



MARY TAYLOR
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

November 1, 2018

Ms. Barbara Benton
Vice President, Government Relations
The Ohio Society of CPAs
4249 Easton Way, Suite 150
Columbus, OH 43219

Dear Ms. Benton:

Thank you for helping to organize the discussion with your staff and several of your members to talk about the Ohio Business Gateway modernization project. The discussion was valuable for me and my team, and I think it will prove to be an important springboard toward progress with the Gateway and ensuring that the modernized Gateway meets the needs of Ohio businesses, including the CPA community.

Since that meeting, I shared the concerns and requested enhancements with the Gateway team, and they compiled the attached response document. I want to reiterate my commitment to advocating on behalf of CPAs and all business users of the Gateway and, as importantly, to establish a mechanism for the ongoing communication and collaboration between the Gateway team, the OSCPA and your members. The Gateway team is working to put together a Business User Community – with significant CPA representation – to help identify business user enhancement requests, provide feedback on existing and planned system functionality, and serve as vehicles for communication to the broader business community. I am hopeful, as we discussed in our meeting, that this group will help ensure the long-term partnership that is so important to the success of the Gateway in meeting the needs of Ohio's businesses.

After you've had an opportunity to look through the attached response document, I would like to reconvene the group that recently met, and include representatives from the Gateway team, to discuss concrete next steps and continue the momentum from our earlier discussion, particularly with the upcoming administration transition. Again, I appreciate the support and constructive engagement of you and your team, and look forward to working together to continue our progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Taylor".

Mary Taylor
Lt. Governor