

**WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANTS
414 HARTFORD SQUARE
HARTFORD, WISCONSIN 53027**

November 27, 2018

Mr. John Scheid, CPA
Chair, Accounting Examining Board
% Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Service
P.O. 8935
Madison, Wisconsin 53708 8935

Dear Chairman Scheid,

The Wisconsin Association of Accountants has taken a very keen interest in the Wisconsin Accounting Examining Board Continuing Educating Legislative process. We especially recognize the examining board along with the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants for the commitment to this process put forth by each organization.

Within its Board of Directors meeting Monday November 26th, the Wisconsin Association of Accountants (WAA) discussed, at length, the examining boards September 27th letter addressed to both the Senate Committee on Revenue, Financial Institutions, and Rural Issues and the Assembly Committee on State Affairs and Government Operations.

The consensus of our discussion regarding the continuing education requirements expressed grave concerns with allowing CPAs to accrue continuing education in 5 minute increments. Our board recognized that serving on a professional board would provide significant experience, we do not see such as serving the spirit of continuing education. Further it is our belief that simply reading a book and writing a report would not further the intent of the continuing education requirement.

Without regard to the requirements of other jurisdictions it is our belief that real "continuing education" consists of a group live or group internet based instruction, facilitated by an accredited provider. By way of suggestion we recommend that the Examining Board minimum require a facilitator that is registered as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE sponsors and/or has entered into agreement with the Return Preparers Office, Internal Revenue Service, meeting the requirements of 31 CFR.

We thank the Examining Board for its consideration of the above.

Yours Truly,

Robert C. Burgardt
Wisconsin Association of Accountants