

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

**PRIMA FACIE
DETERMINATION**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF ROBERT HOFFMAN REGARDING THE LISA HANSON FOR SENATE COMMITTEE

On August 4, 2022, the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board received a complaint submitted by R. Reid LeBeau II on behalf of Robert Hoffman regarding Lisa Hanson, a candidate for Minnesota Senate District 23. Lisa Hanson for Senate is the principal campaign committee of Ms. Hanson.

The complaint alleges violations of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, which regulates the use of disclaimers on campaign material. The complaint includes a photograph of the front and back of a postcard-style mailing that appears to have been sent to the complainant. The mailing advocates for Ms. Hanson by stating "VOTE LISA HANSON AUG. 9" while also speaking negatively of Senator Gene Dornink, Ms. Hanson's opponent in the 2022 primary election. The material appears to have been sent by the Hanson committee because it used phrases written from the first-person perspective of Ms. Hanson and it included the Hanson committee's website address, email address, and phone number. While the Hanson committee's website address was listed on the mailing, there is no disclaimer depicted in the photograph of the literature, nor is there a mailing address.

Determination

Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04 requires principal campaign committees to include on their campaign material a disclaimer substantially in the form provided in Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04, subdivision 1. The complaint alleges and provides evidence that the Hanson committee prepared or disseminated campaign material that lacked a disclaimer. The chair therefore concludes that the complaint states a prima facie violation of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 3, this prima facie determination is made by a single Board member and not by any vote of the entire Board. This prima facie determination does not mean that the Board has commenced, or will commence, an investigation or has made any determination of a violation by any of the individuals or entities named in the complaint.

Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 3, requires the Board, within 45 days of the date of this determination, to make findings and conclusions as to whether probable cause exists to believe that the violation of Minnesota Statutes section 211B.04 alleged in the complaint has occurred and warrants a formal investigation. The complainant and the respondent named in this

prima facie determination will be given an opportunity to be heard by the Board prior to any decision on probable cause.

Until the Board makes a public finding or enters into a conciliation agreement, this matter is subject to the confidentiality requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 10A.022, subdivision 5.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Rashid', written over a horizontal line.

Faris Rashid, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Date: August 10, 2022