



January 12, 2017

The Honorable Jim Renacci  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Derek Kilmer  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Larry Bucshon  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathleen Rice  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Messrs. Renacci, Kilmer, Bucshon and Ms. Rice:

On behalf of the more than 418,000 members of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA), I am writing in support of the your bipartisan initiative – *Fiscal State of the Nation*, H. Con. Res. 8, “providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch.”

The AICPA is the world’s largest member association representing the accounting profession, with members in 143 countries, and a history of serving the public interest since 1887. The AICPA sets ethical standards for the accounting and auditing profession and U.S. auditing standards for private companies, nonprofit organizations, and federal, state, and local governments. AICPA members represent many areas of practice, including business and industry, public practice, government, education, and consulting.

We strongly commend you for your leadership in promoting transparency regarding the information included in the Federal government’s financial report. We believe requiring the Comptroller General to make an annual presentation before a joint session of Congress will be very helpful to focus these key policymakers on some of the most important aspects of the financial statements, including financial and sustainability measures. It will also assist them in better understanding the results of the audit and any related findings. The requirements outlined in this Concurrent Resolution represent another critical step in moving our Federal government forward, particularly as it relates to financial accountability and transparency, and will encourage improved decision making around government spending and stewardship of our nation’s assets.

As you consider this and other legislative initiatives, we are always happy to discuss them with you. If you have any questions, or if we can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact Diana Huntress Deem at 202.434.9276 or [diana.deem@aicpa-cima.com](mailto:diana.deem@aicpa-cima.com). Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barry C. Melancon, CPA, CGMA  
President and CEO