) is a gross misdemeanor.

7.31 (e) The board may impose an additional civil penalty of up to \$3,000 on the principal  
 7.32 campaign committee or candidate, party unit, political committee, or association that has a  
 7.33 political fund that is affiliated with an individual who violated paragraph (b) or (c).

7.34 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.025, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

8.1 Subd. 3. **Record keeping; penalty.** (a) A person required to file a report or statement  
 8.2 or who has accepted record-keeping responsibility for the filer must maintain records on  
 8.3 the matters required to be reported, including vouchers, canceled checks, bills, invoices,  
 8.4 worksheets, and receipts, that will provide in sufficient detail the necessary information  
 8.5 from which the filed reports and statements may be verified, explained, clarified, and  
 8.6 checked for accuracy and completeness. The person must keep the records available for  
 8.7 audit, inspection, or examination by the board or its authorized representatives for four  
 8.8 years from the date of filing of the reports or statements or of changes or corrections to  
 8.9 them. ~~A person who knowingly violates this subdivision is guilty of a misdemeanor.~~

8.10 (b) The board may impose a civil penalty of up to \$3,000 on a person who knowingly  
 8.11 violates this subdivision. The board may impose a separate civil penalty of up to \$3,000  
 8.12 on the principal campaign committee or candidate, party unit, political committee, or  
 8.13 association that has a political fund that is affiliated with an individual who violated  
 8.14 this subdivision.

8.15 (c) A knowing violation of this subdivision is a gross misdemeanor.

8.16 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.105, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

8.17 Subdivision 1. **Single committee.** A candidate must not accept contributions from a  
 8.18 source, other than self, in aggregate in excess of ~~\$100~~ \$750 or accept a public subsidy  
 8.19 unless the candidate designates and causes to be formed a single principal campaign  
 8.20 committee for each office sought. A candidate may not authorize, designate, or cause to be  
 8.21 formed any other political committee bearing the candidate's name or title or otherwise  
 8.22 operating under the direct or indirect control of the candidate. However, a candidate may  
 8.23 be involved in the direct or indirect control of a party unit.

8.24 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.12, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

8.25 Subdivision 1. **When required for contributions and approved expenditures.** An  
 8.26 association other than a political committee or party unit may not contribute more than  
 8.27 ~~\$100~~ \$750 in aggregate in any ~~one~~ calendar year to candidates, political committees, or  
 8.28 party units or make ~~any approved or independent expenditure or expenditure to promote~~  
 8.29 ~~or defeat a ballot question~~ expenditures of more than \$750 in aggregate in any calendar  
 8.30 year unless the contribution or expenditure is made from through a political fund.

8.31 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.12, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

8.32 Subd. 1a. **When required for independent expenditures or ballot questions.** An  
 8.33 association other than a political committee that makes only independent expenditures

9.1 ~~and disbursements permitted under section 10A.121, subdivision 1, or expenditures to~~  
 9.2 ~~promote or defeat a ballot question must do so by forming and registering through an~~  
 9.3 ~~independent expenditure or ballot question political fund if the expenditure is in excess of~~  
 9.4 ~~\$100 independent expenditures aggregate more than \$1,500 in a calendar year or if the~~  
 9.5 ~~expenditures to promote or defeat a ballot question aggregate more than \$5,000 in a~~  
 9.6 ~~calendar year, or by contributing to an existing independent expenditure or ballot question~~  
 9.7 ~~political committee or political fund.~~

9.8 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

9.9 Subd. 2. **Commingling prohibited.** The contents of a an association's political  
 9.10 fund may not be commingled with other funds or with the personal funds of an officer or  
 9.11 member of the association or the fund. It is not commingling for an association that uses  
 9.12 only its own general treasury money to make expenditures and disbursements permitted  
 9.13 under section 10A.121, subdivision 1, directly from the depository used for its general  
 9.14 treasury money. An association that accepts more than \$1,500 in contributions to influence  
 9.15 the nomination or election of candidates or more than \$5,000 in contributions to promote  
 9.16 or defeat a ballot question must establish a separate depository for those contributions.

9.17 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.121, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

9.18 Subdivision 1. **Permitted disbursements.** An independent expenditure political  
 9.19 ~~committee or an independent expenditure political fund, in addition to making independent~~  
 9.20 ~~expenditures, or a ballot question political committee or fund may:~~

9.21 (1) pay costs associated with its fund-raising and general operations;

9.22 (2) pay for communications that do not constitute contributions or approved  
 9.23 expenditures; ~~and~~

9.24 (3) make contributions to ~~other independent expenditure political committees or~~  
 9.25 ~~independent expenditure political funds. ballot question political committees or funds;~~

9.26 (4) make independent expenditures;

9.27 (5) make disbursements for electioneering communications;

9.28 (6) make expenditures to promote or defeat ballot questions;

9.29 (7) return a contribution to its source;

9.30 (8) for a political fund, record bookkeeping entries transferring the association's  
 9.31 general treasury money allocated for political purposes back to the general treasury of  
 9.32 the association; and

9.33 (9) for a political fund, return general treasury money transferred to a separate  
 9.34 depository to the general depository of the association.

10.1 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.14, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

10.2 Subdivision 1. **First registration.** The treasurer of a political committee, political  
 10.3 fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit must register with the board by filing  
 10.4 a registration statement of organization no later than 14 days after the committee, fund,  
 10.5 or party unit has made a contribution, received contributions, or made expenditures in  
 10.6 excess of ~~\$100~~ \$750, or by the end of the next business day after it has received a loan  
 10.7 or contribution that must be reported under section 10A.20, subdivision 5, whichever is  
 10.8 earlier. This subdivision does not apply to ballot question or independent expenditure  
 10.9 political committees or funds, which are subject to subdivision 1a.

10.10 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.14, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 10.11 to read:

10.12 Subd. 1a. **Independent expenditure or ballot question political committees**  
 10.13 **and funds; first registration; reporting.** The treasurer of an independent expenditure  
 10.14 or ballot question political committee or fund must register with the board by filing  
 10.15 a registration statement:

10.16 (1) no later than 14 calendar days after the committee or the association registering  
 10.17 the political fund has:

10.18 (i) received aggregate contributions for independent expenditures of more than  
 10.19 \$1,500 in a calendar year;

10.20 (ii) received aggregate contributions for expenditures to promote or defeat a ballot  
 10.21 question of more than \$5,000 in a calendar year;

10.22 (iii) made aggregate independent expenditures of more than \$1,500 in a calendar  
 10.23 year; or

10.24 (iv) made aggregate expenditures to promote or defeat a ballot question of more  
 10.25 than \$5,000 in a calendar year; or

10.26 (2) by the end of the next business day after it has received a loan or contribution  
 10.27 that must be reported under section 10A.20, subdivision 5, and it has met one of the  
 10.28 requirements of clause (1).

10.29 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.15, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

10.30 Subdivision 1. **Anonymous contributions.** A political committee, political fund,  
 10.31 principal campaign committee, or party unit may not retain an anonymous contribution in  
 10.32 excess of ~~\$20~~ \$50, but must forward it to the board for deposit in the general account of  
 10.33 the state elections campaign ~~fund~~ account.

