

SB148 - State Board of Public Accountancy - Emeritus Status Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee January 30, 2025

Legislative Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

Dear Chair Feldman and members of the Committee:

Founded in 1901, the Maryland Association of CPAs is a state-wide organization dedicated to advancing the CPA profession and advocating for the more than 14,000 licensed CPAs in Maryland. Our members serve thousands of individual and business clients throughout the state.

Senate Bill 148 authorizes the Maryland State Board of Public Accountancy to establish an emeritus status for CPAs, allowing individuals who meet specific criteria to transition out of active practice while retaining a recognized professional status. This bill acknowledges the long-standing contributions of CPAs to the profession and provides a pathway for retired CPAs to remain engaged with the professional community in a meaningful way.

MACPA supports Senate Bill 148, with the amendments proposed by the Maryland State Board of Public Accountancy. As we understand it, these amendments will assist in the effective administration and implementation of the proposed emeritus status for CPAs.

SB148 upholds the integrity of the CPA profession while recognizing the valuable contributions of retired CPAs. We believe that SB148, with the Board of Public Accountancy's proposed amendments, will serve to benefit both the profession and the public by offering a structured and responsible means for CPAs to transition into emeritus status.

For these reasons, we respectfully request a <u>favorable with amendments</u> report for **SB148**. Thank you for your consideration of our position

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