

Joni Sundquist

From: Joni Sundquist
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 2:58 PM
To: alan.feyerherm@mail.house.gov
Subject: Request Cosponsorship of H.R. 3855, Accounting STEM Pursuit Act

Dear Alan,

We are writing to respectfully request that Congressman Fortenberry cosponsor H.R. 3855, the *Accounting STEM Pursuit Act*, recently introduced by Reps. Haley Stevens (D-MI) and Victoria Spartz (R-IN). The bill establishes the accounting profession as a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) career pathway and supports long-standing efforts to create more diversity in the future accounting workforce. Specifically, it adds “activities to promote the development, implementation, and strengthening of programs to teach accounting” to the list of allowable uses of grant funding under the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program with a focus on increasing access to high-quality accounting courses for students through grade 12 who are members of groups underrepresented in accounting careers.

We believe having accounting recognized as a STEM field under Technology is important, as the accounting profession heavily relies on technology. CPAs and others who work in accounting use technology skills in areas that are integral to the audit function and to other services for American businesses, including IT auditing (which demands high-level technology knowledge and skills in order to evaluate IT infrastructure), artificial intelligence, blockchain, data analytics, forensic and predictive accounting, and cybersecurity.

As the profession considers its future, finding and retaining qualified staff are consistently among the top issues facing CPA firms of every firm-size segment and among businesses that employ CPAs. We believe this bill, because it recognizes accounting as a STEM field, not only would increase student engagement with the accounting profession but also would promote diversity in the accounting workforce. The profession is engaged in diversity and inclusion initiatives because it is the right thing to do, and also because improved diversity in the accounting workforce is critical to the public interest.

On behalf of the more than 2,400 members of the Nebraska Society of CPAs, we ask that Representative Fortenberry cosponsor this bill. Please reach out to Sammi Goldsmith in Rep. Stevens’ office at sammi.goldsmith@mail.house.gov, or Erica Barker in Rep. Spartz’s office at erica.barker@mail.house.gov.

If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact me as always. Thank you for your commitment to the future of the accounting profession.

Sincerely,

Joni

Joni Sundquist

President/Executive Director

Nebraska Society of CPAs

7435 O Street, Suite 100 | Lincoln, NE 68510

402-476-8482 | joni@nescpa.org

Joni Sundquist

From: Joni Sundquist
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 3:03 PM
To: jeff.kratz@mail.house.gov
Subject: Request Cosponsorship of H.R. 3855, Accounting STEM Pursuit Act

Dear Jeff,

We are writing to respectfully request that Congressman Bacon cosponsor H.R. 3855, the *Accounting STEM Pursuit Act*, recently introduced by Reps. Haley Stevens (D-MI) and Victoria Spartz (R-IN). The bill establishes the accounting profession as a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) career pathway and supports long-standing efforts to create more diversity in the future accounting workforce. Specifically, it adds “activities to promote the development, implementation, and strengthening of programs to teach accounting” to the list of allowable uses of grant funding under the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program with a focus on increasing access to high-quality accounting courses for students through grade 12 who are members of groups underrepresented in accounting careers.

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Joni Sundquist

From: Joni Sundquist
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 3:05 PM
To: Josh Jackson
Subject: Request Cosponsorship of H.R. 3855, Accounting STEM Pursuit Act

Dear Josh,

We are writing to respectfully request that Congressman Smith cosponsor H.R. 3855, the *Accounting STEM Pursuit Act*, recently introduced by Reps. Haley Stevens (D-MI) and Victoria Spartz (R-IN). The bill establishes the accounting profession as a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) career pathway and supports long-standing efforts to create more diversity in the future accounting workforce. Specifically, it adds “activities to promote the development, implementation, and strengthening of programs to teach accounting” to the list of allowable uses of grant funding under the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program with a focus on increasing access to high-quality accounting courses for students through grade 12 who are members of groups underrepresented in accounting careers.

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