

103.5 **ARTICLE 8**

103.6 **CAMPAIGN FINANCE POLICY**

103.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 3.084, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

103.8 Subd. 2. **Prohibition.** (a) A sitting member of the legislature is prohibited from accepting

103.9 employment with or otherwise receiving compensation for services performed from:

103.10 (1) a business whose primary source of revenue is derived from lobbying, government

103.11 relations or government affairs services;

103.12 (2) a business whose primary source of revenue is derived from facilitating government

103.13 relations or government affairs services between two third parties; or

103.14 (3) any other business that employs or contracts with lobbyists, government relations

103.15 or government affairs professionals, if the member's job duties include acting in that capacity

103.16 or providing direct or indirect consulting, advice, or administrative support for that work a

103.17 business whose primary source of revenue is derived from facilitating government relations

103.18 or government affairs services if the member's job duties include offering direct or indirect

103.19 consulting or advice that helps the business provide government relations or government

103.20 affairs services to clients.

103.21 (b) This prohibition applies regardless of the location where the work of the business is

103.22 substantially conducted or its clients are located.

103.23 (c) The house of representatives and the senate must adopt rules to enforce this section.

103.24 Sec. 2. **[5.51] EXPENSES OF SECRETARY OF STATE-ELECT.**

103.25 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined have the

103.26 meanings given them.

103.27 (b) "Secretary of state-elect" means the person who is not currently secretary of state

103.28 and is the apparent successful candidate for the Office of Secretary of State following a

103.29 general election.

104.1 (c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Management and

104.2 Budget.

104.3 Subd. 2. **Transition expenses.** In the fiscal year of an election for secretary of state and

104.4 subject to availability of funds, the commissioner shall transfer up to \$50,000 from the

104.5 general contingent account in the general fund to the Department of Management and

104.6 Budget. This transfer is subject to the review and advice of the Legislative Advisory

104.7 Commission pursuant to section 3.30. In consultation with the secretary of state-elect, the

104.8 commissioner shall use the transferred funds to pay expenses of the secretary of state-elect

51.23 **ARTICLE 5**

51.24 **ELECTIONS AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE POLICY**

MOST CONTENT FROM HOUSE ARTICLE 5 IS MATCHED WITH SENATE ARTICLE 9

104.9 associated with preparing for the assumption of official duties as secretary of state. The
 104.10 commissioner may use the transferred funds for expenses necessary and prudent for
 104.11 establishment of a transition office prior to the election and for dissolution of the office if
 104.12 the incumbent secretary of state is reelected or after the inauguration of a new secretary of
 104.13 state. Expenses of the secretary of state-elect may include suitable office space and
 104.14 equipment, communications and technology support, consulting services, compensation
 104.15 and travel costs, and other reasonable expenses. Compensation rates for temporary employees
 104.16 hired to support the secretary of state-elect and rates paid for consulting services for the
 104.17 secretary of state-elect shall be determined by the secretary of state-elect.

104.18 Subd. 3. **Unused funds.** No new obligations shall be incurred for expenses of the secretary
 104.19 of state-elect after the date of the inauguration. By March 31 of the year of the inauguration,
 104.20 the commissioner shall return to the general contingent account any funds transferred under
 104.21 this section that the commissioner determines are not needed to pay expenses of the secretary
 104.22 of state-elect.

104.23 Sec. 3. **[6.93] EXPENSES OF STATE AUDITOR-ELECT.**

104.24 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined have the
 104.25 meanings given them.

104.26 (b) "State auditor-elect" means the person who is not currently state auditor and is the
 104.27 apparent successful candidate for the Office of State Auditor following a general election.

104.28 (c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Management and
 104.29 Budget.

104.30 Subd. 2. **Transition expenses.** In the fiscal year of an election for state auditor and
 104.31 subject to availability of funds, the commissioner shall transfer up to \$50,000 from the
 104.32 general contingent account in the general fund to the Department of Management and
 104.33 Budget. This transfer is subject to the review and advice of the Legislative Advisory
 105.1 Commission pursuant to section 3.30. In consultation with the state auditor-elect, the
 105.2 commissioner shall use the transferred funds to pay expenses of the state auditor-elect
 105.3 associated with preparing for the assumption of official duties as state auditor. The
 105.4 commissioner may use the transferred funds for expenses necessary and prudent for
 105.5 establishment of a transition office prior to the election and for dissolution of the office if
 105.6 the incumbent state auditor is reelected or after the inauguration of a new state auditor.
 105.7 Expenses of the state auditor-elect may include suitable office space and equipment,
 105.8 communications and technology support, consulting services, compensation and travel
 105.9 costs, and other reasonable expenses. Compensation rates for temporary employees hired
 105.10 to support the state auditor-elect and rates paid for consulting services for the state
 105.11 auditor-elect shall be determined by the state auditor-elect.

105.12 Subd. 3. **Unused funds.** No new obligations shall be incurred for expenses of the state
 105.13 auditor-elect after the date of the inauguration. By March 31 of the year of the inauguration,
 105.14 the commissioner shall return to the general contingent account any funds transferred under

105.15 this section that the commissioner determines are not needed to pay expenses of the state
 105.16 auditor-elect.

105.17 Sec. 4. **[8.40] EXPENSES OF ATTORNEY GENERAL-ELECT.**

105.18 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined have the
 105.19 meanings given them.

105.20 (b) "Attorney general-elect" means the person who is not currently attorney general and
 105.21 is the apparent successful candidate for the Office of Attorney General following a general
 105.22 election.

105.23 (c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Management and
 105.24 Budget.

105.25 Subd. 2. **Transition expenses.** In the fiscal year of an election for attorney general and
 105.26 subject to availability of funds, the commissioner shall transfer up to \$75,000 from the
 105.27 general contingent account in the general fund to the Department of Management and
 105.28 Budget. This transfer is subject to the review and advice of the Legislative Advisory
 105.29 Commission pursuant to section 3.30. In consultation with the attorney general-elect, the
 105.30 commissioner shall use the transferred funds to pay expenses of the attorney general-elect
 105.31 associated with preparing for the assumption of official duties as attorney general. The
 105.32 commissioner may use the transferred funds for expenses necessary and prudent for
 105.33 establishment of a transition office prior to the election and for dissolution of the office if
 105.34 the incumbent attorney general is reelected or after the inauguration of a new attorney
 106.1 general. Expenses of the attorney general-elect may include suitable office space and
 106.2 equipment, communications and technology support, consulting services, compensation
 106.3 and travel costs, and other reasonable expenses. Compensation rates for temporary employees
 106.4 hired to support the attorney general-elect and rates paid for consulting services for the
 106.5 attorney general-elect shall be determined by the attorney general-elect.

106.6 Subd. 3. **Unused funds.** No new obligations shall be incurred for expenses of the attorney
 106.7 general-elect after the date of the inauguration. By March 31 of the year of the inauguration,
 106.8 the commissioner shall return to the general contingent account any funds transferred under
 106.9 this section that the commissioner determines are not needed to pay expenses of the attorney
 106.10 general-elect.

106.11 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 16a, is amended to read:

106.12 Subd. 16a. **Expressly advocating advocates.** "Expressly ~~advocating~~ advocates" means
 106.13 that a communication:

106.14 (1) clearly identifies a candidate or a local candidate and uses words or phrases of express
 106.15 advocacy; or

106.16 (2) when taken as a whole and with limited reference to external events, such as the
 106.17 proximity to the election, could only be interpreted by a reasonable person as containing
 106.18 advocacy of the election or defeat of one or more clearly identified candidates because:

106.19 (i) the electoral portion of the communication is unmistakable, unambiguous, and
 106.20 suggestive of only one meaning; and

106.21 (ii) reasonable minds could not differ as to whether the communication encourages
 106.22 actions to elect or defeat one or more clearly identified candidates or encourages some other
 106.23 kind of action.

106.24 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
 106.25 read:

106.26 Subd. 16c. **Expert witness.** "Expert witness" means an individual preparing or delivering
 106.27 testimony or a report consisting of information, data, or professional opinions on which the
 106.28 individual has particular expertise gained through formal education, professional or
 106.29 occupational training, or experience in a field in which the individual is or has been
 106.30 employed.

107.1 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 18, is amended to read:

107.2 Subd. 18. **Independent expenditure.** (a) "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure
 107.3 ~~expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or local candidate,~~
 107.4 ~~if the expenditure~~ is made without the express or implied consent, authorization, or
 107.5 cooperation of, and not in concert with or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate or
 107.6 any candidate's principal campaign committee or agent or any local candidate or local
 107.7 candidate's agent; and:

107.8 (1) expressly advocates the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or local
 107.9 candidate; or

107.10 (2) promotes, supports, attacks, or opposes the nomination, election, or defeat of a clearly
 107.11 identified candidate or local candidate, regardless of whether the expenditure expressly
 107.12 advocates for or against a candidate or local candidate.

107.13 (b) An independent expenditure is not a contribution to that candidate or local candidate.

107.14 (c) An independent expenditure does not include the act of announcing a formal public
 107.15 endorsement of a candidate or local candidate for public office, unless the act is
 107.16 simultaneously accompanied by an expenditure that would otherwise qualify as an
 107.17 independent expenditure under this subdivision.

107.18 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 21, is amended to read:

107.19 Subd. 21. **Lobbyist.** (a) "Lobbyist" means an individual:

107.20 (1) engaged for pay or other consideration of more than \$3,000 from all sources in any
 107.21 year:

107.22 (i) for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or administrative action, or the
 107.23 official action of a political subdivision, by communicating with public or local officials;
 107.24 or

107.25 (ii) from a business whose primary source of revenue is derived from facilitating
 107.26 government relations or government affairs services if the individual's job duties include
 107.27 offering direct or indirect consulting or advice that helps the business provide those services
 107.28 to clients; or

107.29 (2) who spends more than \$3,000 of the individual's personal funds, not including the
 107.30 individual's own traveling expenses and membership dues, in any year for the purpose of
 107.31 attempting to influence legislative or administrative action, or the official action of a political
 107.32 subdivision, by communicating with public or local officials.

