



February 11, 2026

House Federal and State Affairs Committee, Honorable, Tom Kessler, Chair

RE: House Bill 2573 – **Danielle Hologram, President & CEO of the Kansas Society of CPAs (KSCPA)**

Thank you, Chair Kessler, and Committee members, for the opportunity to provide testimony. I am here, as the President & CEO of the Kansas Society of CPAs, on behalf of our over 2,000 Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and accountants in Kansas, in support of HB 2573, which modernizes Kansas' Public Accountancy Act and strengthens the CPA workforce pipeline while maintaining the profession's high standards.

Certified Public Accountants are the backbone of our economy. CPAs ensure financial transparency, guide families and businesses in making sound financial decisions, and uphold trust in our tax system and capital markets. Yet Kansas—like much of the nation—is facing a growing CPA shortage as demand for these services increases. The American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) has reported that 75% of today's CPAs will retire within the next 15 years.

For more than two decades, the pathway to CPA licensure has been: a bachelor's degree with an accounting concentration plus an additional 30 credit hours, often fulfilled through a master's degree, followed by one year of supervised experience and passage of the Uniform CPA Exam. While the 150-hour education pathways are valuable, this pathway would offer an additional option for students with lower tuition costs and quicker entry into the workforce.

HB 2573 creates an additional pathway alongside the current ones. Under this bill, candidates may qualify for CPA licensure by completing the following requirements:

- **Education: A bachelor's degree, including the required hours in accounting**
- **Experience: Two years of supervised, qualifying experience**
- **Exam: Passage of the same rigorous Uniform CPA Examination required of all CPAs**

Every CPA in Kansas, regardless of pathway, must complete the same core accounting coursework, pass the same national exam, and demonstrate real-world competence under the supervision of a licensed CPA. HB 2573 provides a pathway that substitutes additional classroom hours with meaningful, hands-on professional experience.

This approach is accessible, affordable, and practical. It allows future CPAs to gain experience sooner, strengthens the talent pipeline, and improves access to trusted financial expertise for Kansas businesses, communities, and taxpayers.

HB 2573 also ensures Kansas remains aligned with national standards. More than 20 states have adopted similar pathways, and many others are pursuing legislation. The AICPA and the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) have supported these reforms by updating the Uniform Accountancy Act, thereby preserving interstate mobility and strong regulatory oversight.

Now is the time to act. HB 2573 is a balanced solution that protects the public, creates opportunities for students to become CPAs, and helps ensure Kansas has a strong, sustainable CPA workforce for decades to come.

I respectfully urge the committee to advance HB 2573. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Proposed - Pathway 1

Education: **Bachelor's Degree**

Experience: **2 Years**

Exam: **Passage of CPA Exam**

Current - Pathway 2

Education: **Bachelor's Degree +30
Additional Credit Hours**

Experience: **1 Year**

Exam: **Passage of CPA Exam**

Current - Pathway 3

Education: **Master's Degree**

Experience: **1 Year**

Exam: **Passage of CPA Exam**

1

2

3

**CPA Licensure
in Kansas**

Additional Pathways Implementation Dates

■ New pathway(s) in effect ■ Future implementation set