11.1 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.15, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

11.2 Subd. 2. **Source; amount; date.** An individual who receives a contribution in  
11.3 excess of ~~\$20~~ \$50 for a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee,  
11.4 or party unit must, on demand of the treasurer, inform the treasurer of the name and, if  
11.5 known, the address of the source of the contribution, the amount of the contribution, and  
11.6 the date it was received.

11.7 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.15, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

11.8 Subd. 3. **Deposit.** All contributions received by or on behalf of a candidate,  
11.9 principal campaign committee, political committee, political fund, or party unit must  
11.10 be deposited in an account designated "Campaign Fund of ..... (name of candidate,  
11.11 committee, fund, or party unit)." All contributions must be deposited promptly upon  
11.12 receipt and, except for contributions received during the last three days of a reporting  
11.13 period as described in section 10A.20, must be deposited during the reporting period  
11.14 in which they were received. A contribution received during the last three days of a  
11.15 reporting period must be deposited within 72 hours after receipt and must be reported  
11.16 as received during the reporting period whether or not deposited within that period. A  
11.17 candidate, principal campaign committee, political committee, political fund, or party unit  
11.18 may refuse to accept a contribution. A deposited contribution may be returned to the  
11.19 contributor within ~~60~~ 90 days after deposit. A contribution deposited and not returned  
11.20 within ~~60~~ 90 days after that deposit must be reported as accepted.

11.21 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.20, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

11.22 Subdivision 1. **First filing; duration.** The treasurer of a political committee, political  
11.23 fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit must begin to file the reports required  
11.24 by this section ~~in~~ for the first year it receives contributions or makes expenditures ~~in excess~~  
11.25 ~~of \$100~~ that require it to register under section 10A.14 and must continue to file until the  
11.26 committee, fund, or party unit is terminated. The reports must be filed electronically in a  
11.27 standards-based open format specified by the board. For good cause shown, the board  
11.28 must grant exemptions to the requirement that reports be filed electronically.

11.29 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.20, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

11.30 Subd. 2. **Time for filing.** (a) The reports must be filed with the board on or before  
11.31 January 31 of each year and additional reports must be filed as required and in accordance  
11.32 with paragraphs (b) to (d).

12.1 (b) In each year in which the name of the a candidate for legislative or district court  
 12.2 judicial office is on the ballot, the report of the principal campaign committee must be  
 12.3 filed 15 days before a primary and ten days before a general election, seven days before a  
 12.4 special primary and a special election, and ten days after a special election cycle.

12.5 (c) In each general election year, a political committee ~~or~~, a political fund must file  
 12.6 reports 28 and 15 days before a primary and 42 and ten days before a general election.  
 12.7 Beginning in 2012, reports required under this paragraph must also be filed 56 days before  
 12.8 a primary, a state party committee, a party unit established by all or a part of the party  
 12.9 organization within a house of the legislature, and the principal campaign committee  
 12.10 of a candidate for constitutional or appellate court judicial office must file reports on  
 12.11 the following schedule:

12.12 (1) a first-quarter report covering the calendar year through March 31, which is  
 12.13 due April 14;

12.14 (2) in a year in which a primary election is held in August, a report covering the  
 12.15 calendar year through May 31, which is due June 14;

12.16 (3) in a year in which a primary election is held before August, a pre-general-election  
 12.17 report covering the calendar year through July 15, which is due July 29;

12.18 (4) a pre-primary-election report due 15 days before a primary election;

12.19 (5) a pre-general-election report due 42 days before the general election;

12.20 (6) a pre-general-election report due ten days before a general election; and

12.21 (7) for a special election, a constitutional office candidate whose name is on the  
 12.22 ballot must file reports seven days before a special primary and a special election, and ten  
 12.23 days after a special election cycle.

12.24 (d) In each general election year, a party unit not included in paragraph (c) must file  
 12.25 reports 15 days before a primary election and ten days before a general election.

12.26 (e) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) to (d), the principal campaign committee of a  
 12.27 candidate whose name will not be on the general election ballot is not required to file the  
 12.28 report due ten days before a general election or seven days before a special election.

12.29 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.20, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

12.30 Subd. 3. **Contents of report.** (a) The report required by this section must include  
 12.31 each of the items listed in paragraphs (b) to (o) that are applicable to the filer. The board  
 12.32 shall prescribe forms based on filer type indicating which of those items must be included  
 12.33 on the filer's report.

12.34 ~~(a)~~ (b) The report must disclose the amount of liquid assets on hand at the beginning  
 12.35 of the reporting period.

13.1           ~~(b)~~ (c) The report must disclose the name, address, and employer, or occupation if  
13.2 self-employed, of each individual or association that has made one or more contributions  
13.3 to the reporting entity, including the purchase of tickets for a fund-raising effort, that in  
13.4 aggregate within the year exceed ~~\$100~~ \$200 for legislative or statewide candidates or  
13.5 ballot questions, together with the amount and date of each contribution, and the aggregate  
13.6 amount of contributions within the year from each source so disclosed. A donation in kind  
13.7 must be disclosed at its fair market value. An approved expenditure must be listed as a  
13.8 donation in kind. A donation in kind is considered consumed in the reporting period  
13.9 in which it is received. The names of contributors must be listed in alphabetical order.  
13.10 Contributions from the same contributor must be listed under the same name. When a  
13.11 contribution received from a contributor in a reporting period is added to previously  
13.12 reported unitemized contributions from the same contributor and the aggregate exceeds  
13.13 the disclosure threshold of this paragraph, the name, address, and employer, or occupation  
13.14 if self-employed, of the contributor must then be listed on the report.

13.15           ~~(e)~~ (d) The report must disclose the sum of contributions to the reporting entity  
13.16 during the reporting period.

13.17           ~~(d)~~ (e) The report must disclose each loan made or received by the reporting entity  
13.18 within the year in aggregate in excess of ~~\$100~~ \$200, continuously reported until repaid or  
13.19 forgiven, together with the name, address, occupation, and principal place of business,  
13.20 if any, of the lender and any endorser and the date and amount of the loan. If a loan  
13.21 made to the principal campaign committee of a candidate is forgiven or is repaid by an  
13.22 entity other than that principal campaign committee, it must be reported as a contribution  
13.23 for the year in which the loan was made.

13.24           ~~(e)~~ (f) The report must disclose each receipt over ~~\$100~~ \$200 during the reporting  
13.25 period not otherwise listed under paragraphs ~~(b)~~ (c) to ~~(d)~~ (e).

13.26           ~~(f)~~ (g) The report must disclose the sum of all receipts of the reporting entity during  
13.27 the reporting period.

