March 30, 2015

The Honorable Julie L. Harhart  
Chairwoman  
House Professional Licensure Committee  
Pennsylvania House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 202183  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2183  

Dear Chairwoman Harhart:

On behalf of the more than 22,000 members of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA), I am writing to you in support of House Bill 92 sponsored by Rep. Kate Harper (R-Montgomery), which is coming before your committee on Wednesday, April 1 for a vote. This bill has been refiled from the 2013-2014 session, when it was unanimously reported from your committee and was heavily supported by the full House on final passage.

House Bill 92 directs the Commissioner of the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) to expunge records, upon application by a licensee, where only a single disciplinary action exists. An applicant for this one-time expungement must meet certain criteria, most notably that the record must be the only record that the licensee has and the licensee must wait four years before making an application to the Commissioner.

PICPA supports this measure as it provides licensees with a mechanism for recourse when their infraction amounts to insufficient CPE hours and practice on a lapsed license for a period of less than six months. Many times, licensees unintentionally fail to comply with their licensing requirements. As an organization, PICPA feels that those individuals who otherwise comply with the CPA Law and board regulations in addition to embracing the integrity of the profession, deserve a second chance after learning their lesson for minor non-compliance. To be clear, PICPA does not support multiple expungements or expungements for major violations of the statute or the regulations.

For the reasons I have outlined, the PICPA respectfully requests your support for House Bill 92. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 717-232-1821 or pcalcara@picpa.org.

Sincerely,

Peter N. Calcarra, CAE  
Vice President – Government Relations

Cc: Rep. Harry Readshaw, Democratic Chairman  
Members of the House Professional Licensure Committee