

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

**Findings in the Matter of the Acceptance of a  
Prohibited Contribution During The 2006 Legislative Session  
By The DFL Senate Caucus**

**Summary of the Allegations and Responses**

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board ("the Board") staff's review of the 2006 Pre-primary Report of Receipts and Expenditures for the DFL Senate Caucus Committee disclosed acceptance of a \$500 contribution on March 15, 2006, from the Carpenters Local Union #87 PAF, a political fund registered with the Board. The 2006 Legislative Session which was held from March 1 to May 21, 2006.

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1, prohibits a party unit established within a house of the legislature from soliciting or accepting a contribution from a political committee or political fund during a regular legislative session. A party unit established within a house of the legislature who violates this section is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000.

By letter dated September 26, 2006, the Carpenters Local Union #87 confirmed the contribution. No response was received from the DFL Senate Caucus Committee.

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session on October 17, 2006.

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

**Finding Concerning Probable Cause**

There is evidence that the DFL Senate Caucus Committee accepted a \$500 contribution from a political fund during the 2006 regular legislative session. The Board finds probable cause to believe that the Committee inadvertently violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1.

**Based on the above Finding Concerning Probable Cause, the Board issues the following:  
ORDER**

1. For accepting a contribution from the Carpenters Local Union #87 PAF during the 2006 legislative session the Board orders the DFL Senate Caucus Committee to pay a civil penalty of \$500, which is one times the amount of the contribution.
2. The Board directs the DFL Senate Caucus Committee to return \$500 to the Carpenters Local Union #87 PAF and forward to the Board a copy of the letter and check returning the contribution.

3. The DFL Senate Caucus Committee is directed to send to the Board payment of the civil penalty and a copy of the check and letter returning the contribution within thirty days of receipt of this order.
4. If the DFL Senate Caucus Committee does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the Ramsey County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273.
5. The Board investigation of this matter is entered into the public record in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by the DFL Senate Caucus Committee of the civil fine imposed herein, the matter is concluded.

Dated: October 17, 2006



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Bob Milbert, Chair  
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

### Relevant Statutes

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.273, subdivision 1. **Contributions during legislative session.**

(a) A candidate for the legislature or for constitutional office, the candidate's principal campaign committee, or a political committee or party unit established by all or a part of the party organization within a house of the legislature, must not solicit or accept a contribution from a registered lobbyist, political committee, political fund, or dissolving principal campaign committee, or from a party unit established by the party organization within a house of the legislature, during a regular session of the legislature.