EXHIBIT 3
DATE 3/6/13
SB 204

anderson ZURMUEHLEN

ANDERSON ZURMUEHLEN & CO., P.C. · CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS ADVISORS
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March 6, 2013

House Business & Industry Committee

Re: Senate Bill No. 104

Dear Committee Members:

Our Firm supports Senate Bill 104, which clarifies and corrects a bill drafting oversight pertaining to 2001 legislation, which passed authorizing CPA firms organized as Professional Corporations to issue ownership to staff members not licensed as CPA's as reflected in 37-50-330.

A reason this correction is important to our Firm, is our desire to retain particularly talented staff members who are not Certified Public Accountants, who possess expertise to serve clients and the public, as well as recognizing their personal value to our Firm.

During the period October 2006 thru October 2008 we issued shares in our Professional Corporation to individuals who possessed expertise important to our Firm – an Actuary and our IT Director who were not CPA's.

In the spring of 2011, while we were updating and revising our corporate governance documents, our Attorney discovered that Section 35-4-301 conflicted with the legislation passed in 2001 (37-50-330). We contacted the Montana Society of CPA's to review the legislative history of the bill passed in 2001. It was confirmed the non-CPA's were not allowed to have ownership under the Montana Professional Corporation Act.

In May of 2011, we voided the shares issued to non-CPA's to become compliant with the Professional Corporation Act and determined correction by legislative action would be necessary. As a reference, we voided 300 shares out of the over 80,000 shares outstanding at that time. Clearly, those staff members were minority owners, as required under section 37-50-330. Today, our Firm has approximately 250 employees for this tax season, of which 95 are licensed CPA's.

We believe the correction of the 2001 bill drafting oversight is important to our profession and our Firm. We would appreciate your support of Senate Bill 104.

Sincerely,

Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co., P.C.

Gary B Carlson

Gary B Carlson. CPA
Shareholder & Treasurer
GBC/