108.1 (b) "Lobbyist" does not include:

108.2 (1) a public official;

108.3 (2) an employee of the state, including an employee of any of the public higher education
 108.4 systems;

108.5 (3) an elected local official;

108.6 (4) a nonelected local official or an employee of a political subdivision acting in an
 108.7 official capacity, unless the ~~nonelected official or employee of a political subdivision spends~~
 108.8 ~~more than 50 hours in any month attempting to influence legislative or administrative action,~~
 108.9 ~~or the official action of a political subdivision other than the political subdivision employing~~
 108.10 ~~the official or employee, by communicating or urging others to communicate with public~~
 108.11 ~~or local officials, including time spent monitoring legislative or administrative action, or~~
 108.12 ~~the official action of a political subdivision, and related research, analysis, and compilation~~
 108.13 ~~and dissemination of information relating to legislative or administrative policy in this state,~~
 108.14 ~~or to the policies of political subdivisions~~ local official or employee spends more than 50
 108.15 hours in any month attempting to influence legislative or administrative action or the official
 108.16 action of a metropolitan governmental unit, other than a political subdivision employing
 108.17 the official or employee, by communicating with public or local officials;

108.18 (5) a party or the party's representative appearing in a proceeding before a state board,
 108.19 commission, or agency of the executive branch unless the board, commission, or agency is
 108.20 taking administrative action;

108.21 (6) an individual while engaged in selling goods or services to be paid for by public
 108.22 funds;

108.23 (7) a finance professional subject to Security Exchange Commission regulation who
 108.24 works with a registered lobbyist and a principal to the extent the finance professional is
 108.25 participating in conduit financing through a political subdivision;

108.26 ~~(7)~~ (8) a news medium or its employees or agents while engaged in the publishing or
 108.27 broadcasting of news items, editorial comments, or paid advertisements which directly or
 108.28 indirectly urge official action;

108.29 ~~(8) a paid expert witness whose testimony is requested by the body before which the~~
 108.30 ~~witness is appearing, but only to the extent of preparing or delivering testimony (9) an expert~~
 108.31 ~~witness who communicates with public or local officials, other than the Public Utilities~~
 108.32 ~~Commission, if the communication occurs at a public meeting or is made available to the~~
 108.33 ~~general public;~~

109.1 ~~(9)~~ (10) a party or the party's representative appearing to present a claim to the legislature
 109.2 and communicating to legislators only by the filing of a claim form and supporting documents
 109.3 and by appearing at public hearings on the claim; or

109.4 ~~(10)~~ (11) an individual providing information or advice to members of a collective
 109.5 bargaining unit when the unit is actively engaged in the collective bargaining process with
 109.6 a state agency or a political subdivision.

109.7 (c) An individual who volunteers personal time to work without pay or other consideration
 109.8 on a lobbying campaign, and who does not spend more than the limit in paragraph (a), clause
 109.9 (2), need not register as a lobbyist.

109.10 (d) An individual who provides administrative support to a lobbyist and whose salary
 109.11 and administrative expenses attributable to lobbying activities are reported as lobbying
 109.12 expenses by the lobbyist, but who does not communicate or urge others to communicate
 109.13 with public or local officials, need not register as a lobbyist.

109.14 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 22, is amended to read:

109.15 Subd. 22. **Local official.** "Local official" means a person who holds elective office in a
 109.16 political subdivision or who is appointed to or employed in a public position in a political
 109.17 subdivision in which the person has;

109.18 ~~(1) the authority to make, to recommend, major decisions regarding the expenditure or~~
 109.19 ~~investment of public money;~~

109.20 ~~(2) the responsibility to make recommendations to a chief executive or the governing~~
 109.21 ~~body about major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of public money; or~~

109.22 ~~(3) the authority to vote on as a member of the governing body; on major decisions~~
 109.23 ~~regarding the expenditure or investment of public money.~~

109.24 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

109.25 Subd. 24. **Metropolitan governmental unit.** "Metropolitan governmental unit" means
 109.26 ~~any of the seven counties in the metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, subdivision~~
 109.27 ~~2; a regional railroad authority established by one or more of those counties under section~~
 109.28 ~~398A.03; a city with a population of over 50,000 located in the seven-county metropolitan~~
 109.29 ~~area; a county in the metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2; the~~
 109.30 ~~Metropolitan Council; or a metropolitan agency as defined in section 473.121, subdivision~~
 109.31 ~~5a; the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission; the Metropolitan Airports~~
 109.32 ~~Commission; or the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority.~~

- 110.1 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 26, is amended to read:
- 110.2 Subd. 26. **Noncampaign disbursement.** (a) "Noncampaign disbursement" means a
- 110.3 purchase or payment of money or anything of value made, or an advance of credit incurred,
- 110.4 or a donation in kind received, by a principal campaign committee for any of the following
- 110.5 purposes:
- 110.6 (1) payment for accounting and legal services related to operating the candidate's
- 110.7 campaign committee, serving in office, or security for the candidate or the candidate's
- 110.8 immediate family, including but not limited to seeking and obtaining a harassment restraining
- 110.9 order;
- 110.10 (2) return of a contribution to the source;
- 110.11 (3) repayment of a loan made to the principal campaign committee by that committee;
- 110.12 (4) return of a public subsidy;
- 110.13 (5) payment for food, beverages, and necessary utensils and supplies, entertainment,
- 110.14 and facility rental for a fundraising event;
- 110.15 (6) services for a constituent by a member of the legislature or a constitutional officer
- 110.16 in the executive branch as provided in section 10A.173, subdivision 1;
- 110.17 (7) payment for food and beverages consumed by a candidate or volunteers while they
- 110.18 are engaged in campaign activities;
- 110.19 (8) payment for food or a beverage consumed while attending a reception or meeting
- 110.20 directly related to legislative duties;
- 110.21 (9) payment of expenses incurred by elected or appointed leaders of a legislative caucus
- 110.22 in carrying out their leadership responsibilities;
- 110.23 (10) payment by a principal campaign committee of the candidate's expenses for serving
- 110.24 in public office, other than for personal uses;
- 110.25 (11) costs of child care for the candidate's children when campaigning;
- 110.26 (12) fees paid to attend a campaign school;
- 110.27 (13) costs of a postelection party during the election year when a candidate's name will
- 110.28 no longer appear on a ballot or the general election is concluded, whichever occurs first;
- 110.29 (14) interest on loans paid by a principal campaign committee on outstanding loans;
- 110.30 (15) filing fees;
- 111.1 (16) post-general election holiday or seasonal cards, thank-you notes, or advertisements
- 111.2 in the news media mailed or published prior to the end of the election cycle;

- 111.3 (17) the cost of campaign material purchased to replace defective campaign material, if
 111.4 the defective material is destroyed without being used;
- 111.5 (18) contributions to a party unit;
- 111.6 (19) payments for funeral gifts or memorials;
- 111.7 (20) the cost of a magnet less than six inches in diameter containing legislator contact
 111.8 information and distributed to constituents;
- 111.9 (21) costs associated with a candidate attending a political party state or national
 111.10 convention in this state;
- 111.11 (22) other purchases or payments specified in board rules or advisory opinions as being
 111.12 for any purpose other than to influence the nomination or election of a candidate or to
 111.13 promote or defeat a ballot question;
- 111.14 (23) costs paid to a third party for processing contributions made by a credit card, debit
 111.15 card, or electronic check;
- 111.16 (24) costs paid by a candidate's principal campaign committee to support the candidate's
 111.17 participation in a recount of ballots affecting the candidate's election;
- 111.18 (25) a contribution to a fund established to support a candidate's participation in a recount
 111.19 of ballots affecting that candidate's election;
- 111.20 (26) costs paid by a candidate's principal campaign committee for a single reception
 111.21 given in honor of the candidate's retirement from public office after the filing period for
 111.22 affidavits of candidacy for that office has closed;
- 111.23 (27) a donation from a terminating principal campaign committee to the state general
 111.24 fund;
- 111.25 (28) a donation from a terminating principal campaign committee to a county obligated
 111.26 to incur special election expenses due to that candidate's resignation from state office;
- 111.27 (29) during a period starting January 1 in the year following a general election and ending
 111.28 on December 31 of the year of general election, total payments of up to \$3,000 for
 111.29 detection-related security monitoring expenses for a candidate, including home security
 111.30 hardware, maintenance of home security monitoring hardware, identity theft monitoring
 111.31 services, and credit monitoring services; ~~and~~
- 112.1 (30) costs paid to repair or replace campaign property that was: (i) lost or stolen, or (ii)
 112.2 damaged or defaced to such a degree that the property no longer serves its intended purpose.
 112.3 For purposes of this clause, campaign property includes but is not limited to campaign lawn
 112.4 signs. The candidate must document the need for these costs in writing or with photographs;
 112.5 and
- 112.6 (31) transition expenses and inaugural event expenses as defined in section 10A.174.

112.7 (b) The board must determine whether an activity involves a noncampaign disbursement
 112.8 within the meaning of this subdivision.

112.9 (c) A noncampaign disbursement is considered to be made in the year in which the
 112.10 candidate made the purchase of goods or services or incurred an obligation to pay for goods
 112.11 or services.

112.12 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 26b, is amended to read:

112.13 Subd. 26b. **Official action of a political subdivision.** "Official action of a political
 112.14 subdivision" means:

112.15 (1) any action that requires a vote or approval by one or more elected local officials
 112.16 while acting in their official capacity; or

112.17 (2) an action by an appointed or employed local official ~~to make, to recommend, or to~~
 112.18 ~~vote on as a member of the governing body,~~ if the official has:

112.19 (i) the authority to make major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of
 112.20 public money;

112.21 (ii) the responsibility to make recommendations to a chief executive or the governing
 112.22 body about major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of public money; or

112.23 (iii) the authority to vote as a member of the governing body on major decisions regarding
 112.24 the expenditure or investment of public money.

112.25 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.01, subdivision 35, is amended to read:

112.26 Subd. 35. **Public official.** "Public official" means any:

112.27 (1) member of the legislature;

112.28 (2) individual employed by the legislature as secretary of the senate, legislative auditor,
 112.29 director of the Legislative Budget Office, chief clerk of the house of representatives, revisor
 112.30 of statutes, or researcher, legislative analyst, fiscal analyst, or attorney in the Office of
 113.1 Senate Counsel, Research and Fiscal Analysis, House Research, or the House Fiscal Analysis
 113.2 Department;

113.3 (3) constitutional officer in the executive branch and the officer's chief administrative
 113.4 deputy;

113.5 (4) solicitor general or deputy, assistant, or special assistant attorney general;

113.6 (5) commissioner, deputy commissioner, or assistant commissioner of any state
 113.7 department or agency as listed in section 15.01 or 15.06, or the state chief information
 113.8 officer;

- 113.9 (6) member, chief administrative officer, or deputy chief administrative officer of a state
113.10 board or commission that has either the power to adopt, amend, or repeal rules under chapter
113.11 14, or the power to adjudicate contested cases or appeals under chapter 14;
- 113.12 (7) individual employed in the executive branch who is authorized to adopt, amend, or
113.13 repeal rules under chapter 14 or adjudicate contested cases under chapter 14;
- 113.14 (8) executive director of the State Board of Investment;
- 113.15 (9) deputy of any official listed in clauses (7) and (8);
- 113.16 (10) judge of the Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals;
- 113.17 (11) administrative law judge or compensation judge in the State Office of Administrative
113.18 Hearings or unemployment law judge in the Department of Employment and Economic
113.19 Development;
- 113.20 (12) member, regional administrator, division director, general counsel, or operations
113.21 manager of the Metropolitan Council;
- 113.22 (13) member or chief administrator of a metropolitan agency;
- 113.23 (14) director of the Division of Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement in the Department
113.24 of Public Safety;
- 113.25 (15) member or executive director of the Higher Education Facilities Authority;
- 113.26 (16) member of the board of directors or president of Enterprise Minnesota, Inc.;
- 113.27 (17) member of the board of directors or executive director of the Minnesota State High
113.28 School League;
- 113.29 (18) member of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority established in section 473.755;
- 113.30 (19) citizen member of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources;
- 114.1 ~~(20) manager of a watershed district, or member of a watershed management organization~~
114.2 ~~as defined under section 103B.205, subdivision 13;~~
- 114.3 ~~(21) supervisor of a soil and water conservation district;~~
- 114.4 ~~(22)~~ (20) director of Explore Minnesota Tourism;
- 114.5 ~~(23)~~ (21) citizen member of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council established in
114.6 section 97A.056;
- 114.7 ~~(24)~~ (22) citizen member of the Clean Water Council established in section 114D.30;
- 114.8 ~~(25)~~ (23) member or chief executive of the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority
114.9 established in section 473J.07;
- 114.10 ~~(26)~~ (24) district court judge, appeals court judge, or supreme court justice;

