

## HB501 - Registered Apprenticeship Investments for a Stronger Economy (RAISE) Act House Economic Matters Committee February 27, 2025 Legislative Position: FAVORABLE

Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee,

MACPA is a professional association representing 9,000 Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and accounting leaders across Maryland. We appreciate the intent of HB501 to strengthen workforce development through Registered Apprenticeships and recognize the significant value these programs bring in cultivating a skilled workforce.

We also support the establishment of the Registered Apprenticeship Qualified Intermediary Program, which acknowledges the essential role intermediaries play in advancing and expanding Registered Apprenticeship programs. This role is especially critical in fields new to apprenticeships, such as accounting and finance, where additional resources, expertise, and oversight can greatly enhance program success.

We fully support efforts to broaden access to professional careers through Registered Apprenticeships and respectfully request a **favorable report** on **HB501**.

For more information about this position, please contact Mary Beth Halpern marybeth@macpa.org or Nick Manis nmanis@maniscanning.com.