13.28           ~~(g)~~ (h) The report must disclose the name and address of each individual or  
13.29 association to whom aggregate expenditures, ~~including~~ approved expenditures,  
13.30 independent expenditures, ballot question expenditures, and disbursements for  
13.31 electioneering communications have been made by or on behalf of the reporting entity  
13.32 within the year in excess of ~~\$100~~ \$200, together with the amount, date, and purpose of  
13.33 each expenditure and the name and address of, and office sought by, each candidate on  
13.34 whose behalf the expenditure was made or, in the case of electioneering communications,  
13.35 each candidate identified positively in the communication, identification of the ballot  
13.36 question that the expenditure was intended to promote or defeat and an indication of

14.1 whether the expenditure was to promote or to defeat the ballot question, and in the  
 14.2 case of independent expenditures made in opposition to a candidate or electioneering  
 14.3 communications in which a candidate is identified negatively, the candidate's name,  
 14.4 address, and office sought. A reporting entity making an expenditure on behalf of more  
 14.5 than one candidate for state or legislative office must allocate the expenditure among the  
 14.6 candidates on a reasonable cost basis and report the allocation for each candidate.

14.7 ~~(h)~~ (i) The report must disclose the sum of all expenditures made by or on behalf of  
 14.8 the reporting entity during the reporting period.

14.9 ~~(i)~~ (j) The report must disclose the amount and nature of an advance of credit  
 14.10 incurred by the reporting entity, continuously reported until paid or forgiven. If an advance  
 14.11 of credit incurred by the principal campaign committee of a candidate is forgiven by the  
 14.12 creditor or paid by an entity other than that principal campaign committee, it must be  
 14.13 reported as a donation in kind for the year in which the advance of credit was made.

14.14 ~~(j)~~ (k) The report must disclose the name and address of each political committee,  
 14.15 political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit to which contributions have  
 14.16 been made that aggregate in excess of ~~\$100~~ \$200 within the year and the amount and  
 14.17 date of each contribution.

14.18 ~~(k)~~ (l) The report must disclose the sum of all contributions made by the reporting  
 14.19 entity during the reporting period.

14.20 ~~(l)~~ (m) The report must disclose the name and address of each individual or  
 14.21 association to whom noncampaign disbursements have been made that aggregate in excess  
 14.22 of ~~\$100~~ \$200 within the year by or on behalf of the reporting entity and the amount, date,  
 14.23 and purpose of each noncampaign disbursement.

14.24 ~~(m)~~ (n) The report must disclose the sum of all noncampaign disbursements made  
 14.25 within the year by or on behalf of the reporting entity.

14.26 ~~(n)~~ (o) The report must disclose the name and address of a nonprofit corporation that  
 14.27 provides administrative assistance to a political committee or political fund as authorized  
 14.28 by section 211B.15, subdivision 17, the type of administrative assistance provided, and the  
 14.29 aggregate fair market value of each type of assistance provided to the political committee  
 14.30 or political fund during the reporting period.

14.31 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.20, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

14.32 Subd. 5. **~~Preelection~~ Pre-election reports.** (a) Any loan, contribution, or  
 14.33 contributions:

14.34 (1) to a political committee or political fund from any one source totaling more than  
 14.35 \$1,000 ~~or more, or in a statewide election for;~~

15.1 (2) to the principal campaign committee of a candidate for an appellate court judicial  
 15.2 office, any loan, contribution, or contributions from any one source totaling more than  
 15.3 \$2,000 or more, or in any judicial;

15.4 (3) to the principal campaign committee of a candidate for district court judge  
 15.5 totaling more than \$400 or more, and any loan, contribution, or contributions; or

15.6 (4) to the principal campaign committee of a candidate for constitutional office or  
 15.7 for the legislature from any one source totaling 80 more than 50 percent or more of the  
 15.8 election cycle contribution limit for the office, received between the last day covered in  
 15.9 the last report before an election and the election must be reported to the board in one of  
 15.10 the following ways: in the manner provided in paragraph (b).

15.11 (b) A loan, contribution, or contributions required to be reported to the board under  
 15.12 paragraph (a) must be reported to the board either:

15.13 (1) in person by the end of the next business day after its receipt; or

15.14 (2) by electronic means sent within 24 hours after its receipt.

15.15 (c) These loans and contributions must also be reported in the next required report.

15.16 (d) This notice requirement does not apply ~~with respect to~~ in a primary in which  
 15.17 the statewide or legislative election to a candidate who is unopposed in the primary, in a  
 15.18 primary election to a ballot question political committee or fund, or in a general election to  
 15.19 a candidate whose name is not on the general election ballot. The board must post the  
 15.20 report on its Web site by the end of the next business day after it is received.

15.21 (e) This subdivision does not apply to a ballot question or independent expenditure  
 15.22 political committee or fund that has not met the registration threshold of section 10A.14,  
 15.23 subdivision 1a. However, if a contribution that would be subject to this section triggers the  
 15.24 registration requirement in section 10A.14, subdivision 1a, then both registration under  
 15.25 that section and reporting under this section are required.

15.26 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.20, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

15.27 Subd. 6. **Report when no committee.** (a) A candidate who does not designate  
 15.28 and cause to be formed a principal campaign committee and ~~an individual~~ who makes  
 15.29 ~~independent expenditures or~~ campaign expenditures expressly advocating the approval or  
 15.30 ~~defeat of a ballot question~~ in aggregate in excess of ~~\$100~~ \$750 in a year must file with  
 15.31 the board a report containing the information required by subdivision 3. Reports required  
 15.32 by this subdivision must be filed ~~on~~ by the dates on which reports by principal campaign  
 15.33 committees, funds, and party units are must be filed.

15.34 (b) An individual who makes independent expenditures that aggregate more than  
 15.35 \$1,500 in a calendar year or expenditures to promote or defeat a ballot question that

16.1 aggregate more than \$5,000 in a calendar year must file with the board a report containing  
 16.2 the information required by subdivision 3. A report required by this subdivision must be  
 16.3 filed by the date on which the next report by political committees and political funds  
 16.4 must be filed.

16.5 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.20, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

16.6 Subd. 7. **Statement of inactivity.** If a ~~reporting entity~~ principal campaign  
 16.7 committee, party unit, or political committee, has no receipts or expenditures during a  
 16.8 reporting period, the treasurer must file with the board at the time required by this section  
 16.9 a statement to that effect.

16.10 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.20, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 16.11 to read:

16.12 Subd. 7a. **Activity of political fund.** An association is not required to file any  
 16.13 statement or report for a reporting period when the association accepted no contributions  
 16.14 into the association's political fund and made no expenditures from its political fund since  
 16.15 the last date included in its most recent filed report. If the association maintains a separate  
 16.16 checking account for its political fund, the receipt of interest on the proceeds of that  
 16.17 account and the payment of fees to maintain that account do not constitute activity that  
 16.18 requires the filing of a report for an otherwise inactive political fund.

16.19 Sec. 34. **[10A.201] ELECTIONEERING COMMUNICATIONS.**

16.20 Subdivision 1. **Electioneering communication.** (a) "Electioneering  
 16.21 communication" means a communication distributed by television, radio, satellite, or  
 16.22 cable broadcasting system; by means of printed material, signs, or billboards; or through  
 16.23 the use of telephone communications that:

16.24 (1) refers to a clearly identified candidate;

16.25 (2) is made within:

16.26 (i) 30 days before a primary election or special primary election for the office sought  
 16.27 by the candidate; or

16.28 (ii) 60 days before a general election or special election for the office sought by  
 16.29 the candidate;

16.30 (3) is targeted to the relevant electorate; and

16.31 (4) is made without the express or implied consent, authorization, or cooperation  
 16.32 of, and not in concert with or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate or a candidate's  
 16.33 principal campaign committee or agent.