- 114.11 ~~(27) county commissioner;~~
- 114.12 ~~(28)~~ (25) member of the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission;
- 114.13 ~~(29)~~ (26) member of the Destination Medical Center Corporation established in section
- 114.14 469.41; or
- 114.15 ~~(30)~~ (27) chancellor or member of the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges
- 114.16 and Universities.
- 114.17 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- 114.18 Subd. 4. **Content.** (a) A report under this section must include information the board
- 114.19 requires from the registration form and the information required by this subdivision for the
- 114.20 reporting period.
- 114.21 (b) A lobbyist must report the specific subjects of interest for an entity represented by
- 114.22 the lobbyist on each report submitted under this section. A lobbyist must describe a specific
- 114.23 subject of interest in the report with enough information to show the particular issue of
- 114.24 importance to the entity represented.
- 114.25 (c) A lobbyist must report every state agency that had administrative action that the
- 114.26 represented entity sought to influence during the reporting period. The lobbyist must report
- 114.27 the specific subjects of interest for each administrative action and the revisor of statutes
- 114.28 rule draft number assigned to the administrative rulemaking.
- 114.29 (d) A lobbyist must report every political subdivision that considered official action that
- 114.30 the represented entity sought to influence during the reporting period. The lobbyist must
- 114.31 report the specific subjects of interest for each action.
- 115.1 (e) A lobbyist must report general lobbying categories and up to four specific subjects
- 115.2 of interest related to each general lobbying category on which the lobbyist attempted to
- 115.3 influence legislative action during the reporting period. If the lobbyist attempted to influence
- 115.4 legislative action on more than four specific subjects of interest for a general lobbying
- 115.5 category, the lobbyist, in consultation with the represented entity, must determine which
- 115.6 four specific subjects of interest were the entity's highest priorities during the reporting
- 115.7 period and report only those four subjects.
- 115.8 (f) A lobbyist must report the Public Utilities Commission project name for each rate
- 115.9 setting, power plant and powerline siting, or granting of certification of need before the
- 115.10 Public Utilities Commission that the represented entity sought to influence during the
- 115.11 reporting period.
- 115.12 (g) A lobbyist must report the amount and nature of each gift, item, or benefit, excluding
- 115.13 contributions to a candidate, equal in value to \$5 or more, given or paid to any official, as
- 115.14 defined in section 10A.071, subdivision 1, by the lobbyist or an employer or employee of
- 115.15 the lobbyist. The list must include the name and address of each official to whom the gift,
- 115.16 item, or benefit was given or paid and the date it was given or paid.

115.17 (h) A lobbyist must report each original source of money in excess of \$500 in any year
 115.18 used for the purpose of lobbying to influence legislative action, administrative action, or
 115.19 the official action of a political subdivision. The list must include the name, address, and
 115.20 employer, or, if self-employed, the occupation and principal place of business, of each payer
 115.21 of money in excess of \$500.

115.22 (i) On each report, a lobbyist must disclose the general lobbying categories that were
 115.23 lobbied on in the reporting period.

115.24 (j) A lobbyist must report each expert witness that the lobbyist requested to communicate
 115.25 with public or local officials as described in section 10A.01, subdivision 21, paragraph (b),
 115.26 clause (9), and each finance professional who participated in conduit financing as described
 115.27 in section 10A.01, subdivision 21, paragraph (b), clause (7). The lobbyist must report the
 115.28 name of the expert witness or finance professional; the employer, if any, of the expert witness
 115.29 or finance professional; the government entity that received the communication from the
 115.30 expert witness or finance professional; and the specific subject on which the expert witness
 115.31 or finance professional communicated. The designated lobbyist must also report this
 115.32 information if the expert witness or finance professional is requested to communicate by
 115.33 the principal or association that the lobbyist represents.

116.1 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.04, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

116.2 Subd. 6. **Principal reports.** (a) A principal must report to the board as required in this
 116.3 subdivision by March 15 for the preceding calendar year.

116.4 (b) The principal must report the total amount, rounded to the nearest \$5,000, spent by
 116.5 the principal during the preceding calendar year on each type of lobbying listed below:

116.6 (1) lobbying to influence legislative action;

116.7 (2) lobbying to influence administrative action, other than lobbying described in clause
 116.8 (3);

116.9 (3) lobbying to influence administrative action in cases of rate setting, power plant and
 116.10 powerline siting, and granting of certificates of need under section 216B.243; and

116.11 (4) lobbying to influence official action of a political subdivision.

116.12 (c) For each type of lobbying listed in paragraph (b), the principal must report a total
 116.13 amount that includes:

116.14 (1) the portion of all direct payments for compensation and benefits paid by the principal
 116.15 to lobbyists in this state for that type of lobbying;

116.16 (2) the portion of all expenditures for advertising, mailing, research, consulting, surveys,
 116.17 expert testimony, finance professionals, studies, reports, analysis, compilation and
 116.18 dissemination of information, communications and staff costs used for the purpose of urging
 116.19 members of the public to contact public or local officials to influence official actions, social

116.20 media and public relations campaigns, and legal counsel used to support that type of lobbying
116.21 in this state; and

116.22 (3) a reasonable good faith estimate of the portion of all salaries and administrative
116.23 overhead expenses attributable to activities of the principal for that type of lobbying in this
116.24 state.

116.25 (d) The principal must report disbursements made and obligations incurred that exceed
116.26 \$2,000 for paid advertising used for the purpose of urging members of the public to contact
116.27 public or local officials to influence official actions during the reporting period. Paid
116.28 advertising includes the cost to boost the distribution of an advertisement on social media.
116.29 The report must provide the date that the advertising was purchased, the name and address
116.30 of the vendor, a description of the advertising purchased, and any specific subjects of interest
116.31 addressed by the advertisement.

117.1 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.06, is amended to read:

117.2 **10A.06 CONTINGENT FEES PROHIBITED.**

117.3 (a) No person may act as or employ a lobbyist for compensation that is dependent upon
117.4 the result or outcome of any legislative or administrative action, or of the official action of
117.5 a political subdivision.

117.6 (b) This section does not apply to an attorney or financial professional to the extent that
117.7 the attorney or financial adviser is participating in conduit financing through a political
117.8 subdivision.

117.9 (c) A person who violates this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

117.10 Sec. 17. **[10A.066] HANDBOOK FOR LOBBYING.**

117.11 (a) The board must publish on the board's website a handbook for lobbying written in
117.12 plain language. At a minimum, the handbook must clearly explain:

117.13 (1) lobbyist registration requirements, including:

117.14 (i) an explanation of when a person is required to register as a lobbyist and what specific
117.15 types of activities count toward reaching the dollar amount thresholds in section 10A.01,
117.16 subdivision 21; and

117.17 (ii) how registration requirements apply if a person is employed by a government entity;

117.18 (2) which activities and expenses do not count toward the dollar amount thresholds in
117.19 section 10A.01, subdivision 21, but are required to be reported as lobbying disbursements
117.20 on a principal's report; and

117.21 (3) any differences between lobbying the legislature, the executive branch, a political
117.22 subdivision, and the Public Utilities Commission.

117.23 (b) The board must regularly update the handbook to reflect changes to statutes and
 117.24 rules. In developing and updating the handbook, the board must consult individuals who
 117.25 are registered lobbyists but who are not full-time professional lobbyists, including lobbyists
 117.26 for nonprofit organizations, small organizations, and organizations led by individuals who
 117.27 are Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

117.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment, except
 117.29 that the board is not required to publish the handbook until January 15, 2026.

118.1 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.07, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

118.2 Subdivision 1. **Disclosure of potential conflicts.** (a) A public official or a local official
 118.3 elected to or appointed by a metropolitan governmental unit or by a political subdivision
 118.4 who in the discharge of official duties would be required to take an action or make a decision
 118.5 that would substantially affect the official's financial interests or those of an associated
 118.6 business, unless the effect on the official is no greater than on other members of the official's
 118.7 business classification, profession, or occupation, must take the following actions:

118.8 (1) prepare a written statement describing the matter requiring action or decision and
 118.9 the nature of the potential conflict of interest;

118.10 (2) deliver copies of the statement to the official's immediate superior, if any; and

118.11 (3) if a member of the legislature ~~or of the~~, a governing body of a metropolitan
 118.12 governmental unit, or a political subdivision, deliver a copy of the statement to the presiding
 118.13 officer of the body of service.

118.14 If a potential conflict of interest presents itself and there is insufficient time to comply
 118.15 with clauses (1) to (3), the public or local official must orally inform the superior or the
 118.16 official body of service or committee of the body of the potential conflict.

118.17 (b) For purposes of this section, "financial interest" means any ownership or control in
 118.18 an asset that has the potential to produce a monetary return.

118.19 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.07, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

118.20 Subd. 2. **Required actions.** (a) If the official is not a member of the legislature or of the
 118.21 governing body of a metropolitan governmental unit or of a political subdivision, the superior
 118.22 must assign the matter, if possible, to another employee who does not have a potential
 118.23 conflict of interest.

118.24 (b) If there is no immediate superior, the official must abstain, if possible, by assigning
 118.25 the matter to a subordinate for disposition or requesting the appointing authority to designate
 118.26 another to determine the matter. The official shall not chair a meeting, participate in any
 118.27 vote, or offer any motion or discussion on the matter giving rise to the potential conflict of
 118.28 interest.

118.29 (c) If the official is a member of the legislature, the house of service may, at the member's
 118.30 request, excuse the member from taking part in the action or decision in question.

118.31 (d) If an official is not permitted or is otherwise unable to abstain from action in
 118.32 connection with the matter, the official must file a statement describing the potential conflict
 119.1 and the action taken. A public official must file the statement with the board and a local
 119.2 official must file the statement with the governing body of the official's political subdivision.
 119.3 The statement must be filed within a week of the action taken.

119.4 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.08, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

119.5 Subdivision 1. **Disclosure required.** (a) A public official or elected local official who
 119.6 represents a client for a fee before an individual, board, commission, or agency that has
 119.7 rulemaking authority in a hearing conducted under chapter 14, must disclose the official's
 119.8 participation in the action to the board within 14 days after the public official's initial
 119.9 appearance at a hearing. If the public official fails to disclose the participation by the date
 119.10 that the disclosure was due, the board may impose a late filing fee of \$25 per day, not to
 119.11 exceed \$1,000, starting on the day after the disclosure was due. The board must send notice
 119.12 by certified mail to a public official who fails to disclose the participation within ten business
 119.13 days after the disclosure was due that the public official may be subject to a civil penalty
 119.14 for failure to disclose the participation. A public official who fails to disclose the participation
 119.15 within seven days after the certified mail notice was sent by the board is subject to a civil
 119.16 penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000.

