June 6, 2017

Re: House Finance Committee - Please Support House Bills 1420 and 1421

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the 22,000 members of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA), I am writing to respectfully request your support for House Bill 1420 and House Bill 1421 sponsored by Rep. Keith Greiner. The bills are tentatively schedule for a vote by the House Finance Committee on Wednesday, June 7. I have included a link to our issue brief for more information.

The two-bill package amends and updates the Solicitation of Funds for Charitable Purposes (SFCP) Act. The PICPA has worked extensively with Rep. Greiner on these measures and supports them.

House Bill 1420 will require every charitable organization that receives annual contributions of $750,000 or more to be audited by an independent CPA; those that receive annual contributions of at least $250,000, but less than $750,000, will be required to have a review or audit; and those with annual contributions of at least $100,000, but less than $250,000, will be required to have a compilation, review, or audit. A compilation, review, or audit will be optional for any charitable organization that receives annual contributions of less than $100,000.

House Bill 1421 amends the SFCP Act to make technical changes that will assist organizations filing a registration statement with the Department of State’s Bureau of Corporations and Charitable Organizations. The bill will clarify that any registration postmarked on or before the renewal date will be considered timely filed and will not accrue late fees. Additionally, HB 1421 will provide a uniform 15-day review period for the bureau. These clarifications will save nonprofit organizations unnecessary fines and penalties while providing a clear standard for filing registration statements that is aligned with other state filing requirements.

Again, on behalf of the 22,000 members of the PICPA, please support House Bill 1420 and House Bill 1421.

Thank you,

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The opinions expressed herein are my own, and do not reflect those of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants, or the Institute/Foundation's officers, members or employees.