From:	Stuart, Beth
To:	Senate State Affairs
Cc:	Rep. Calvin Schrage
Subject:	Please pass HB121 in May
Date:	Wednesday, April 30, 2025 4:04:31 PM

Dear Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee,

I am excited to support House Bill 121, which would eliminate the 150-hours of education requirement for CPA licensure in Alaska while retaining relevant college coursework, experience, and the CPA exam. This bill unanimously passed the House of Representatives and has been heard in your Committee.

I urge the Committee to act swiftly and pass this bill during 2025. The timing is important because:

- With fall 2025 semester course registration ongoing, college students are evaluating their courses, and could elect to focus on core courses instead of the 30 'extra' credits currently required
- 7 other states (and counting) have already eliminated the 150-credit hour requirement this legislative session, meaning Alaskan accounting majors may choose to leave state (or remain out of state) to avoid a 5th year of college.

At KPMG, we typically hire 5-8 accounting students directly from college each year, providing them with valuable experience that prepares them to lead finance and accounting departments in Alaska. We only hire students who have attained the education hours needed to become a licensed CPA. This means an Alaskan student with fewer than 150 credit hours could get hired outside of Alaska, but not in Alaska, until and unless Alaska's law changes. We all want to keep our talent here!

With the backing of the state Board of Accountancy, the Alaska Society of CPAs, and numerous accounting firms, HB121 has widespread support. Passing HB121 during this 2025 session will maintain the profession's high standards, keep Alaska competitive, and support the economy by retaining talent here at home.

Thank you for recognizing the time sensitivity of House Bill 121 to keep our talented accounting professionals in Alaska.



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