119.17 (b) A public official or elected local official required to disclose representation under
 119.18 this section shall provide the following information: name, address, and office held; name
 119.19 and address of each client represented at the hearing; the name of the individual, board,
 119.20 commission, or agency conducting the hearing and the date and location of the initial
 119.21 appearance at the hearing; and a general description of the subject or subjects on which the
 119.22 public official represented the client in the hearing.

119.23 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

119.24 Subdivision 1. **Time for filing.** An individual must file a statement of economic interest:

119.25 (1) within 60 days of ~~accepting employment as a public official or a local official in a~~
 119.26 ~~metropolitan governmental unit~~ undertaking the duties of office or accepting employment
 119.27 as a public official or as a local official in a political subdivision or metropolitan
 119.28 governmental unit;

119.29 (2) within 60 days of accepting employment by a charter school in a position in which
 119.30 the person has:

119.31 (i) the authority to make major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of
 119.32 public money;

52.11 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

52.12 Subdivision 1. **Time for filing.** An individual must file a statement of economic interest:

52.13 (1) within 60 days of accepting employment as a public official or a local official in a
 52.14 metropolitan governmental unit;

120.1 (ii) the responsibility to make recommendations to a chief executive or the governing
 120.2 body about major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of public money; or

120.3 (iii) the authority to vote as a member of the governing body on major decisions regarding
 120.4 the expenditure or investment of public money;

120.5 (3) within 60 days of assuming office as a district court judge, appeals court judge,
 120.6 supreme court justice, ~~or county commissioner~~ or member of a watershed management
 120.7 organization as defined in section 103B.205, subdivision 13;

120.8 ~~(3)~~ (4) within 14 days after filing the end of the filing period for a candidate who filed
 120.9 an affidavit of candidacy or petition to appear on the ballot for an elective state constitutional
 120.10 or legislative office or an elective local office ~~in a metropolitan governmental unit other~~
 120.11 ~~than county commissioner~~;

120.12 (5) in the case of an individual running for a charter school board, at least 14 days before
 120.13 the election;

120.14 (6) in the case of an initial member of a charter school board, within 14 days of taking
 120.15 office;

120.16 ~~(4)~~ (7) in the case of a public official requiring the advice and consent of the senate,
 120.17 within 14 days after undertaking the duties of office; or

120.18 ~~(5)~~ (8) in the case of members of the Minnesota Racing Commission, the director of the
 120.19 Minnesota Racing Commission, chief of security, medical officer, inspector of pari-mutuels,
 120.20 and stewards employed or approved by the commission or persons who fulfill those duties
 120.21 under contract, within 60 days of accepting or assuming duties.

120.22 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.09, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

120.23 Subd. 5. **Form; general requirements.** (a) A statement of economic interest required
 120.24 by this section must be on a form prescribed by the board. Except as provided in subdivision
 120.25 5b, the individual filing must provide the following information:

120.26 (1) the individual's name, address, occupation, and principal place of business;

120.27 (2) a listing of the name of each associated business and the nature of that association;

120.28 (3) a listing of all real property within the state, excluding homestead property, in which
 120.29 the individual or the individual's spouse holds: (i) a fee simple interest, a mortgage, a contract
 120.30 for deed as buyer or seller, or an option to buy, whether direct or indirect, if the interest is
 120.31 valued in excess of \$2,500; or (ii) an option to buy, if the property has a fair market value
 120.32 of more than \$50,000;

121.1 (4) a listing of all real property within the state in which a partnership of which the
 121.2 individual or the individual's spouse is a member holds: (i) a fee simple interest, a mortgage,

52.15 (2) within 60 days of assuming office as a district court judge, appeals court judge,
 52.16 supreme court justice, or county commissioner;

52.17 (3) within 14 days after filing the candidate filing period ends where the candidate filed
 52.18 an affidavit of candidacy or petition to appear on the ballot for an elective state constitutional
 52.19 or legislative office or an elective local office in a metropolitan governmental unit other
 52.20 than county commissioner;

52.21 (4) in the case of a public official requiring the advice and consent of the senate, within
 52.22 14 days after undertaking the duties of office; or

52.23 (5) in the case of members of the Minnesota Racing Commission, the director of the
 52.24 Minnesota Racing Commission, chief of security, medical officer, inspector of pari-mutuels,
 52.25 and stewards employed or approved by the commission or persons who fulfill those duties
 52.26 under contract, within 60 days of accepting or assuming duties.

52.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

- 121.3 a contract for deed as buyer or seller, or an option to buy, whether direct or indirect, if the
 121.4 individual's share of the partnership interest is valued in excess of \$2,500; or (ii) an option
 121.5 to buy, if the property has a fair market value of more than \$50,000. A listing under this
 121.6 clause or clause (3) must indicate the street address and the municipality or the section,
 121.7 township, range and approximate acreage, whichever applies, and the county in which the
 121.8 property is located;
- 121.9 (5) a listing of any investments, ownership, or interests in property connected with
 121.10 pari-mutuel horse racing in the United States and Canada, including a racehorse, in which
 121.11 the individual directly or indirectly holds a partial or full interest or an immediate family
 121.12 member holds a partial or full interest;
- 121.13 (6) a listing of the principal business or professional activity category of each business
 121.14 from which the individual or the individual's spouse receives more than \$250 in any month
 121.15 during the reporting period as an employee, if the individual or the individual's spouse has
 121.16 an ownership interest of 25 percent or more in the business;
- 121.17 (7) a listing of each principal business or professional activity category from which the
 121.18 individual or the individual's spouse received compensation of more than \$2,500 in the past
 121.19 12 months as an independent contractor;
- 121.20 (8) a listing of the full name of each security with a value of more than \$10,000 owned
 121.21 in part or in full by the individual or the individual's spouse, at any time during the reporting
 121.22 period; ~~and~~
- 121.23 (9) for each stock or stock option reported under clause (8), a listing of the date or dates
 121.24 and value as provided in paragraph (h) of each purchase or sale of stock or exercise, sale,
 121.25 or transaction involving the stock option in that entity during the reporting period, regardless
 121.26 of the value of the transaction;
- 121.27 (10) a listing of the full name of each virtual currency with a value of more than \$10,000
 121.28 owned in part or in full by the individual or the individual's spouse at any time during the
 121.29 reporting period;
- 121.30 (11) for each virtual currency reported under clause (10), a listing of the date or dates
 121.31 and value as provided in paragraph (h) of each purchase or sale of that virtual currency
 121.32 during the reporting period, regardless of the value of the purchase or sale; and
- 121.33 (12) a listing of any contract, professional license, lease, or franchise that:
- 122.1 (i) is held by the individual or the individual's spouse or any business in which the
 122.2 individual has an ownership interest of 25 percent or more; and
- 122.3 (ii) is entered into with, or issued by, the government agency on which the individual
 122.4 serves as a public or local official.
- 122.5 (b) The business or professional categories for purposes of paragraph (a), clauses (6)
 122.6 and (7), must be the general topic headings used by the federal Internal Revenue Service

- 122.7 for purposes of reporting self-employment income on Schedule C. This paragraph does not
 122.8 require an individual to report any specific code number from that schedule. Any additional
 122.9 principal business or professional activity category may only be adopted if the category is
 122.10 enacted by law.
- 122.11 (c) For the purpose of calculating the amount of compensation received from any single
 122.12 source in a single month, the amount shall include the total amount received from the source
 122.13 during the month, whether or not the amount covers compensation for more than one month.
- 122.14 (d) For the purpose of determining the value of an individual's interest in real property,
 122.15 the value of the property is the market value shown on the property tax statement.
- 122.16 (e) For the purpose of this section, "date of appointment" means the effective date of
 122.17 appointment to a position.
- 122.18 (f) For the purpose of this section, "accepting employment as a public official" means
 122.19 the effective date of the appointment to the position, as stated in the appointing authority's
 122.20 notice to the board.
- 122.21 (g) The listings required in paragraph (a), clauses (3) to ~~(9)~~ (12), must not identify
 122.22 whether the individual or the individual's spouse is associated with or owns the listed item.
- 122.23 (h) For the purposes of paragraph (a), clauses (9) and (11), the statement must allow the
 122.24 filer to select one of the following ranges for each reported purchase, sale, exercise, or
 122.25 transaction:
- 122.26 (1) \$1 to \$10,000;
- 122.27 (2) \$10,001 to \$50,000;
- 122.28 (3) \$50,001 to \$100,000;
- 122.29 (4) \$100,001 to \$250,000;
- 122.30 (5) \$250,001 to \$500,000;
- 122.31 (6) \$500,001 to \$1,000,000;
- 123.1 (7) \$1,000,001 to \$5,000,000;
- 123.2 (8) \$5,000,001 to \$25,000,000;
- 123.3 (9) \$25,000,001 to \$50,000,000; and
- 123.4 (10) over \$50,000,000.
- 123.5 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.09, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:
- 123.6 Subd. 5a. **Original statement; reporting period.** ~~(a) An original statement of economic~~
 123.7 ~~interest required under subdivision 1, clause (1), must cover the calendar month before the~~
 123.8 ~~month in which the individual accepted employment as a public official or a local official~~

123.9 ~~in a metropolitan governmental unit.~~ (4), must cover the calendar month before the month
 123.10 in which the candidate filed the affidavit of candidacy. An original statement of economic
 123.11 interest required under subdivision 1, clause (5), must cover the month before the month in
 123.12 which the candidates' names are provided to eligible voters in accordance with section
 123.13 124E.07, subdivision 5, paragraph (d). In all other cases an original statement of economic
 123.14 interest must cover the calendar month before the month in which the individual assumed
 123.15 the duties of office or accepted the position that required the filing of the statement.

123.16 (b) ~~An original statement of economic interest required under subdivision 1, clauses (2);~~
 123.17 ~~(4), and (5), must cover the calendar month before the month in which the individual assumed~~
 123.18 ~~or undertook the duties of office.~~

123.19 (c) ~~An original statement of economic interest required under subdivision 1, clause (3);~~
 123.20 ~~must cover the calendar month before the month in which the candidate filed the affidavit~~
 123.21 ~~of candidacy.~~

123.22 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.09, subdivision 6a, is amended to read:

123.23 Subd. 6a. **Place of filing.** A public official required to file a statement under this section
 123.24 must file it with the board. A county commissioner, soil and water conservation district
 123.25 supervisor, manager of a watershed district, or member of a watershed management
 123.26 organization as defined in section 103B.205, subdivision 13, must file the statement with
 123.27 the board. A local candidate or local official required to file a statement under this section
 123.28 must file it with the governing body of the official's political subdivision. The governing
 123.29 body must maintain statements filed with it under this subdivision as public data. If an
 123.30 official position is defined as both a public official and as a local official ~~of a metropolitan~~
 123.31 ~~governmental unit~~ under this chapter, the official must file the statement with the board.

