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Technical Director
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Proposed Accounting Standards Update: Leases (Topic 842)  Land Easement Practical Expedient for Transition to Topic 842

The California Society of CPA’s (“CalCPA”) Accounting Principles and Assurance Services Committee (the “Committee”) is the senior technical committee of CalCPA. CalCPA has approximately 43,500 members. The Committee consists of 55 members, of whom 45 percent are from local or regional firms, 32 percent are from large multi-office CPA firms, 12 percent are sole practitioners in public practice, 6 percent are in academia and 5 percent are in international firms. Members of the Committee are with CPA firms serving a large number of public and nonpublic business entities, as well as many non-business entities such as not-for-profits, pension plans and governmental organizations.

The Committee supports the proposal.

Question 1: Would the land easement practical expedient in this proposed Update reduce the cost and complexity to implement Topic 842? If not, please explain why.

The Committee believes that the land easement practical expedient in this proposal would reduce the cost and complexity to implement Topic 842.

Question 2: Would the proposed amendments require transition provisions or an effective date that is different from those for Topic 842? If yes, please explain what transition requirements and/or effective date you would recommend and why.

The Committee believes that the proposal should have the same effective date as for Topic 842.

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We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter. We would be glad to discuss our opinions with you further should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Lombardi
Chair
Accounting Principles and Assurance Services Committee
California Society of Certified Public Accountant