

The Georgia Society of CPAs
CPA DAY – February 22, 2022
Talking Points

When Talking to Your Legislator

1. Give them some background on yourself. Who are you? What type of business are you in? Where do you live in their district?
2. Give them some background on your volunteer service with GSCPA. What has been your experience with GSCPA? What drew you to CPA Day?
3. Discuss the profession in Georgia and give them some statistics on whom we represent.
 - a. Georgia is home to over 21,000 licensed CPAs.
 - b. The Georgia Society of CPAs (GSCPA) is the premier professional organization for CPAs in Georgia. With over 13,000 members throughout the state, GSCPA achieves excellence by providing superior advocacy, leadership, service, lifelong learning and personal and professional development opportunities.
4. Offer yourself, and our member CPAs, as a resource to the legislature. Many bills are presented each year that impact the business climate in Georgia and, more specifically, the profession (not just tax-related bills). CPAs can offer the legislature unique insight into the potential impact a bill may have since CPAs work very closely with and have intimate knowledge of the community at large.
5. GSCPA currently monitors bills and discussions on tax law changes and tax reform. If the legislator or their staff mention the possibility of sales tax on services (GSCPA is not aware of a push for it at this moment), explain that GSCPA would take a specific and formal position on any such proposal. Casually speaking, GSCPA would be opposed to a sales tax on services. You can also mention that GSCPA is very watchful of any legislation that would reform taxes significantly and reiterate the important resources that you and GSCPA can provide should the legislator have a need.
6. GSCPA is currently monitoring bills and discussions on Professional Licensing Boards and specifically any that may impact the Georgia State Board of Accountancy. If the legislator or their staff asks about our position bills in this arena, let them know there are none currently we find troublesome. However, please share with us any conversations covering licensing in the state of Georgia.
7. Discuss with the legislator the past importance of Georgia's conformity bills. Say "thank you" to the legislator for their quick action in recent years on the IRC (conformity) Update Bills, especially during the 2021 special session that took place this past November. Let them know we are aware there is a conformity bill (HB 1320) currently in the House, and GSCPA supports quick passage to align Federal Revenue Code with Georgia Statute properly. To serve as a resource in this conversation, GSCPA has assembled a State and Federal Tax Task Force who are experts in the area of Income Tax (individual, pass-throughs, corporate, credits and compliance/processing). This group is happy to serve and answer questions related to conformity and federal tax reform when needed.

Offer Them Our Contact Information if They Need Additional Information

Boyd Search, CAE – boyd.search@gscpa.org
404-231-8676
Chief Executive Officer

Don Cook – don.cook@gscpa.org
404-877-2154
Vice President, Legislative Affairs