124.1 Sec. 25. **[10A.174] INAUGURAL EVENT AND TRANSITION EXPENSES.**

124.2 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
 124.3 the meanings given.

124.4 (b) "Inaugural event expenses" means expenses incurred for any event related to the
 124.5 individual's inauguration held between the date of the general election at which an individual
 124.6 is elected to a statewide office and January 31 of the year in which the officeholder takes
 124.7 office. In the event that an individual fills a vacancy in a constitutional office, "inaugural
 124.8 event expenses" means expenses incurred for any event related to the individual's
 124.9 inauguration between the time that it was confirmed that the individual would assume the
 124.10 constitutional office and the date four weeks after the individual is sworn into office.

124.11 (c) "Transition expenses" means expenses incurred in preparing for the assumption of
 124.12 official duties as governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor, or attorney
 124.13 general. Expenses include but are not limited to establishment of a transition office, the
 124.14 dissolution of the office, office space and equipment, communications and technology
 124.15 support, consulting services, compensation and travel costs, and other reasonable expenses.

124.16 Transition expenses do not include expenses that are incurred after the officeholder takes
124.17 office.

124.18 Subd. 2. **Inaugural event and transition expenses; contributions.** A candidate or a
124.19 candidate's principal campaign committee must not solicit or accept any contributions for
124.20 or make any expenditure for inaugural event expenses or transition expenses except through
124.21 the candidate's principal campaign committee or as otherwise prescribed by law.

124.22 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.175, is amended by adding a subdivision
124.23 to read:

124.24 Subd. 5a. **Disbursement.** "Disbursement" means a purchase or payment subject to this
124.25 chapter made by any person.

124.26 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.176, is amended to read:

124.27 **10A.176 COORDINATED EXPENDITURES.**

124.28 Subdivision 1. **Definition; scope.** ~~An expenditure described in this section that expressly~~
124.29 ~~advocates for the election of the candidate or the defeat of the candidate's opponent is a~~
124.30 ~~coordinated expenditure and is not independent under section 10A.01, subdivision 18. A~~
124.31 ~~disbursement is a coordinated expenditure and is not independent under section 10A.01,~~
124.32 ~~subdivision 18, where it:~~

125.1 (1) satisfies at least one of the content standards in subdivision 1a; and

125.2 (2) satisfies at least one of the conduct standards in subdivisions 2 to 8.

125.3 Subd. 1a. **Content standards.** A disbursement for any of the content outlined in this
125.4 subdivision satisfies the content standard of this section if it is:

125.5 (1) a communication that expressly advocates for the election or defeat of the candidate,
125.6 as defined under section 10A.01, subdivision 16a;

125.7 (2) a communication that promotes, supports, attacks, or opposes the nomination, election,
125.8 or defeat of the clearly identified candidate; or

125.9 (3) an electioneering communication, as defined under section 10A.201.

125.10 Subd. 2. **Conduct standard; fundraising.** (a) ~~An expenditure is a coordinated~~
125.11 ~~expenditure~~ A disbursement satisfies the conduct standard of this section if the expenditure
125.12 disbursement is made on or after January 1 of the year the office will appear on the ballot
125.13 by a spender for which the candidate, on or after January 1 of the year the office will appear
125.14 on the ballot, has engaged in fundraising of money that is not general treasury money, as
125.15 defined in section 10A.01, subdivision 17c, of the spender.

125.16 (b) For purposes of this subdivision, candidate fundraising includes:

125.17 (1) soliciting or collecting money for or to the spender that is not general treasury money;

125.18 and

- 125.19 (2) appearing for the spender as a speaker at an event raising money that is not general
 125.20 treasury money.
- 125.21 (c) This subdivision does not apply to a candidate's fundraising on behalf of a party unit.
- 125.22 Subd. 3. **Conduct standard; relationship with spender.** ~~An expenditure is a coordinated~~
 125.23 ~~expenditure~~ A disbursement satisfies the conduct standard of this section if the ~~expenditure~~
 125.24 disbursement is made on or after January 1 of the year the office will appear on the ballot
 125.25 by a spender that:
- 125.26 (1) is not a party unit; and
- 125.27 (2) is an association, political committee, political fund, independent expenditure political
 125.28 committee, or independent expenditure political fund, in which the candidate was a
 125.29 chairperson, deputy chairperson, treasurer, or deputy treasurer on or after January 1 of the
 125.30 year the office will appear on the ballot.
- 126.1 Subd. 4. **Conduct standard; consulting services.** (a) ~~An expenditure is a coordinated~~
 126.2 ~~expenditure~~ A disbursement satisfies the conduct standard of this section if the ~~expenditure~~
 126.3 disbursement is made during an election segment for consulting services from a consultant
 126.4 who has also provided consulting services to the candidate or the candidate's opponent
 126.5 during that same election segment.
- 126.6 (b) This subdivision does not apply when the following conditions are met:
- 126.7 (1) the consultant assigns separate personnel to the spender and the candidate;
- 126.8 (2) the consultant has a written policy that describes the measures that the consultant
 126.9 has taken to prohibit the flow of information between the personnel providing services to
 126.10 the spender and the personnel providing services to the candidate;
- 126.11 (3) the written policy has been distributed to all personnel and clients covered by the
 126.12 policy, including the candidate and the spender;
- 126.13 (4) the consultant has implemented the measures described in the written policy; and
- 126.14 (5) no information has been shared between the spender and the personnel that provided
 126.15 services to the spender and the candidate and the personnel providing services to the
 126.16 candidate.
- 126.17 Subd. 5. **Conduct standard; receiving information not publicly available.** ~~An~~
 126.18 ~~expenditure is a coordinated expenditure~~ A disbursement satisfies the conduct standard of
 126.19 this section if the ~~expenditure~~ disbursement is made after the spender receives from the
 126.20 candidate information that is not publicly available regarding the candidate's campaign
 126.21 plans, strategy, or needs.
- 126.22 Subd. 6. **Conduct standard; spender-provided information.** ~~An expenditure is a~~
 126.23 ~~coordinated expenditure~~ A disbursement satisfies the conduct standard of this section if the
 126.24 ~~expenditure~~ disbursement is made when:

126.25 (1) the spender provides information to the candidate regarding the ~~expenditure's~~
 126.26 ~~disbursement's~~ contents, intended audience, timing, location or mode, volume, or frequency;
 126.27 ~~and~~

126.28 (2) the information is provided to the candidate before the ~~expenditure~~ ~~disbursement~~ is
 126.29 ~~communicated to the public.~~

126.30 Subd. 7. **Conduct standard; candidate's participation.** ~~An expenditure is a coordinated~~
 126.31 ~~expenditure~~ A disbursement satisfies the conduct standard of this section if the ~~expenditure~~
 126.32 ~~disbursement~~ is made with the candidate's participation in the following:

127.1 (1) any of the processes required for the creation and development of the ~~expenditure~~
 127.2 ~~disbursement~~, including budgeting decisions, media design, acquisition of graphics and
 127.3 ~~text, production, and distribution of the final product; or~~

127.4 (2) any decision regarding the content, timing, location, intended audience, volume of
 127.5 ~~distribution, or frequency of the expenditure disbursement.~~

127.6 Subd. 8. **Conduct standard; instructions or directions from candidate.** A disbursement
 127.7 ~~satisfies the conduct standard of this section if the disbursement is materially consistent~~
 127.8 ~~with instructions or directions from a candidate regarding the making of disbursements,~~
 127.9 ~~regardless of whether the instructions or directions are publicly available. The factors the~~
 127.10 ~~board must consider in determining whether a disbursement is consistent with instructions~~
 127.11 ~~or directions from a candidate under this clause include but are not limited to:~~

127.12 (1) ~~noticeable placement of instructions or directions on a discrete webpage or portion~~
 127.13 ~~of a webpage containing one or more other factors identified in this paragraph;~~

127.14 (2) ~~whether the instructions or directions include language indicating that information~~
 127.15 ~~should be communicated to others or indicates information is intended for voters, including~~
 127.16 ~~but not limited to the phrase "voters need to know";~~

127.17 (3) ~~whether the instructions or directions include targeted audience information, such~~
 127.18 ~~as specific demographics or the location of intended or suggested recipients;~~

127.19 (4) ~~whether the instructions or directions include suggested methods of communication,~~
 127.20 ~~including indications that recipients need to hear, see, see on the go, or receive information~~
 127.21 ~~in other similar manners; and~~

127.22 (5) ~~whether there are additional documents linked to the instructions or directions to~~
 127.23 ~~provide verification that the recommended messaging would be effective.~~

127.24 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.177, is amended to read:

127.25 **10A.177 NONCOORDINATED EXPENDITURES DISBURSEMENTS.**

127.26 (a) Any of the following actions, taken alone, do not establish that ~~an expenditure~~ a
 127.27 ~~disbursement~~ made by the spender is coordinated with the candidate:

127.28 (1) a candidate asks a spender not to make any expenditure to support the candidate or
 127.29 oppose the candidate's opponent or any disbursement for an electioneering communication
 127.30 that references the candidate or the candidate's opponent;

128.1 (2) a candidate provides to a spender names of potential donors, as long as the spender
 128.2 does not state or suggest to the candidate that funds received from use of the donor list will
 128.3 be used for independent expenditures to benefit the candidate;

128.4 (3) ~~an expenditure~~ a disbursement uses a photograph, video, or audio recording obtained
 128.5 from a publicly available source or public event;

128.6 (4) ~~an expenditure~~ a disbursement uses information obtained from a biography, position
 128.7 paper, press release, or similar material about the candidate from a publicly available source
 128.8 or public event;

128.9 (5) the spender contributes to the candidate, makes an in-kind donation to the candidate,
 128.10 or endorses the candidate;

128.11 (6) ~~an expenditure~~ a disbursement includes a hyperlink to the candidate's website or
 128.12 social media page;

128.13 (7) ~~an expenditure~~ a disbursement appears in a news story, commentary, or editorial
 128.14 distributed through the facilities of any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, or other
 128.15 periodical publication by any broadcasting station, including a cable or streaming television
 128.16 operator, programmer, or producer; website; newspaper; magazine; or other periodical
 128.17 publication, including any Internet or electronic publication. If the facility is owned or
 128.18 controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate, the news story must:

128.19 (i) represent a bona fide news account communicated in a publication of general
 128.20 circulation or on a licensed broadcasting facility; and

128.21 (ii) be part of a general pattern of campaign-related news accounts that give reasonably
 128.22 equal coverage to all opposing candidates in the circulation or listening area;

128.23 (8) the spender discusses the candidate's position on a legislative or policy matter with
 128.24 the candidate. This clause includes the sending, completion, and return of a survey conducted
 128.25 by the spender to determine whether to endorse the candidate; or

128.26 (9) the spender invites the candidate to appear before the spender's members, employees,
 128.27 or shareholders, including the candidate's participation in the event, unless the event promotes
 128.28 the election of the candidate or the defeat of the candidate's opponent, or the candidate
 128.29 requests or accepts campaign contributions at the event.

