Financial Accounting Foundation
401 Merritt 7, P.O. Box 5116
Norwalk, CT 06856-5116

To whom it may concern:

I am sending this letter to support the recommendations made by the Blue Ribbon Panel on Private Company Financial Reporting regarding differential standards and a separate standard-setting entity for private companies. This significant adjustment is necessary to effectively bring about more relevant financial statements for private companies.

The current standard-setting process does not adequately take into account the needs of the private company. There is not a proper weighing of costs and benefits when it comes to setting standards for private companies.

The problem is fundamental, and not just about disclosures and relief on effective dates for new standards. History and the current environment clearly show that FASB cannot effectively balance the competing needs of both the public company and private company areas.

The panel's report is based on a year of discussion, research efforts spanning 30 years and input from private companies and their financial statement users, among others. Differential standards and an autonomous standard-setting body to implement them for private companies are important and needed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephen Levin
CPA practitioner
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP