

The Georgia Society of CPAs
CPA DAY – January 25, 2018
Talking Points

When talking to your legislator

1. Give them some background on yourself. Who you are? What type of business you are in? Where 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 with them the profession in Georgia and give them some statistics on who 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 the state of 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. There are many bills presented each year that have an impact on 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 is currently monitoring bills and discussions on 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 which would reform taxes in a major way, and reiterate the significant 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 to be troublesome.
7. Discuss with the legislator the past importance of Georgia's conformity bills. Say "Thank you" to the legislator in for their quick action in recent years on the IRC (conformity) Update Bills. Let them know, due to recent passage of Federal Tax Reform, GSCPA is hopeful the legislature will consider passage of conforming legislation during the current legislative session that would cover the 2018 tax year. To serve as a resource in this conversation, GSCPA has assembled a group of our members 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

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