128.30 (b) Paragraph (a), clause (4), does not apply to publicly available instructions or directions
 128.31 from a candidate regarding the making of expenditures under section 10A.176, subdivision
 128.32 8;

129.1 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.20, is amended by adding a subdivision to
 129.2 read:

129.3 Subd. 5a. **Report on personal contributions.** A candidate for constitutional or legislative
 129.4 office that makes a contribution or loan to the candidate's principal campaign committee
 129.5 that, in aggregate, exceeds the amount permitted by section 10A.27, subdivision 10, must
 129.6 report the contribution or loan to the board by the next business day. A candidate must file
 129.7 a new report each time that the reporting threshold is exceeded during an election cycle
 129.8 segment.

129.9 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.201, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

129.10 Subd. 6. **Electioneering communication.** (a) "Electioneering communication" means
 129.11 any broadcast, cable, satellite, telephone, or digital communication that:

129.12 (1) refers to a clearly identified candidate for state office;

129.13 (2) is publicly distributed within 60 days before a general election for the office sought
 129.14 by the candidate, within 30 days before a after the start of the absentee voting period prior
 129.15 to the state or special primary election for the office sought by the candidate when the office
 129.16 sought will be on the general or special election ballot through the date of the general or
 129.17 special election for that office, or within 30 days before a convention of a political party
 129.18 unit that has authority to endorse a candidate for the office sought by the candidate; and

129.19 (3) is targeted to the relevant electorate.

129.20 (b) A communication is not an electioneering communication if it:

129.21 (1) is publicly disseminated through a means of communication other than a broadcast,
 129.22 cable, satellite television, or radio station, by telephone, in a digital format online, or by
 129.23 other electronic means;

129.24 (2) appears in a news story, commentary, or editorial distributed through the facilities
 129.25 of any broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station, unless such facilities are
 129.26 owned or controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate, provided that
 129.27 a news story distributed through a broadcast, cable, or satellite television or radio station
 129.28 owned or controlled by any political party, political committee, or candidate is not an
 129.29 electioneering communication if the news story meets the requirements described in Code
 129.30 of Federal Regulations, title 11, section 100.132 (a) and (b);

129.31 (3) constitutes an expenditure or independent expenditure, provided that the expenditure
 129.32 or independent expenditure is required to be reported under this chapter;

130.1 (4) constitutes a candidate debate or forum, or that solely promotes such a debate or
 130.2 forum and is made by or on behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or forum;

130.3 (5) is paid for by a candidate;

130.4 (6) is a noncommercial solicitation for the purposes of opinion research, including but
 130.5 not limited to opinion research designed for understanding the impact of exposure to political
 130.6 messages and content, provided that the solicitation is not designed to influence respondents'
 130.7 views by presenting biased or manipulative content under the guise of it being an opinion
 130.8 poll, survey, or other form of scientific data collection; or

130.9 (7) is a communication disseminated by telephone, in a digital format online, or by other
 130.10 electronic means that the recipient has affirmatively and voluntarily consented to receive
 130.11 from the sender.

130.12 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.202, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

130.13 Subd. 4. **Disclaimer required.** An electioneering communication must include a
 130.14 disclaimer in the same manner as required for campaign material under as required by
 130.15 section 211B.04, subdivision 1, paragraph (c) 2a.

130.16 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 10A.36, is amended to read:

130.17 **10A.36 REPRISALS PROHIBITED; PENALTY.**

130.18 (a) An employer, individual, or association must not engage in economic reprisals or
 130.19 threaten loss of employment or physical coercion against an individual or association because
 130.20 of that individual's or association's:

130.21 (1) political contributions or political activity including for becoming a candidate or
 130.22 local candidate for elected public office, unless precluded by other law; or

130.23 (2) refusal to communicate with public or local officials to influence a decision about a
 130.24 legislative or administrative action or the official action of a political subdivision.

130.25 (b) This ~~subdivision~~ section does not apply to compensation for employment or, loss of
 130.26 employment ~~if~~, or economic reprisals:

130.27 (1) if the political affiliation or viewpoint of the employee is a bona fide occupational
 130.28 qualification of the employment; or

130.29 (2) for communications described in paragraph (a), clause (2), if the individual's
 130.30 responsibilities, through employment or contract, include communicating with public or
 130.31 local officials.

131.1 (c) An individual or association injured by a violation of this section may bring a civil
 131.2 action in district court for damages, injunctive relief, costs and reasonable attorney fees,
 131.3 and any other relief the court deems just and equitable, including reinstatement of
 131.4 employment.

131.5 (d) An employer, individual, or association that violates this section is guilty of a gross
 131.6 misdemeanor. The board may refer a violation of this section to the appropriate county
 131.7 attorney.

131.8 (e) For purposes of this section, "employer" means a person or entity that employs one
 131.9 or more employees and includes an individual, corporation, partnership, association, business,
 131.10 trust, nonprofit organization, group of persons, legislature, judicial branch, state, county,
 131.11 town, city, school district, or other governmental subdivision.

131.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2025, and applies to violations
 131.13 committed on or after that date and to causes of action accruing on or after that date.

131.14 Sec. 33. **[10A.52] MAJOR DECISION OF NONELECTED LOCAL OFFICIALS.**

131.15 Subdivision 1. **Major decision regarding the expenditure of public money.** (a)
 131.16 Attempting to influence a nonelected local official is lobbying if the nonelected local official
 131.17 has:

131.18 (1) the authority to make major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of
 131.19 public money;

131.20 (2) the responsibility to make recommendations to a chief executive or the governing
 131.21 body about major decisions regarding the expenditure or investment of public money; or

131.22 (3) the authority to vote as a member of the governing body on major decisions regarding
 131.23 the expenditure or investment of public money.

131.24 (b) The mere act of submitting an application for a grant or responding to a request for
 131.25 proposals is not lobbying. Communications of a purely administrative or technical nature
 131.26 regarding the submission of a grant application or response to requests for proposals are
 131.27 not lobbying.

131.28 Subd. 2. **Actions that are a major decision regarding public funds.** A major decision
 131.29 regarding the expenditure or investment of public money includes but is not limited to a
 131.30 decision on:

132.1 (1) the development and ratification of operating and capital budgets of a political
 132.2 subdivision, including development of the budget request for an office or department within
 132.3 the political subdivision;

132.4 (2) whether to apply for or accept state, federal, or private grant funding;

132.5 (3) selecting recipients for government grants from the political subdivision; or

132.6 (4) tax abatement, tax increment financing, or expenditures on public infrastructure used
 132.7 to support private housing or business developments.

132.8 Subd. 3. **Actions that are not a major decision.** A major decision regarding the
 132.9 expenditure of public money does not include:

132.10 (1) the purchase of goods or services with public funds in the operating or capital budget
 132.11 of a political subdivision;

132.12 (2) collective bargaining of a labor contract on behalf of a political subdivision; or
132.13 (3) participating in discussions with a party or a party's representative regarding litigation
132.14 between the party and the political subdivision of the local official.

132.15 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 124E.03, is amended by adding a subdivision
132.16 to read:

132.17 Subd. 11. **Statement of economic interest.** Members of charter school boards and
132.18 persons employed as charter school directors and chief administrators are subject to the
132.19 requirements of section 10A.09.

132.20 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211A.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

132.21 Subdivision 1. **When and where filed by committees or candidates.** (a) A committee
132.22 or a candidate who receives contributions or makes disbursements of more than \$750 in a
132.23 calendar year shall submit an initial report to the filing officer within 14 days after the
132.24 candidate or committee receives or makes disbursements of more than \$750 and must
132.25 continue to make the reports required by this subdivision until a final report is filed.

132.26 (b) In a year in which a candidate receives contributions or makes disbursements of
132.27 more than \$750 or the candidate's name appears on the ballot, the candidate must file a
132.28 report:

132.29 (1) ten days before the primary or special primary if a primary is held in the jurisdiction,
132.30 regardless of whether the candidate is on the primary ballot. If a primary is not conducted,
132.31 the report is due ten days before the primary date specified in section 205.065;

133.1 (2) ten days before the general election or special election; and

133.2 (3) 30 days after a general or special election.

133.3 The reporting obligations in this paragraph begin with the first report due after the reporting
133.4 period in which the candidate reaches the spending threshold specified in paragraph (a). A
133.5 candidate who did not file for office is not required to file reports required by this paragraph
133.6 that are due after the end of the filing period. A candidate whose name will not be on the
133.7 general election ballot is not required to file the reports required by clauses (2) and (3).

133.8 (c) Until a final report is filed, a candidate must file a report by January 31 of each year.
133.9 Notwithstanding subdivision 2, clause (4), the report required by this subdivision must only
133.10 include the information from the previous calendar year.

133.11 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211A.02, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

133.12 Subd. 2. **Information required.** The report to be filed by a candidate or committee must
133.13 include:

133.14 (1) the name of the candidate and office sought;

82.13 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211A.02, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

82.14 Subd. 2. **Information required.** The report to be filed by a candidate or committee must
82.15 include:

82.16 (1) the name of the candidate and office sought;

133.15 (2) the printed name, address, telephone number, signature, and email address, ~~if available,~~
 133.16 ~~of the person responsible for filing the report. If the person responsible for filing the report~~
 133.17 ~~does not have~~ an email address, the person must include an attestation to that effect;
 133.18 (3) the total cash on hand designated to be used for political purposes;
 133.19 (4) the total amount of contributions received and the total amount of disbursements for
 133.20 the period from the last previous report to five days before the current report is due;
 133.21 (5) if disbursements made to the same vendor exceed \$100 in the aggregate during the
 133.22 period covered by the report, the name and address for the vendor and the amount, date,
 133.23 and purpose for each disbursement; and
 133.24 (6) the name, address, and employer, or occupation if self-employed, of any individual
 133.25 or entity that during the period covered by the report has made one or more contributions
 133.26 that in the aggregate exceed \$100, and the amount and date of each contribution. The filing
 133.27 officer must restrict public access to the address of any individual who has made a
 133.28 contribution that exceeds \$100 and who has filed with the filing officer a written statement
 133.29 signed by the individual that withholding the individual's address from the financial report
 133.30 is required for the safety of the individual or the individual's family.

134.1 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

134.2 Subdivision 1. **Campaign material.** (a) A person who participates in the preparation or
 134.3 dissemination of campaign material ~~other than as provided in section 211B.05, subdivision~~
 134.4 ~~1,~~ that does not prominently include the name and address of the person or committee
 134.5 causing the material to be prepared or disseminated in a disclaimer substantially in the form
 134.6 provided in paragraph (b) or (c) is guilty of a misdemeanor.

134.7 (b) Except in cases covered by paragraph (c), the required form of disclaimer is: "~~Prepared~~
 134.8 ~~and~~ Paid for by the committee, (address)" for material prepared and paid for by
 134.9 a principal campaign committee, or "~~Prepared and~~ Paid for by the committee,
 134.10 (address)" for material prepared and paid for by a person or committee other than a principal
 134.11 campaign committee. The address must be either the committee's mailing address or the
 134.12 committee's website, if the website includes the committee's mailing address. If the material
 134.13 is produced and disseminated without cost, the words "~~paid for~~" ~~may be omitted from~~
 134.14 "~~Prepared by~~" may be used in place of "Paid for by" in the disclaimer. Except as required
 134.15 by paragraph (c), in the case of a candidate's or committee's website or social media page,
 134.16 the requirements of this subdivision are satisfied for the entire website or social media page
 134.17 when the disclaimer appears once on the website or social media home page.

