

MAR 13 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY TO CONVENE A
DISCUSSION FORUM FOCUSING ON THE ISSUES FACING THE
ACCOUNTING PROFESSION.

1 WHEREAS, to become a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), an
2 applicant must meet a variety of requirements, including
3 successfully passing a national uniform CPA examination and
4 satisfying the education and experience requirements; and
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6 WHEREAS, the accounting profession in Hawaii is comprised
7 of over 2,500 licensed CPAs within the government, business, and
8 academic sectors as well as those actively engaged in public
9 practice; and
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11 WHEREAS, CPAs are regulated under chapter 466, Hawaii
12 Revised Statutes, and title 16, chapter 71, Hawaii
13 Administrative Rules, which further define the requirements to
14 obtain, maintain, and renew a permit to practice; and
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16 WHEREAS, it is important to assure the competence of
17 licensed CPAs in order to protect consumers who employ and rely
18 on CPAs to take care of financial and accounting matters,
19 including personal financial matters; and
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21 WHEREAS, the applicable rules are administered by the Board
22 of Public Accountancy under the Department of Commerce and
23 Consumer Affairs; and
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25 WHEREAS, many states have considered or enacted
26 enhancements to the regulation of CPAs, including but not
27 limited to peer review requirements and rules regarding
28 interstate practice; and
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30 WHEREAS, national models for legislation and rules have
31 been jointly proposed by the National Association of State
32 Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) and the American Institute of
33 Certified Public Accountants (AICPA); and
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1 WHEREAS, various individuals and representatives of the
2 accountancy profession have previously come before the
3 Legislature to request that amendments to the laws and rules be
4 made, often times with dissimilar views and contrary positions,
5 which lead to a conclusion that further discussion is necessary
6 to achieve a common consensus before amendments to the laws and
7 rules can be enacted and implemented; now, therefore,
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
11 that the Board of Public Accountancy is requested to convene a
12 series of discussion forums consisting of stakeholders in the
13 accounting profession for the purpose of discussing the issues
14 facing the accounting profession in Hawaii; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Public Accountancy
17 summarize the results of these discussions, and submit a written
18 report to the Legislature, including the discussion summaries,
19 recommendations, and any proposed legislation, no later than
20 twenty days prior to the 2009 Regular Session; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and
24 Consumer Affairs; the Director of Taxation; the Director of
25 Finance; the Auditor; the Chairperson of the Board of Public
26 Accountancy; the President of the Hawaii Association of Public
27 Accountants; the President of the Accountants Coalition; the
28 President of the Hawaii Society of Certified Public Accountants;
29 the President of the American Society of Women Accountants; the
30 President of the Association of Government Accountants; the
31 Chairperson of the Institute of Management Accountants; the
32 President of the Institute of Internal Auditors; the Chairperson
33 of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; and
34 the Chairperson of the National Association of the State Board
35 of Accountancy.
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OFFERED BY: *Russell Kolt*