17.1 (b) If an electioneering communication clearly directs recipients to another  
17.2 communication, including a Web site, on-demand or streaming video, or similar  
17.3 communications, the electioneering communication consists of both the original  
17.4 electioneering communication and the communication to which recipients are directed  
17.5 and the cost of both must be included when determining if disclosure is required under  
17.6 this section.

17.7 (c) Electioneering communication does not include:

17.8 (1) the publishing or broadcasting of news items or editorial comments by the news  
17.9 media;

17.10 (2) a communication that constitutes an approved expenditure or an independent  
17.11 expenditure;

17.12 (3) a communication by an association distributed only to the association's own  
17.13 members in a newsletter or similar publication in a form that is routinely sent to the  
17.14 association's members;

17.15 (4) any other communication specified in board rules or advisory opinions as being  
17.16 excluded from the definition of electioneering communications; and

17.17 (5) a communication that:

17.18 (i) refers to a clearly identified candidate who is an incumbent member of the  
17.19 legislature or a constitutional officer;

17.20 (ii) refers to a clearly identified issue that is before the legislature in the form of an  
17.21 introduced bill; and

17.22 (iii) is made when the legislature is in session.

17.23 (d) A communication that meets the requirements of paragraph (a) but is made with  
17.24 the authorization or express or implied consent of, or in cooperation or in concert with, or  
17.25 at the request or suggestion of a candidate, a candidate's principal campaign committee, or  
17.26 a candidate's agent is an approved expenditure.

17.27 Subd. 2. Targeted to relevant electorate. For purposes of this section, a  
17.28 communication that refers to a clearly identified candidate is targeted to the relevant  
17.29 electorate if the communication is distributed to or can be received by more than 1,500  
17.30 persons in the district the candidate seeks to represent, in the case of a candidate for the  
17.31 house of representatives, senate, or a district court judicial office or by more than 6,000  
17.32 persons in the state, in the case of a candidate for constitutional office or appellate court  
17.33 judicial office.

17.34 Subd. 3. Disclosure of electioneering communications. (a) Electioneering  
17.35 communications made by a political committee, a party unit, or a principal campaign

18.1 committee must be disclosed on the periodic reports of receipts and expenditures filed by  
18.2 the association on the schedule and in accordance with the terms of section 10A.20.

18.3 (b) An association other than a political committee, party unit, or principal campaign  
18.4 committee may register a political fund with the board and disclose its electioneering  
18.5 communications on the reports of receipts and expenditures filed by the political fund.  
18.6 If it does so, it must disclose its disbursements for electioneering communication on the  
18.7 schedule and in accordance with the terms of section 10A.20.

18.8 (c) An association that does not disclose its disbursements for electioneering  
18.9 communication under paragraph (a) or (b) must disclose its electioneering communications  
18.10 according to the requirements of subdivision 4.

18.11 Subd. 4. **Statement required for electioneering communications made by**  
18.12 **unregistered associations.** (a) Except for associations providing disclosure as specified  
18.13 in subdivision 3, paragraph (a) or (b), every person who makes a disbursement for the  
18.14 costs of producing or distributing electioneering communications that aggregate more than  
18.15 \$1,500 in a calendar year must, within 24 hours of each disclosure date, file with the board  
18.16 a disclosure statement containing the information described in this subdivision.

18.17 (b) Each statement required to be filed under this section must contain the following  
18.18 information:

18.19 (1) the names of: (i) the association making the disbursement; (ii) any person  
18.20 exercising direction or control over the activities of the association with respect to the  
18.21 disbursement; and (iii) the custodian of the financial records of the association making  
18.22 disbursement;

18.23 (2) the address of the association making the disbursement;

18.24 (3) the amount of each disbursement of more than \$200 during the period covered  
18.25 by the statement, a description of the purpose of the disbursement, and the identification of  
18.26 the person to whom the disbursement was made;

18.27 (4) the names of the candidates identified or to be identified in the communication;

18.28 (5) if the disbursements were paid out of a segregated bank account that consists of  
18.29 funds donated specifically for electioneering communications, the name and address of each  
18.30 person who gave more than \$200 in aggregate to that account during the period beginning  
18.31 on the first day of the preceding calendar year and ending on the disclosure date; and

18.32 (6) if the disbursements for electioneering communications were made using general  
18.33 treasury money of the association, an association that has paid more than \$5,000 in  
18.34 aggregate for electioneering communications during the calendar year must file with its  
18.35 disclosure statement a written statement that includes the name, address, and amount  
18.36 attributable to each person that paid the association membership dues or fees, or made

19.1 donations to the association that, in total, aggregate more than \$1,000 of the money used  
 19.2 by the association for electioneering communications. The statement must also include  
 19.3 the total amount of the disbursements for electioneering communications attributable to  
 19.4 persons not subject to itemization under this clause. The statement must be certified as  
 19.5 true by an officer of the association that made the disbursements for the electioneering  
 19.6 communications.

19.7 (c) To determine the amount of the membership dues or fees, or donations  
 19.8 made by a person to an association and attributable to the association's disbursements  
 19.9 for electioneering communications, the association must separately prorate the total  
 19.10 disbursements made for electioneering communications during the calendar year over all  
 19.11 general treasury money received during the calendar year.

19.12 (d) If the amount spent for electioneering communications exceeds the amount of  
 19.13 general treasury money received by the association during that year:

19.14 (1) the electioneering communications must be attributed first to all receipts of  
 19.15 general treasury money received during the calendar year in which the electioneering  
 19.16 communications were made;

19.17 (2) any amount of current year electioneering communications that exceeds the total  
 19.18 of all receipts of general treasury money during the current calendar year must be prorated  
 19.19 over all general treasury money received in the preceding calendar year; and

19.20 (3) if the allocation made in clauses (1) and (2) is insufficient to cover the subject  
 19.21 electioneering communications, no further allocation is required.

19.22 (e) After a portion of the general treasury money received by an association  
 19.23 from a person has been designated as the source of a disbursement for electioneering  
 19.24 communications, that portion of the association's general treasury money received  
 19.25 from that person may not be designated as the source of any other disbursement for  
 19.26 electioneering communications or as the source for any contribution to an independent  
 19.27 expenditure political committee or fund.

19.28 Subd. 5. **Disclosure date.** For purposes of this section, the term "disclosure date"  
 19.29 means the earlier of:

19.30 (1) the first date on which an electioneering communication is publicly distributed,  
 19.31 provided that the person making the electioneering communication has made  
 19.32 disbursements for the direct costs of producing or distributing one or more electioneering  
 19.33 communication aggregating in excess of \$1,500; or

19.34 (2) any other date during the same calendar year on which an electioneering  
 19.35 communication is publicly distributed, provided that the person making the electioneering  
 19.36 communication has made disbursements for the direct costs of distributing one or more

20.1 electioneering communications aggregating in excess of \$1,500 since the most recent  
20.2 disclosure date.