134.18 (c) ~~In the case of broadcast~~ audio or video media, including audio or video media posted
 134.19 on a candidate or principal campaign committee's website, the required form of disclaimer
 134.20 is: "Paid for by the committee." If the material is produced and broadcast without cost,

82.17 (2) the printed name, address, telephone number, signature, and email address, ~~if available,~~
 82.18 ~~or an attestation that the candidate and the candidate's campaign do not possess an email~~
 82.19 ~~address, of the person responsible for filing the report;~~
 82.20 (3) the total cash on hand designated to be used for political purposes;
 82.21 (4) the total amount of contributions received and the total amount of disbursements for
 82.22 the period from the last previous report to five days before the current report is due;
 82.23 (5) if disbursements made to the same vendor exceed \$100 in the aggregate during the
 82.24 period covered by the report, the name and address for the vendor and the amount, date,
 82.25 and purpose for each disbursement; and
 82.26 (6) the name, address, and employer, or occupation if self-employed, of any individual
 82.27 or entity that during the period covered by the report has made one or more contributions
 82.28 that in the aggregate exceed \$100, and the amount and date of each contribution. The filing
 82.29 officer must restrict public access to the address of any individual who has made a
 82.30 contribution that exceeds \$100 and who has filed with the filing officer a written statement
 82.31 signed by the individual that withholding the individual's address from the financial report
 82.32 is required for the safety of the individual or the individual's family.

83.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

134.21 the required form of the disclaimer is: "The committee is responsible for the content
134.22 of this message."

134.23 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.04, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

134.24 Subd. 2. **Independent expenditures.** (a) ~~The required form of the disclaimer on a written~~
134.25 ~~Except in cases covered by paragraph (b), the required form of disclaimer for an independent~~
134.26 ~~expenditure is: "This is an independent expenditure prepared and paid for by (name~~
134.27 ~~of entity participating in the expenditure), (address). It is not coordinated with or~~
134.28 ~~approved by any candidate nor is any candidate responsible for it." The address must be~~
134.29 ~~either the entity's mailing address or the entity's website, if the website includes the entity's~~
134.30 ~~mailing address. When a written independent expenditure is produced and disseminated~~
134.31 ~~without cost, the words "and paid for" may be omitted from the disclaimer.~~

134.32 (b) ~~The required form of the disclaimer on a broadcast~~ an audio or video media
134.33 independent expenditure is: "This independent expenditure is paid for by (name of
134.34 entity participating in the expenditure). It is not coordinated with or approved by any
135.1 candidate nor is any candidate responsible for it." ~~When a broadcast~~ an audio or video media
135.2 independent expenditure is produced and disseminated without cost, the following disclaimer
135.3 may be used: "..... (name of entity participating in the expenditure) is responsible for the
135.4 contents of this independent expenditure. It is not coordinated with or approved by any
135.5 candidate nor is any candidate responsible for it."

135.6 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.04, is amended by adding a subdivision
135.7 to read:

135.8 Subd. 2a. **Electioneering communication.** (a) ~~Except in cases covered by paragraph~~
135.9 ~~(b), the required form of disclaimer for an electioneering communication is: "Paid for by~~
135.10 ~~..... (name of entity participating in the communication), (address). It is not coordinated~~
135.11 ~~with or approved by any candidate nor is any candidate responsible for it." The address~~
135.12 ~~must be either the entity's mailing address or the entity's website, if the website includes~~
135.13 ~~the entity's mailing address. When an electioneering communication is produced and~~
135.14 ~~disseminated without cost, the words "Prepared by" may be used in place of "Paid for by"~~
135.15 ~~in the disclaimer.~~

135.16 (b) The required form of the disclaimer on an audio or video media electioneering
135.17 communication is: " paid for by (name of entity participating in the communication).
135.18 It is not coordinated with or approved by any candidate nor is any candidate responsible
135.19 for it." When an audio or video media electioneering communication is produced and
135.20 disseminated without cost, the following disclaimer may be used: "..... (name of entity
135.21 participating in the expenditure) is responsible for the contents of this communication. It is
135.22 not coordinated with or approved by any candidate nor is any candidate responsible for it."

135.23 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.04, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

135.24 Subd. 3. **Material that does not need a disclaimer.** (a) This section does not apply to
135.25 fundraising tickets, business cards, personal letters, or similar items that are clearly being
135.26 distributed by the candidate.

135.27 (b) This section does not apply to an individual or association that is not required to
135.28 register or report under chapter 10A or 211A.

135.29 (c) This section does not apply to the following:

135.30 (1) bumper stickers, pins, buttons, pens, or similar small items on which the disclaimer
135.31 cannot be conveniently printed;

136.1 (2) skywriting, wearing apparel, or other means of displaying an advertisement of such
136.2 a nature that the inclusion of a disclaimer would be impracticable; and

136.3 (3) ~~online banner ads and similar~~ electronic communications ~~that~~ for which it would be
136.4 technologically infeasible. In this case, the communication must state the name of the person
136.5 who paid for, or in the case of a communication that is produced and disseminated without
136.6 cost, who is responsible for the communication and link directly to an online page that
136.7 includes only the disclaimer. The person who paid for or is responsible for the communication
136.8 must, at the request of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board or the Office of
136.9 Administrative Hearings, demonstrate why it was technologically infeasible to include a
136.10 disclaimer in the form required by subdivision 1, 2, or 2a.

136.11 ~~(d) This section does not modify or repeal section 211B.06.~~

136.12 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.04, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

136.13 Subd. 5. **Font size.** ~~For written communications other than an outdoor sign, website, or~~
136.14 ~~social media page,~~ (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c), the disclaimer must be
136.15 printed in 8-point font or larger with sufficient color contrast to be reasonably legible.

136.16 (b) For an outdoor sign, the font of the disclaimer must be a height of at least five percent
136.17 of the vertical height of the sign with sufficient color contrast to be reasonably legible.

136.18 (c) For websites and social media, the font of the disclaimer must be displayed large
136.19 enough and with sufficient color contrast to be reasonably legible.

136.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION.** Paragraph (b) applies to outdoor signs printed
136.21 on or after January 1, 2026.

136.22 Sec. 42. **[211B.065] MISREPRESENTATION OF CAMPAIGN AUTHORITY.**

136.23 Subdivision 1. **Misrepresentation prohibited.** (a) A person must not:

136.24 (1) misrepresent the person or any committee or organization as speaking or writing or
 136.25 otherwise acting for or on behalf of any real, potential, spurious, or nonexistent candidate,
 136.26 political party, committee, fund, or organization with the intent to defraud; or

136.27 (2) willfully and knowingly participate in or conspire to participate in any plan, scheme,
 136.28 or design to violate clause (1).

136.29 (b) A person must not:

136.30 (1) misrepresent the person as speaking, writing, or otherwise acting for or on behalf of
 136.31 any real, potential, spurious, or nonexistent candidate, political party, committee, fund, or
 137.1 organization or employee or agent of any such candidate, political party, or political
 137.2 committee or organization when soliciting money or any other thing of value with the intent
 137.3 to defraud; or

137.4 (2) willfully and knowingly participate in or conspire to participate in any plan, scheme,
 137.5 or design to violate clause (1).

137.6 Subd. 2. **Criminal penalties; civil remedies.** (a) Except as otherwise provided, a person
 137.7 who violates this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

137.8 (b) The attorney general, a county attorney, or a party injured by a violation of subdivision
 137.9 1 may bring a civil action pursuant to section 8.31 to recover damages, together with costs
 137.10 of investigation and reasonable attorney fees, and receive other equitable relief as determined
 137.11 by the court. An action brought by an injured party under section 8.31, subdivision 3a,
 137.12 benefits the public. In addition to all other damages, the court may impose a civil penalty
 137.13 of up to \$1,000 for each violation.

137.14 (c) Civil remedies allowable under this section are cumulative and do not restrict any
 137.15 other right or remedy otherwise available. The complaint process provided in sections
 137.16 211B.31 to 211B.36 does not apply to violations of this section.

137.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2025, and applies to crimes
 137.18 committed on or after that date and causes of action accruing on or after that date.

137.19 Sec. 43. **[211B.066] DISTRIBUTION OF ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS**
 137.20 **AND SAMPLE BALLOTS.**

137.21 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
 137.22 the meanings given.

137.23 (b) "Person or entity" means any individual, committee, or association as defined in
 137.24 section 10A.01, subdivision 6.

137.25 (c) "Sample ballot" means a document that is formatted and printed in a manner that so
 137.26 closely resembles an official ballot that it could lead a reasonable person to believe the
 137.27 document is an official ballot. A document that contains the names of particular candidates
 137.28 or ballot questions alongside illustrations of a generic ballot or common ballot markings is

137.29 not a sample ballot as long as the document does not closely resemble an official ballot and
137.30 would not lead a reasonable person to believe the document is an official ballot.

137.31 Subd. 2. **Requirements.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, any person
137.32 or entity that mails an absentee ballot application or sample ballot to anyone in the state
138.1 must comply with this section. This section does not apply to a unit of government or
138.2 employee of that unit of government when discharging official election duties.

138.3 (b) The person or entity mailing the absentee ballot application or sample ballot must
138.4 include the following statement: "This mailing is not an official election communication
138.5 from a unit of government. This [absentee ballot application or sample ballot] has not been
138.6 included at the request of a government official." If a sample ballot is enclosed, the statement
138.7 must also include the following: "This is a sample ballot, not an official ballot. You cannot
138.8 cast the enclosed sample ballot."

138.9 (c) The statement required in paragraph (b) must be printed in a typeface and format
138.10 designed to be clearly visible at the time the mailing is opened. The person or entity sending
138.11 the sample ballot or absentee ballot application must include the person or entity's name
138.12 and street address in the return address position on the mailing envelope.

138.13 (d) If an absentee ballot application is included, the application fields must be blank and
138.14 must not include the voter's name, address, or any other required information.
138.15 Notwithstanding this subdivision, the county auditor or municipal clerk must not reject an
138.16 absentee ballot application solely because of the inclusion of printed information on the
138.17 application.

138.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

83.2 Sec. 43. **[211B.125] PUBLICLY FUNDED ORGANIZATIONS; CAMPAIGN**
83.3 **EXPENDITURES PROHIBITED.**

83.4 An entity or organization, including any nonprofit organization, that receives state
83.5 funding must not make a campaign expenditure or otherwise expend money for any political
83.6 purpose, unless the entity or organization uses separate accounts for political activities and
83.7 for activities funded by state funding. The entity or organization must not supplant its
83.8 existing funding with state funding to make campaign expenditures or expend money for
83.9 political purposes. Prior to receiving state funding, the entity or organization must attest
83.10 that it will comply with this section. As used in this section, "state funding" includes receipt
83.11 of public funds through a direct appropriation or a legislatively named, competitive, or other
83.12 form of grant.

