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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

Memorandum

VIA E-MAIL

DATE: January 22, 2021

TO: Representative Luke Meerman, Chairperson, JCAR
Senator Jon Bumstead, Alternate Chairperson, JCAR
Evan Keimach, Senate Majority Policy Office
Jimmy Biehl, House Republican Policy Office
Tim Reeves, Counsel, JCAR
Elizabeth Edberg, Counsel, JCAR

FROM: Marlon I. Brown, Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs

Handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the letters "MB" in a cursive style.

SUBJECT: Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) Briefing Memo for Rule Set 2020-030 LR Accountancy – General Rules

Rules Primer

The Accountancy – General Rules pertain to licensure, relicensure, and license renewal for accountants. Revisions to the rules are necessary to provide clarification on definitions, standards, examination, education, and continuing education requirements.

Summary of the Final Proposed Rule

The proposed rules are intended to accomplish the following:

- Clarify the meaning of terms used in the rules and remove definitions that are no longer necessary or duplicative of definitions found in the Occupational Code.
- Adopt the most current published standards and supply the cost for obtaining copies of the adopted standards.
- Remove language that imposes a limited exam window for passing the Uniform CPA exam.
- Identify the educational requirements to sit for the Uniform CPA exam.
- Remove different and non-standardized concentration in accounting options.
- Provide greater clarity on the requirements and limitations for continuing education activities.

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- Allow an applicant to submit proof of the required continuing education within one year after filing a relicensure application, if the department determines that the continuing education submitted with the application is deficient.

Stakeholder Engagement

Development of the proposed rules occurred in consultation with members of the Board of Accountancy via a rules committee work group, which included representatives of the Michigan Association of Certified Professional Accountants. The web address for the work group minutes is https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_72600_72602_72731_72855---,00.html.

Public Engagement and Public Hearing/Comment/Information

The public comment period for this rule set began on August 23, 2020 and ended on September 22, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. The notice of public comment period, in addition to being posted in various newspapers as required, was posted on the LARA website, and distributed via email listserv to all interested parties. The public hearing was held at 1:00 p.m. on September 22, 2020, and occurred virtually via Zoom, as permitted under Executive Order 2020-154. The Bureau did not receive any comments by mail or email during the public comment period. One attendee spoke in support of the rules during the public hearing.

Modifications Made Due to Public Comment

There were no changes made to the proposed rules based on comments received during the public comment period.

Significant Issues Not Incorporated in the Final Proposed Rules

No commenters raised any issues during the public comment period.

cc/att: Orlene Hawks, Director, LARA
Kim Gaedeke, Chief Deputy Director, LARA
Adam Sandoval, Deputy Director, LARA
Courtney Pendleton, Deputy Director, LARA
Debra Gagliardi, BPL Bureau Director, LARA
Elizabeth Arasim, Regulatory Affairs Officer, LARA