20.3 Subd. 6. **Contracts to disburse.** For purposes of this section, a person shall be  
20.4 treated as having made a disbursement if the person has entered into an obligation to  
20.5 make the disbursement.

20.6 Subd. 7. **Statement of attribution.** (a) An electioneering communication must  
20.7 include a statement of attribution.

20.8 (1) For communications distributed by printed material, signs, and billboards, the  
20.9 statement must say, in conspicuous letters: "Paid for by [association name] [address]."

20.10 (2) For communications distributed by television, radio, satellite, or cable  
20.11 broadcasting system, the statement must be included at the end of the communication and  
20.12 must orally state at a volume and speed that a person of ordinary hearing can comprehend:  
20.13 "The preceding communication was paid for by the [association name]."

20.14 (3) For communications distributed by telephone communication, the statement  
20.15 must precede the communication and must orally state at a volume and speed that a person  
20.16 of ordinary hearing can comprehend: "The following communication is paid for by the  
20.17 [association name]."

20.18 (b) If the communication is paid for by an association registered with the board, the  
20.19 statement of attribution must use the association's name as it is registered with the board.  
20.20 If the communication is paid for by an association not registered with the board, the  
20.21 statement of attribution must use the association's name as it is disclosed to the board on  
20.22 the association's disclosure statement associated with the communication.

20.23 Subd. 8. **Failure to file; penalty.** (a) If a person fails to file a statement required by  
20.24 this section by the date the statement is due, the board may impose a late filing fee of \$100  
20.25 per day, not to exceed \$5,000, commencing the day after the report was due.

20.26 (b) The board must send notice by certified mail to a person who fails to file a  
20.27 statement within ten business days after the statement was due that the person may be  
20.28 subject to a civil penalty for failure to file the statement. A person who fails to file the  
20.29 statement within seven days after the certified mail notice was sent by the board is subject  
20.30 to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$10,000.

20.31 (c) An association that provides disclosure under section 10A.20 rather than under  
20.32 this section is subject to the late filing fee and civil penalty provisions of section 10A.20  
20.33 and is not subject to the penalties provided in this subdivision.

20.34 (d) An association that makes electioneering communications under this section  
20.35 and fails to provide the statement required by subdivision 4, paragraph (b), clause (6),  
20.36 within the time specified is subject to an additional civil penalty of up to four times the

21.1 amount of the electioneering communications disbursements, but not to exceed \$25,000,  
 21.2 except when the violation was intentional.

21.3 **Sec. 35. [10A.243] TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION.**

21.4 Subdivision 1. **Termination report.** A political committee, political fund, principal  
 21.5 campaign committee, or party unit may terminate its registration with the board after it  
 21.6 has disposed of all its assets in excess of \$100 by filing a final report of receipts and  
 21.7 expenditures. The final report must be identified as a termination report and must include  
 21.8 all financial transactions that occurred after the last date included on the most recent  
 21.9 report filed with the board. The termination report may be filed at any time after the  
 21.10 asset threshold in this section is reached.

21.11 Subd. 2. **Asset disposition.** "Assets" include credit balances at vendors, prepaid  
 21.12 postage and postage stamps, as well as physical assets. Assets must be disposed of at their  
 21.13 fair market value. Assets of a political fund that consist of, or were acquired using, only  
 21.14 the general treasury money of the fund's supporting association remain the property of the  
 21.15 association upon termination of the association's political fund registration and are not  
 21.16 subject to the disposal requirements of this section.

21.17 **Sec. 36. [10A.244] VOLUNTARY INACTIVE STATUS; POLITICAL FUNDS.**

21.18 Subdivision 1. **Election of voluntary inactive status.** An association that has a  
 21.19 political fund registered under this chapter may elect to have the fund placed on voluntary  
 21.20 inactive status if the following conditions are met:

21.21 (1) the association makes a written request for inactive status;

21.22 (2) the association has filed all periodic reports required by this chapter and  
 21.23 has received no contributions into its political fund and made no expenditures or  
 21.24 disbursements for electioneering communications through its political fund since the last  
 21.25 date included on the association's most recent report; and

21.26 (3) the association has satisfied all obligations to the state for late filing fees and civil  
 21.27 penalties imposed by the board or the board has waived this requirement.

21.28 Subd. 2. **Effect of voluntary inactive status.** After an association has complied  
 21.29 with the requirements of subdivision 1:

21.30 (1) the board must notify the association that its political fund has been placed in  
 21.31 voluntary inactive status and of the terms of this section;

21.32 (2) the board must stop sending the association reports, forms, and notices of report  
 21.33 due dates that are periodically sent to entities registered with the board;

22.1 (3) the association is not required to file periodic disclosure reports for its political  
 22.2 fund as otherwise required under this chapter;

22.3 (4) the association may not accept contributions into its political fund and may not  
 22.4 make expenditures, contributions, or disbursements for electioneering communications  
 22.5 through its political fund; and

22.6 (5) if the association maintains a separate depository account for its political fund,  
 22.7 it may continue to pay bank service charges and receive interest paid on that account  
 22.8 while its political fund is in inactive status.

22.9 Subd. 3. **Resumption of active status or termination.** (a) An association that  
 22.10 has placed its political fund in voluntary inactive status may resume active status upon  
 22.11 written notice to the board.

22.12 (b) A political fund placed in voluntary inactive status must resume active status  
 22.13 within 14 days of the date that it has accepted contributions or made expenditures,  
 22.14 contributions, or disbursements for electioneering communications that aggregate more  
 22.15 than \$750 since the political fund was placed on inactive status. If, after meeting this  
 22.16 threshold, the association does not notify the board that its fund has resumed active  
 22.17 status, the board may place the association's political fund in active status and notify the  
 22.18 association of the change in status.

22.19 (c) An association that has placed its political fund in voluntary inactive status may  
 22.20 terminate the registration of the fund without returning it to active status.

22.21 Subd. 4. **Penalty for financial activity while in voluntary inactive status.** If an  
 22.22 association fails to notify the board of its political fund's resumption of active status under  
 22.23 subdivision 3, the board may impose a civil penalty of \$50 per day, not to exceed \$1,000  
 22.24 commencing on the 15th calendar day after the fund resumed active status.

22.25 Sec. 37. **[10A.245] ADMINISTRATIVE TERMINATION OF INACTIVE**  
 22.26 **COMMITTEES AND FUNDS.**

22.27 Subdivision 1. **Inactivity defined.** (a) A principal campaign committee becomes  
 22.28 inactive on the later of the following dates:

22.29 (1) six years after the last election in which the individual for whom the committee  
 22.30 exists was a candidate for the office sought or held at the time the principal campaign  
 22.31 committee registered with the board; or

22.32 (2) six years after the last day on which the individual for whom the committee  
 22.33 exists served in an elective office subject to this chapter.

22.34 (b) A political committee, political fund, or party unit becomes inactive when  
 22.35 four years have elapsed since the end of a reporting period during which the political

23.1 committee, political fund, or party unit made an expenditure or disbursement requiring  
 23.2 itemized disclosure under this chapter.

