## MARGARET W. LEPPIK 7500 WESTERN AVENUE GOLDEN VALLEY, MN 55427 763-546-3328 PEGGYLEPPIK@COMCAST.NET

## Testimony to the State Government Finance and Elections Committee March 1, 2022

Chair Nelson and Committee members,

My name is Margaret (Peggy) Leppik, and I am requesting your support for confirmation of my reappointment by Gov. Walz to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board where I have served for six years.

As you can see from my resumé, I've been a very active volunteer for many years. It's been a great way for me to make friends, help people and give back to my community. My volunteer activities are also what eventually led me to run for the House in 1990, where I served for 12 years.

Shortly after I retired from the House in January 2003, Gov. Pawlenty appointed me to the Metropolitan Council, where I served for 8 years, the last three as vice chair. Since leaving the Met Council, I've remained interested in public affairs, although I haven't been particularly active in the political arena.

I would like to continue my service on the CFBPD because I believe strongly in the importance of the work it does. The agency's charge to oversee and publish information about money raised and spent to influence state elections is vital to the integrity of our elections and the public's trust in the decisions that are made in state government.

I have a few thoughts on the Board itself that I'd like to share with you. Because the CFBPD is a quasi-judicial agency, most important is the absolute necessity of fairness and consistency when dealing with individual cases regardless of one's political affiliation. I also like that the Board has representation by people who have run for state office and know what it's like to be directly affected by the Campaign Finance Laws, which can be complicated.

The Board expects a great deal from both candidates and their treasurers, who are nearly always volunteers, and so it has a responsibility to provide them with good training and readily available help. Much of this work is done by an excellent staff, and people tell us that overall they do a very good job.

It has been a great privilege to serve on the Board. I hope I have made a positive contribution and have lived up to my own expectations of bringing an unbiased, openminded approach to each case that comes before the Board. I would be honored to continue my service there.

Thank you for your consideration of my application.

Peggy Leppik