

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 3/6/13
SB 104

Testimony for SB 104
House Business and Labor Committee
March 6, 2013

Chairman Berry and members of the committee,

I'm writing today on behalf of my firm – Junkermier, Clark, Campanella & Stevens (JCCS) -- to support SB 104.

As you are aware, this bill clarifies language in existing legislation passed in 2001 regarding ownership in a professional corporation. This bill simply refers to MT Code section 37-50-330 which discusses ownership in a CPA firm by a non-licensed CPA. There are instances where an individual could be an owner but not a licensed CPA. For example, an individual may be an Enrolled Agent, which is an IRS designation that allows the individual to practice in front of the IRS on behalf of their clients. You would also have a situation where an individual has an accounting degree and accounting background, but is not a licensed CPA, meaning they have not taken the CPA exam. These individuals, based on their background and experience, are highly qualified to become owners of a firm, but are not licensed CPAs.

We feel this bill would clarify the 2001 legislation and tie it back to Code Section 37-50-330 which addresses the issue of a non-licensed CPA owner in a professional public accounting firm.

I appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony on behalf of my firm on this issue and thank you for your time.

John Steinhoff, CPA and a shareholder with JCCS in our Helena branch.