



January 28, 2023

To whom it may concern:

I am writing regarding House Bill 2523 which proposes changes to the requirements for sitting for the CPA exam. On behalf of our Board and our 400 members, the Oregon Association of Independent Accountants would like to express our support for this bill.

The CPA exam is administered in 4 parts and each part can be taken once during a 3-month testing window. If a candidate takes 1 part during each testing window, it will take them a year to complete all sections. Allowing candidates to sit for the exam after completing 120 course hours will grant them the opportunity to begin this testing process while completing their final year of required courses.

Approving this change can accelerate the timeline by which a candidate can enter the CPA profession by up to 18 months, without compromising the existing licensing requirements. This will support the accounting profession by allowing students to enter the workforce more seamlessly, thus increasing the opportunity for Oregon accounting firms to hire these candidates who may otherwise look for employment in one of the 46 states which allow this more accelerated timeline. We believe this change will be an improvement for CPA candidates and the Oregon businesses that will employ them.

We appreciate your consideration.

Respectfully,

Amanda Fels, CPA

President

Oregon Association of Independent Accountants