23.3 (c) A political fund that has elected voluntary inactive status under section 10A.244  
 23.4 becomes inactive within the meaning of this section when four years have elapsed during  
 23.5 which the political fund was continuously in voluntary inactive status.

23.6 Subd. 2. **Termination by board.** The board may terminate the registration of a  
 23.7 principal campaign committee, party unit, political committee, or political fund found to be  
 23.8 inactive under this section 60 days after sending written notice of inactivity by certified mail  
 23.9 to the affected association at the last address on record with the board for that association.  
 23.10 Within 60 days after the board sends notice under this section, the affected association must  
 23.11 dispose of its assets as provided in this subdivision. The assets of the principal campaign  
 23.12 committee, party unit, or political committee must be used for the purposes authorized by  
 23.13 this chapter or section 211B.12 or must be liquidated and deposited in the general account  
 23.14 of the state elections campaign account. The assets of an association's political fund that  
 23.15 were derived from the association's general treasury money revert to the association's  
 23.16 general treasury. Assets of a political fund that resulted from contributions to the political  
 23.17 fund must be used for the purposes authorized by this chapter or section 211B.12 or must  
 23.18 be liquidated and deposited in the general account of the state elections campaign account.

23.19 Sec. 38. **[10A.246] UNPAID DEBT UPON TERMINATION.**

23.20 Termination of a registration with the board does not affect the liability, if any, of the  
 23.21 association or its candidates, officers, or other individuals for obligations incurred in the  
 23.22 name of the association or its political fund.

23.23 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.25, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

23.24 Subd. 2. **Amounts.** (a) ~~In a year in which an election is held~~ each election cycle for  
 23.25 an office sought by a candidate, the principal campaign committee of the candidate must  
 23.26 not make campaign expenditures nor permit approved expenditures to be made on behalf  
 23.27 of the candidate that result in aggregate expenditures in excess of the following:

23.28 (1) for governor and lieutenant governor, running together, ~~\$2,577,200~~ \$5,000,000;

23.29 (2) for attorney general, ~~\$429,600~~;

23.30 ~~(3) for secretary of state, and state auditor, separately, \$214,800~~ each \$1,500,000;

23.31 ~~(4) (3) for state senator, \$68,100~~ \$120,000;

23.32 ~~(5) (4) for state representative, \$34,300~~ \$60,000.

23.33 ~~(b) In addition to the amount in paragraph (a), clause (1), a candidate for~~  
 23.34 ~~endorsement for the office of lieutenant governor at the convention of a political party~~

24.1 ~~may make campaign expenditures and approved expenditures of five percent of that~~  
 24.2 ~~amount to seek endorsement.~~

24.3 (e) ~~(b)~~ If a special election cycle occurs during a general election cycle, expenditures  
 24.4 by or on behalf of a candidate in the special election cycle do not count as expenditures by  
 24.5 or on behalf of the candidate in the general election cycle.

24.6 ~~(d)~~ (c) The expenditure limits in this subdivision for an office are increased by ten  
 24.7 percent for a candidate who is ~~running for that office for the first time~~ has not previously  
 24.8 held the same office, whose name has not previously been on the primary or general  
 24.9 election ballot for that office, and who has not in the past ten years raised or spent  
 24.10 more than \$750 in a run previously for any other office whose territory now includes a  
 24.11 population that is more than one-third of the population in the territory of the new office.  
 24.12 In the case of a legislative candidate, the office is that of a member of the house of  
 24.13 representatives or senate without regard to any specific district.

24.14 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.25, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

24.15 Subd. 2a. **Aggregated expenditures.** If a candidate makes expenditures from more  
 24.16 than one principal campaign committee for nomination or election to statewide office  
 24.17 in the same election ~~year~~ cycle, the amount of expenditures from all of the candidate's  
 24.18 principal campaign committees for statewide office for that election ~~year~~ cycle must be  
 24.19 aggregated for purposes of applying the limits on expenditures under subdivision 2.

24.20 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.25, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

24.21 Subd. 3. **Governor and lieutenant governor a single candidate.** For the purposes  
 24.22 of ~~sections 10A.11 to 10A.34~~ this chapter, a candidate for governor and a candidate  
 24.23 for lieutenant governor, running together, are considered a single candidate. ~~Except as~~  
 24.24 ~~provided in subdivision 2, paragraph (b),~~ All expenditures made by or all approved  
 24.25 expenditures made on behalf of the candidate for lieutenant governor are considered to be  
 24.26 expenditures by or approved expenditures on behalf of the candidate for governor.

24.27 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.25, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

24.28 Subd. 3a. **Independent expenditures and electioneering communications.** The  
 24.29 principal campaign committee of a candidate must not make independent expenditures or  
 24.30 disbursements for electioneering communications.

24.31 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.257, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

25.1 Subdivision 1. **Unused funds.** After all campaign expenditures and noncampaign  
 25.2 disbursements for an election cycle have been made, an amount up to 50 percent of the  
 25.3 election ~~year~~ cycle expenditure limit for the office may be carried forward. Any remaining  
 25.4 amount up to the total amount of the public subsidy from the state elections campaign fund  
 25.5 must be returned to the state treasury for credit to the general fund under section 10A.324.  
 25.6 Any remaining amount in excess of the total public subsidy must be contributed to the  
 25.7 state elections campaign ~~fund~~ and account or a political party for multicandidate expenditures  
 25.8 as defined in section 10A.275.

25.9 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.27, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

25.10 Subdivision 1. **Contribution limits.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision 2,  
 25.11 a candidate must not permit the candidate's principal campaign committee to accept  
 25.12 aggregate contributions in an election cycle made or delivered by any individual, political  
 25.13 committee, ~~or~~ political fund, or association not registered with the board in excess of  
 25.14 the following:

25.15 (1) to candidates for governor and lieutenant governor running together, ~~\$2,000 in~~  
 25.16 ~~an election year for the office sought and \$500 in other years~~ \$6,000;

25.17 (2) to a candidate for attorney general, secretary of state, or state auditor, ~~\$1,000 in~~  
 25.18 ~~an election year for the office sought and \$200 in other years~~ \$4,000;

25.19 (3) to a candidate for state senator, ~~\$500 in an election year for the office sought~~  
 25.20 ~~and \$100 in other years~~ \$3,000;

25.21 (4) to a candidate for state representative, ~~\$500 in an election year for the office~~  
 25.22 ~~sought and \$100 in the other year~~ \$1,500; and

25.23 (5) to a candidate for judicial office, ~~\$2,000 in an election year for the office sought~~  
 25.24 ~~and \$500 in other years~~ \$4,500.

25.25 (b) The following deliveries are not subject to the bundling limitation in this  
 25.26 subdivision:

25.27 (1) delivery of contributions collected by a member of the candidate's principal  
 25.28 campaign committee, such as a block worker or a volunteer who hosts a fund-raising  
 25.29 event, to the committee's treasurer; and

25.30 (2) a delivery made by an individual on behalf of the individual's spouse.