83.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2025.

138.19 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.13, is amended to read:

138.20 **211B.13 BRIBERY, TREATING, AND SOLICITATION.**

138.21 Subdivision 1. **Bribery, advancing money, and treating prohibited.** (a) A person ~~who~~
 138.22 ~~is guilty of a felony if the person willfully, directly or indirectly, advances, pays, gives,~~
 138.23 ~~promises, provides a chance to win, or lends any money, food, liquor, clothing, entertainment,~~
 138.24 ~~or other thing of monetary value, or who offers, promises, or endeavors to obtain any money,~~
 138.25 ~~position, appointment, employment, or other valuable consideration, to or for a person, in~~
 138.26 ~~order to induce;~~

138.27 (1) a voter to vote, to refrain from voting, or to vote in a particular way, at an election;
 138.28 ~~is guilty of a felony;~~

138.29 (2) an individual to register to vote; or

138.30 (3) a registered or eligible voter to sign a petition that is directly related to an election
 138.31 during the period beginning on the first day of the absentee voting period for that election
 138.32 and ending on election day.

139.1 (b) This section does not prevent a candidate from stating publicly preference for or
 139.2 support of another candidate to be voted for at the same primary or election. ~~Refreshments~~
 139.3 ~~of Food or, nonalcoholic beverages, or items having a value up to \$5 are not prohibited~~
 139.4 ~~under this section if consumed on the premises at a private gathering or public meeting are~~
 139.5 ~~not prohibited under this section or if offered on equal terms to individuals without regard~~
 139.6 ~~to whether the recipient takes a specified action.~~

139.7 Subd. 2. **Certain solicitations prohibited.** A person may not knowingly solicit, receive,
 139.8 or accept any money, property, or other thing of monetary value, or a promise ~~or~~ pledge,
 139.9 or opportunity to win any of these that is a disbursement prohibited by this section or section
 139.10 211B.15.

139.11 Subd. 3. **Civil enforcement.** In addition to other remedies, the attorney general or county
 139.12 attorney may enforce this section pursuant to section 8.31.

139.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2025, and applies to crimes
 139.14 committed on or after that date.

139.15 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.32, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

139.16 Subdivision 1. **Administrative remedy; exhaustion.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs
 139.17 (b) and (c), a complaint alleging a violation of chapter 211A or 211B must be filed with the
 139.18 office. The complaint must be finally disposed of by the office before the alleged violation
 139.19 may be prosecuted by a county attorney.

139.20 (b) Complaints arising under those sections and related to those individuals and
 139.21 associations specified in section 10A.022, subdivision 3, must be filed with the Campaign
 139.22 Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

139.23 (c) Violations of sections 211B.065, 211B.075, and 211B.076 may be enforced as
139.24 provided in those sections.

139.25 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.32, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

139.26 Subd. 4. **Proof of claim.** The burden of proving the allegations in the complaint is on
139.27 the complainant. The standard of proof of a violation of section 211B.06, relating to false
139.28 statements in paid political advertising or campaign material, is clear and convincing
139.29 evidence. The standard of proof of any other a violation of chapter 211A or 211B is a
139.30 preponderance of the evidence.

140.1 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 211B.35, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

140.2 Subd. 2. **Disposition of complaint.** The panel must determine whether the violation
140.3 alleged in the complaint occurred and must make at least one of the following dispositions:

140.4 (a) The panel may dismiss the complaint.

140.5 (b) The panel may issue a reprimand.

140.6 (c) The panel may find that a statement made in a paid advertisement or campaign
140.7 material violated section 211B.06.

140.8 ~~(d)~~ The panel may impose a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for any violation of chapter
140.9 211A or 211B.

140.10 ~~(e)~~ (d) The panel may refer the complaint to the appropriate county attorney.

140.11 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 383B.041, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

140.12 Subd. 5. **Economic interest disclosure; Special School District No. 1.** Every candidate
140.13 for school board in Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis, must file an original statement
140.14 of economic interest with the school district within 14 days of the filing of an affidavit or
140.15 petition to appear on the ballot the end of the candidate filing period. An elected official in
140.16 Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis, must file the annual statement required in section
140.17 10A.09, subdivision 6, with the school district for every year that the individual serves in
140.18 office. An original and annual statement must contain the information listed in section
140.19 10A.09, subdivision 5. The provisions of section 10A.09, subdivisions 6a, 7, and 9, apply
140.20 to statements required under this subdivision.

140.21 Sec. 49. **CAMPAIGN SPENDING LIMITS STUDY.**

140.22 The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board must study the voluntary campaign
140.23 spending limits as provided in this section. By January 15, 2026, the board must report to
140.24 the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction

84.21 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 383B.041, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

84.22 Subd. 5. **Economic interest disclosure; Special School District No. 1.** Every candidate
84.23 for school board in Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis, must file an original statement
84.24 of economic interest with the school district within 14 days of the filing of an affidavit or
84.25 petition to appear on the ballot after the candidate filing period ends. An elected official in
84.26 Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis, must file the annual statement required in section
84.27 10A.09, subdivision 6, with the school district for every year that the individual serves in
84.28 office. An original and annual statement must contain the information listed in section
84.29 10A.09, subdivision 5. The provisions of section 10A.09, subdivisions 6a, 7, and 9, apply
84.30 to statements required under this subdivision.

84.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

- 140.25 over the board with its findings and recommendations. At a minimum, the board must study
 140.26 and report on:
- 140.27 (1) the number of candidates that participate in the public subsidy program, broken down
 140.28 by office;
- 140.29 (2) the number of candidates that do not participate in the public subsidy program, broken
 140.30 down by office;
- 140.31 (3) historic trend data for the past ten years for the information in clauses (1) and (2);
- 141.1 (4) for candidates that do not participate in the public subsidy program, how much the
 141.2 candidate and the candidate's opponent spent and how much is spent on independent
 141.3 expenditures in the race;
- 141.4 (5) how other states set voluntary campaign spending limits, including:
- 141.5 (i) if other states distinguish between highly contested races and other races in the amount
 141.6 of funding provided or spending allowed;
- 141.7 (ii) if other states have an automatic inflator on the subsidies and limits; and
- 141.8 (iii) the level of candidate participation over time in the programs; and
- 141.9 (6) any recommendations the board has regarding the current public subsidy program
 141.10 in Minnesota and whether the current spending limits are appropriate.
- 141.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.
- 141.12 Sec. 50. **WORKING GROUP ON LOCAL CANDIDATE CAMPAIGN FINANCE**
 141.13 **REPORTING.**
- 141.14 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms have the meanings
 141.15 given.
- 141.16 (b) "Board" means the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.
- 141.17 (c) "Candidate" means an individual who seeks nomination or election to a county,
 141.18 municipal, school district, or other political subdivision office. This definition does not
 141.19 include an individual seeking a judicial office.
- 141.20 (d) "Local campaign report" means any report that a candidate is required to file pursuant
 141.21 to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 211A.
- 141.22 Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The working group consists of the following 12 members:
- 141.23 (1) two members of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board affiliated with
 141.24 different political parties appointed by the board's chair;
- 141.25 (2) the executive director of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board;

- 141.26 (3) two members appointed by the League of Minnesota Cities, one of whom must be
 141.27 from a city of the fourth class;
- 141.28 (4) one member appointed by the Association of Minnesota Counties;
- 141.29 (5) one member appointed by the Minnesota Association of Townships;
- 141.30 (6) one member appointed by the Minnesota School Boards Association;
- 142.1 (7) one senator appointed by the senate majority leader and one senator appointed by
 142.2 the senate minority leader; and
- 142.3 (8) one representative appointed by the speaker of the house and one representative
 142.4 appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.
- 142.5 (b) Appointments to the working group must be made within two weeks after the effective
 142.6 date of this section.
- 142.7 (c) Public member compensation and reimbursement for expenses are governed by
 142.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 3. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
 142.9 section 15.0595, the source of payment for compensation and reimbursement for expenses
 142.10 of nonlegislative members of the working group is appropriations available to the Campaign
 142.11 Finance and Public Disclosure Board. Legislative members may receive per diem and be
 142.12 reimbursed for their expenses according to the rules of their respective bodies.
- 142.13 Subd. 3. **Chairs; meetings.** (a) The executive director of the board must convene the
 142.14 first meeting of the working group no later than six weeks after the effective date of this
 142.15 section. At the first meeting, members must elect a chair from among the legislative members
 142.16 of the working group members.
- 142.17 (b) Working group meetings are subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law under
 142.18 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13D.
- 142.19 Subd. 4. **Administrative support.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission must
 142.20 provide administrative support and meeting space for the working group. Upon request of
 142.21 the working group, the staff of the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board must
 142.22 provide technical support.
- 142.23 Subd. 5. **Duties.** At a minimum, the working group must:
- 142.24 (1) examine and make recommendations on whether any or all local candidate campaign
 142.25 finance reports should be filed with the board instead of with a local filing officer;
- 142.26 (2) assess the extent to which local filing officers are currently able to provide support
 142.27 to local candidates and the public related to their duty to accept campaign finance reports
 142.28 from local candidates;

- 142.29 (3) review the reporting requirements for local candidates in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
 142.30 211A, and recommend any changes to those requirements that should be made, especially
 142.31 if the reports were to be filed with the board;
- 143.1 (4) study the impact of the potential increase of reports being made to the board in terms
 143.2 of budgetary and staffing needs and the ability of the board to support the local candidates
 143.3 in filing the reports;
- 143.4 (5) study local campaign finance reporting requirements and make any recommendations
 143.5 on changes to the laws; and
- 143.6 (6) propose draft legislation to implement any of the working group's recommendations.
- 143.7 Subd. 6. **Report.** No later than January 15, 2026, the working group must submit a
 143.8 written report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and
 143.9 divisions with jurisdiction over elections. The report must outline a description of the
 143.10 working group's activities, how the working group addressed each duty described in
 143.11 subdivision 5, any recommendations made by the working group, and any proposed
 143.12 legislation recommended by the working group.
- 143.13 Subd. 7. **Expiration.** The working group expires upon submission of the report required
 143.14 under subdivision 6, or January 16, 2026, whichever is later.
- 143.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.
- 143.16 Sec. 51. **RULEMAKING.**
- 143.17 The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board must amend Minnesota Rules, part
 143.18 4503.0900, to conform to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.174, regarding
 143.19 transition expenses. The board may use the good cause exemption under Minnesota Statutes,
 143.20 section 14.388, for purposes of this section.
- 143.21 Sec. 52. **REPEALER.**
- 143.22 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 211B.04, subdivision 4; 211B.06; and 211B.08,
 143.23 are repealed.
- 143.24 (b) Minnesota Rules, part 4503.2000, subpart 2, is repealed.
- 143.25 (c) Minnesota Rules, part 4511.1100, is repealed.
- 143.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Paragraph (b) is effective the day following final enactment.
- 143.27 Sec. 53. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**
- 143.28 Unless otherwise provided, this article is effective January 1, 2026.