



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Board of Accountancy

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February 12, 2016

Co-Chair Sen. Richard Devlin  
Co-Chair Rep. Peter Buckley  
Oregon State Legislature  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Curt Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 5702 Section 3 / Board of Accountancy Fee Ratification Request

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Devlin and Representative Buckley:

I am writing to formally request ratification by the Oregon State Legislature of fee increases by rule finalized by the Board of Accountancy (Board) on October 1, 2015, and approved by the Department of Administrative Services for submission to you in compliance with ORS 291.055 (SB 333).

The background for this request is a negotiated agreement between the Board and its stakeholders from Fall/Winter 2014 in support of a broad range of fee increases in statute and rule. The purpose of these increases was to proactively address falling ending balances of the Board, driven primarily by a no-growth licensee base resulting in flat revenues against a backdrop of rising costs. The urgency of this matter was further accelerated by a significant rise in state government service charges to the Board, and by a one-time factor of a costly contested case.

The Board very carefully prepared with its stakeholders for the heavy lifting of the broadest statutory and rule based fee increases for the profession since January 2000. The primary step was passage of the OSCP-requested Senate Bill 581 (2015), which raised renewal fees set by statute. The negotiated agreement with our stakeholders included corresponding fee increases by rule. This second piece is now coming before you as a request for ratification, with the same unified support of the Board and the profession.

Detail support for this request has been submitted to LFO's Kim To, the budget analyst for the Board, and LFO's Krista Dauenhauer, whom I understand to be staffing the JWM Subcommittee on General Government for this Ratification request.

I sincerely appreciate the support the Board has received from the Joint Committee on Ways and Means and the Oregon Legislature in the past, and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Martin Pittioni  
Executive Director

