



DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
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September 24, 2014

Lisa A. Snyder, Director  
AICPA Professional Ethics Division  
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants  
1211 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036

Re: Breach of an Independence Interpretation Exposure Draft, June 16, 2014

Dear Ms. Snyder:

The California Board of Accountancy (CBA) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on the *Breach of an Independence Interpretation Proposed Interpretation of the AICPA Professional Ethics Division* Exposure Draft (Exposure Draft), dated June 16, 2014. Additionally, the CBA respectfully thanks the AICPA's willingness to grant an extension of time for the CBA to consider the Exposure Draft and offer comments.

The CBA has a fiduciary responsibility to protect consumers and does so by ensuring that only qualified licensees practice public accountancy in accordance with professional standards.

The CBA considered the Exposure Draft at its recent September 18-19, 2014 CBA meeting. Independence is a cornerstone of the profession. As such, when changes to the standards occur that will alter the level of independence on audit services provided by certified public accountants, it is important to ensure that the CBA thoroughly review and understand the impact this may have on consumers. Therefore, the CBA will be closely monitoring the AICPA's progress as it considers amendments to the interpretation on independence.

Again, the CBA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Exposure Draft.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Patti Bowers'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patti Bowers, Executive Officer  
California Board of Accountancy

c: Members, California Board of Accountancy