### **DIGEST**

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#### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

House Bill No. 222 by Representative Tim Burns

# **Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House**

ACCOUNTANTS/CPA: Provides relative to qualifications for and enforcement of certificates of certified public accountants

## Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:

1. Allowed any person adversely affected by any order of the board who prevails on judicial review to recover reasonable costs, attorney fees and other expenses incurred as a result of administrative investigation, adjudication and judicial review.

#### Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

<u>Present law</u> requires applicants for initial certification as a certified public accountant to show at least one year of experience which shall be obtained during the four-year period preceding the application and must be supervised and verified by a licensee.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> except deletes the requirement that the experience be supervised by a licensee thereby requiring only verification.

<u>Present law</u> allows the State Board of Certified Public Accountants to enforce the provisions regulating certified public accountants and allows the board to revoke or suspend certificates to practice for various reasons. Further allows the board additional remedies for enforcement such as requiring the licensee to pay the costs of any proceedings involving the imposition of a remedy.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and clarifies that the board may require the licensee to pay all costs of board proceedings, including investigation fees, stenographer fees, and attorney fees involved in the imposition of a remedy.

(Amends R.S. 37:75(G) and 79(B)(3))