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Before the Senate Business and Transportation Committee March 9, 2015 SB 581 Testimony of Martin Pittioni

Executive Director, Board of Accountancy

Chair Sen. Beyer, Vice-Chair Senator Girod, Members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Martin Pittioni. I have served at the Director for the Board of Accountancy since November 2012, and in an interim Director role before that as of August 2012. Thank you for hearing this bill.

My primary purpose here today is to help with any questions from the committee. Notwithstanding that, I would like to take this opportunity to formally put into the legislative record of this bill that I reached out to the Governor's Office last week to confirm that the Board has permission from the Governor's Office to formally appear in support of Senate Bill SB 581, including the -2 amendments reflecting the specific proposed fee increase amounts described in the OSCPA testimony.

I began briefing the Governor's Office on the issue before you in Senate Bill 581 in November 2014, as part of debriefing what later became the Board's main legislative proposal in Senate Bill 272. You will likely recall that this committee, and the full Senate passed SB 272 unanimously. Please allow me this opportunity to publicly thank you for that support, and assure you that the exact same climate of very careful negotiation and consultation with our stakeholders that produced SB 272 also ultimately produced what is before you in Senate Bill 581 and the -2 amendments.

The only difference to SB 272 here is that OSCPA has very generously, and honorably, agreed to take the lead. The fact that OSCPA has been and is willing to do so, on what clearly is the hardest ask, and that this type of request comes to you with unified support from the associations and the Board, I hope speaks volumes to this committee. I am truly humbled that OSCPA is willing to not just talk the talk of supporting a strong Board with appropriately resourced compliance operations for the profession. Today, OSCPA is walking the talk, with the hardest walks of them all. I fully realize that this is a difficult ask, for them, and of you. Respectfully, I simply hope you will include in your consideration that we have worked very hard to create unity behind SB 581. Thank you again for considering this bill.

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