



10206 SW Laurel Street, Beaverton, Oregon 97005-3209
503-641-7200 / 800-255-1470 • Fax 503-626-2942
oscpa@orcpa.org • www.orcpa.org

February 12, 2025

Senator Chris Gorsek, Co-Chair
Representative Greg Smith, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, OR 97301

Submitted via OLIS

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 5001, Oregon Board of Accountancy Budget

Co-Chair Gorsek, Co-Chair Smith and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government

On behalf of the Oregon Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA), representing nearly 4,000 members, we respectfully submit testimony in **support of HB 5001**

Background:

Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) provide a broad breath of vital services to individuals, businesses, governmental agencies and others. The profession's core values of ethics, integrity and independence not only support their clients but also contribute to public protection.

In Oregon, Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and Public Accountants (PAs) are licensed by the Oregon Board of Accountancy (Board). The Board is funded primarily by individual licensee and firm registration fees and does not obtain support from the General Fund.

We applaud the Board of Accountancy for their efforts in exploring the accounting pipeline issue and as part of their budget, requesting legislation which would provide authorization to the Board to fund need-based accounting scholarships. The accounting profession is experiencing pipeline challenges both in Oregon as well as nationally. A number of factors are causing the challenges not the least of which is the cost of education. The Board's ability to propose a scholarship bill is based on their healthy financial position today. This is based on several factors including efforts by the Board as well as OSCPAs' sponsorship of Senate Bill 581 in 2015. The 2015 bill contained a requested change in fees for individual licensure and CPA firm registration to provide appropriate and targeted funding levels for Board operations.

Recommendation:

On behalf of Oregon Society of CPAs, we ask you to **support HB 5001** approving the budget for the Oregon Board of Accountancy.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our comments.

Sincerely,

Sherri McPherson, President/CEO
Oregon Society of CPAs

For more information, please contact Nicole Palmateer Hazelbaker, nicole@braviocommunications.com