

June 4, 2021

The Honorable Phil Berger
16 W. Jones Street, Rm. 2007
Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear Senator Berger:

On behalf of the 14,000 members of the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants (NCACPA), I am writing to ask you to support an appropriation requested by the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction to fund instructor training in financial literacy.

As proponents of lifelong learning and financial literacy, NCACPA joined with other organizations in support of mandatory instruction in Economics and Personal Finance (EPF) for high school students. This requirement was enacted in Session Law 2019-82.

G.S. § 115C-81.65(c) reads in part that “[t]he State Board of Education shall require that EPF teachers receive the professional development necessary to ensure that the intent and provisions of this section are carried out. To the extent funds are made available for this purpose, the State Board of Education shall require the employing entity to make available to EPF teachers and prospective EPF teachers the EPF professional development course provided by the North Carolina Council on Economic Education.”

NCACPA also advocated for the funding necessary to provide personal finance professional development and teacher training in financial literacy. This appropriation was included in the 2019 Appropriations Act. Unfortunately, the bill did not become law, and no additional funding was appropriated for this purpose.

As part of an expanded budget recommendation submitted in March 2021, the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction requested an appropriation of \$1,063,000 for Economics and Financial Literacy Professional Development in the biennial budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at rbroome@ncacpa.org or (919) 469-1040, ext. 160.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Broome, CAE
Director of Advocacy

cc: Shawana Hudson, CPA, Chair, NCACPA Board of Directors
Sharon H. Bryson, M.Ed., NCACPA Chief Executive Officer
Dave Horne, Esq., NCACPA Legislative Counsel & Lobbyist