25.31 (c) A lobbyist, political committee, political party unit, ~~or~~ an association that has a  
 25.32 political fund, or an association not registered with the board must not make a contribution  
 25.33 a candidate is prohibited from accepting.

25.34 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.27, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

26.1 Subd. 10. **Limited personal contributions.** A candidate who ~~accepts a public~~  
 26.2 ~~subsidy~~ signs an agreement under section 10A.322 may not contribute to the candidate's  
 26.3 own campaign during a year an election cycle more than ten times the candidate's election  
 26.4 year cycle contribution limit under subdivision 1.

26.5 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.27, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

26.6 Subd. 11. **Contributions from certain types of contributors.** A candidate must  
 26.7 not permit the candidate's principal campaign committee to accept a contribution from  
 26.8 a political committee, political fund, lobbyist, ~~or~~ large contributor, or association not  
 26.9 registered with the board if the contribution will cause the aggregate contributions from  
 26.10 those types of contributors to exceed an amount equal to 20 percent of the expenditure  
 26.11 limits for the office sought by the candidate, provided that the 20 percent limit must be  
 26.12 rounded to the nearest \$100. For purposes of this subdivision, "large contributor" means  
 26.13 an individual, other than the candidate, who contributes an amount that is ~~more than \$100~~  
 26.14 ~~and~~ more than one-half the amount an individual may contribute.

26.15 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.27, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

26.16 Subd. 13. **Unregistered association limit; statement; penalty.** (a) The treasurer of  
 26.17 a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit must not  
 26.18 accept a contribution of more than ~~\$100~~ \$200 from an association not registered under  
 26.19 this chapter unless the contribution is accompanied by a written statement that meets the  
 26.20 disclosure and reporting period requirements imposed by section 10A.20. This statement  
 26.21 must be certified as true and correct by an officer of the contributing association. The  
 26.22 committee, fund, or party unit that accepts the contribution must include a copy of the  
 26.23 statement with the report that discloses the contribution to the board. ~~This subdivision~~  
 26.24 ~~does not apply when a national political party contributes money to its affiliate in this state.~~

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

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

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

26.33 (c) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign  
 26.34 committee, or party unit who accepts a contribution in excess of ~~\$100~~ \$200 from an

27.1 unregistered association without the required written disclosure statement is subject to a  
 27.2 civil penalty up to four times the amount in excess of \$100 \$200.

27.3 (d) This subdivision does not apply:

27.4 (1) when a national political party contributes money to its state committee; or

27.5 (2) to purchases by candidates for federal office of tickets to events or space rental

27.6 at events held by party units in this state (i) if the geographical area represented by the

27.7 party unit includes any part of the geographical area of the office that the federal candidate

27.8 is seeking and (ii) the purchase price is not more than that paid by other attendees or

27.9 renters of similar spaces.

27.10 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.27, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

27.11 Subd. 14. **Contributions of business revenue.** An association may, if not prohibited  
 27.12 by other law, contribute revenue from the operation of a business to an independent  
 27.13 expenditure or ballot question political committee or ~~an independent expenditure political~~  
 27.14 ~~fund~~ without complying with subdivision 13.

27.15 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.27, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

27.16 Subd. 15. **Contributions of dues or contribution revenue or use of general**  
 27.17 **treasury money.** (a) An association may, if not prohibited by other law, contribute revenue  
 27.18 ~~from membership dues or fees, or from contributions received by the association~~ its general  
 27.19 treasury money to an independent expenditure or ballot question political committee or  
 27.20 ~~an independent expenditure political fund,~~ including its own independent expenditure or  
 27.21 ballot question political committee or fund, without complying with subdivision 13.

27.22 (b) Before the day when the recipient committee or fund's next report must be  
 27.23 filed with the board under section 10A.20, subdivision 2 or 5, an association that has  
 27.24 contributed more than \$5,000 or more in aggregate to independent expenditure political  
 27.25 committees or funds during the calendar year or has contributed more than \$5,000 in  
 27.26 aggregate to ballot question political committees or funds during the calendar year must  
 27.27 provide in writing to the recipient's treasurer a statement that includes the name, address,  
 27.28 and amount attributable to each ~~individual or association~~ person that paid the association  
 27.29 dues or fees, or made ~~contributions~~ donations to the association that, in total, aggregate  
 27.30 more than \$1,000 or more of the contribution from the association to the independent  
 27.31 expenditure or ballot question political committee or fund. The statement must also  
 27.32 include the total amount of the contribution ~~from individuals or associations~~ attributable  
 27.33 to persons not subject to itemization under this section. The statement must be certified  
 27.34 as true ~~and correct~~ by an officer of the donor association.

28.1 ~~(b)~~ (c) To determine the amount of membership dues or fees, or contributions  
 28.2 donations made by an individual or association that exceed \$1,000 of the contribution  
 28.3 made by the donor association a person to an association and attributable to the  
 28.4 association's contribution to the independent expenditure or ballot question political  
 28.5 committee or fund, the donor association must: separately prorate the total independent  
 28.6 expenditures and ballot question expenditures made during the calendar year over all  
 28.7 general treasury money received during the calendar year.

28.8 (1) ~~apply a pro-rata calculation to all unrestricted dues, fees, and contributions~~  
 28.9 ~~received by the donor association in the calendar year; or~~

28.10 (2) ~~as provided in paragraph (c), identify the specific individuals or associations~~  
 28.11 ~~whose dues, fees, or contributions are included in the contribution to the independent~~  
 28.12 ~~expenditure political committee or fund.~~

28.13 (e) ~~Dues, fees, or contributions from an individual or association must be identified~~  
 28.14 ~~in a contribution to an independent expenditure political committee or fund under~~  
 28.15 ~~paragraph (b), clause (2), if:~~

28.16 (1) ~~the individual or association has specifically authorized the donor association to~~  
 28.17 ~~use the individual's or association's dues, fees, or contributions for this purpose; or~~

28.18 (2) ~~the individual's or association's dues, fees, or contributions to the donor~~  
 28.19 ~~association are unrestricted and the donor association designates them as the source of the~~  
 28.20 ~~subject contribution to the independent expenditure political committee or fund.~~

28.21 (d) If the amount contributed to independent expenditure and ballot question  
 28.22 political committees or funds in a calendar year exceeds the amount of general treasury  
 28.23 money received by the association during that year:

28.24 (1) the contributions must be attributed first to all receipts of general treasury money  
 28.25 received during the calendar year in which the contributions were made;

28.26 (2) any amount of current-year contributions that exceeds the total of all receipts of  
 28.27 general treasury money during the current calendar year must be prorated over all general  
 28.28 treasury money received in the preceding calendar year; and

28.29 (3) if the allocation made in clauses (1) and (2) is insufficient to cover the subject  
 28.30 contributions, no further allocation is required.

28.31 (e) ~~After a portion of an individual's or association's dues, fees, or contributions to~~  
 28.32 ~~the donor association have~~ the general treasury money received by an association from a  
 28.33 person has been designated as the source of a contribution to an independent expenditure or  
 28.34 ballot question political committee or fund, that portion of the individual's or association's  
 28.35 dues, fees, or contributions to the donor association association's general treasury money  
 28.36 received from that person may not be designated as the source of any other contribution to

29.1 an independent expenditure or ballot question political committee or fund or as the source  
 29.2 of funds for a disbursement for electioneering communications made by that association.

29.3 ~~(d) For the purposes of this section, "donor association" means the association~~  
 29.4 ~~contributing to an independent expenditure political committee or fund that is required to~~  
 29.5 ~~provide a statement under paragraph (a).~~

29.6 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 10A.323, is amended to read:

29.7 **10A.323 AFFIDAVIT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.**

29.8 (a) In addition to the requirements of section 10A.322, to be eligible to receive a  
 29.9 public subsidy under section 10A.31 a candidate or the candidate's treasurer must ~~file an~~  
 29.10 ~~affidavit with the board stating that:~~

29.11 (1) between January 1 of the previous year and the cutoff date for transactions  
 29.12 included in the report of receipts and expenditures due before the primary election ~~the~~  
 29.13 ~~candidate has accumulated,~~ accumulate contributions from ~~persons~~ individuals eligible to  
 29.14 vote in this state in at least the amount indicated for the office sought, counting only the  
 29.15 first \$50 received from each contributor, excluding in-kind contributions:

29.16 ~~(1)~~ (i) candidates for governor and lieutenant governor running together, \$35,000;

29.17 ~~(2)~~ (ii) candidates for attorney general, \$15,000;

29.18 ~~(3)~~ (iii) candidates for secretary of state and state auditor, separately, \$6,000;

29.19 ~~(4)~~ (iv) candidates for the senate, \$3,000; and

29.20 ~~(5)~~ (v) candidates for the house of representatives, \$1,500.;

29.21 (2) the candidate or the candidate's treasurer must file an affidavit with the board  
 29.22 stating that the principal campaign committee has complied with this paragraph. The

29.23 affidavit must state the total amount of contributions that have been received from ~~persons~~  
 29.24 individuals eligible to vote in this state, ~~disregarding~~ excluding:

29.25 (i) the portion of any contribution in excess of \$50.;

29.26 (ii) any in-kind contribution; and

29.27 (iii) any contribution for which the name and address of the contributor is not known  
 29.28 and recorded; and

29.29 (3) the candidate or the candidate's treasurer must submit the affidavit required  
 29.30 by this section to the board in writing by the deadline for reporting of receipts and  
 29.31 expenditures before a primary under section 10A.20, subdivision 4.

29.32 (b) A candidate for a vacancy to be filled at a special election for which the filing  
 29.33 period does not coincide with the filing period for the general election must accumulate  
 29.34 the contributions specified in paragraph (a) and must submit the affidavit required by this

30.1 section to the board within five days after the close of the filing period for the special  
30.2 election for which the candidate filed.

30.3 (c) A candidate whose name is placed on the ballot after the date by which the  
30.4 affidavit must be filed under this subdivision must accumulate the required contributions  
30.5 and must file the affidavit required by this section within ten days of the date that the  
30.6 candidate's name was placed on the ballot.

30.7 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 13.607, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

30.8 Subd. 3. ~~Ethical practices~~ **Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board**  
30.9 **investigation data.** The record of certain investigations conducted under chapter 10A  
30.10 is classified, and disposition of certain information is governed, by section 10A.02,  
30.11 subdivision 11a.

30.12 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 13.607, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

30.13 Subd. 5a. **Campaign reports and data.** Certain reports filed with the Campaign  
30.14 Finance and Public Disclosure Board are classified under section 10A.20. Certain data  
30.15 stored by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board is not government data  
30.16 under section 10A.02, subdivision 11b.

30.17 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 211B.32, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

30.18 Subdivision 1. **Administrative remedy; exhaustion.** (a) Except as provided in  
30.19 paragraph (b), a complaint alleging a violation of chapter 211A or 211B must be filed with  
30.20 the office. The complaint must be finally disposed of by the office before the alleged  
30.21 violation may be prosecuted by a county attorney.

30.22 (b) Complaints arising under those sections and related to those individuals and  
30.23 associations specified in section 10A.02, subdivision 11, paragraph (a), must be filed with  
30.24 the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

30.25 Sec. 54. **REPEALER.**

30.26 Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 10A.24; 10A.241; 10A.242; and 10A.25,  
30.27 subdivision 6, are repealed.

**10A.24 DISSOLUTION OR TERMINATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Termination report.** A political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit may not dissolve until it has settled all of its debts and disposed of all its assets in excess of \$100 and filed a termination report. "Assets" include credit balances at vendors and physical assets such as computers and postage stamps. Physical assets must be listed at their fair market value. The termination report may be made at any time and must include all information required in periodic reports.

Subd. 2. **Termination allowed.** Notwithstanding subdivision 1, a committee, fund, or party unit that has debts incurred more than six years previously, has disposed of all its assets, and has met the requirements of section 10A.20, subdivision 7, may notify any remaining creditors by certified mail and then file a termination report.

**10A.241 TRANSFER OF DEBTS.**

Notwithstanding section 10A.24, a candidate may terminate the candidate's principal campaign committee for one state office by transferring any debts of that committee to the candidate's principal campaign committee for another state office if all outstanding unpaid bills or loans from the committee being terminated are assumed and continuously reported by the committee to which the transfer is being made until paid or forgiven. A loan that is forgiven is covered by section 10A.20 and, for purposes of section 10A.324, is a contribution to the principal campaign committee from which the debt was transferred under this section.

**10A.242 DISSOLUTION OF INACTIVE COMMITTEES AND FUNDS.**

Subdivision 1. **Dissolution required.** A political committee, political fund, or principal campaign committee must be dissolved within 60 days after receiving notice from the board that the committee or fund has become inactive. The assets of the committee or fund must be spent for the purposes authorized by section 211B.12 and other applicable law or liquidated and deposited in the general account of the state elections campaign fund within 60 days after the board notifies the committee or fund that it has become inactive.

Subd. 2. **Inactivity defined.** (a) A principal campaign committee becomes inactive on the later of the following dates:

(1) when six years have elapsed since the last election in which the person was a candidate for the office sought or held at the time the principal campaign committee registered with the board; or

(2) when six years have elapsed since the last day on which the individual for whom it exists served in an elective office subject to this chapter.

(b) A political committee or fund becomes inactive when two years have elapsed since the end of a reporting period during which the political committee or fund made an expenditure or disbursement requiring disclosure under this chapter.

Subd. 3. **Remaining debts.** If a committee or fund becomes inactive when it still has unpaid debts, the committee or fund must liquidate available assets to pay the debts. If insufficient assets exist to pay the debts, the board may set up a payment schedule and allow the committee or fund to defer dissolution until all debts are paid. This section does not extinguish debts incurred by the committee or fund.

**10A.25 SPENDING LIMITS.**

Subd. 6. **Limit in nonelection year.** During an election cycle, in any year before the election year for the office held or sought by the candidate, a candidate must not make campaign expenditures nor permit approved expenditures to be made on behalf of the candidate that exceed 20 percent of the expenditure limit set forth in subdivision 2.