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In order to be responsive to the latest legislative developments, MOCPA continually monitors proposed legislation. The society utilizes both professional and grassroots lobbyists to ensure the CPA profession has a voice in Jefferson City. By keeping members informed, MOCPA is empowering you to contribute to the legislative process.

Update provided by Chuck Pierce, CPA, MOCPA government relations consultant

Session Update

The Legislature is on pace to have a record number of bills filed this session. The House is moving quickly on the top priorities of a supplemental budget and redistricting. Tensions in the Senate have resulted in much of the debate thus far centering on potential rule changes. The Senate confirmed a new director of revenue.

Based on the number of bills pre-filed and the number of requests for bills to be drafted, it looks like the Legislature may set a record for the number of bills filed. However, filing does not equate to passing, so it remains to be seen if that will translate into a larger than average number of new laws. Considering that the Legislature must spend a significant amount of time this year on some high priority issues that require a lot of debate, ordinary bills will have to move in a compressed time at the end of session to get passed.

The House hit the ground running last week taking up two of the highest priorities of the session, the redistricting of the Congressional districts and passing a supplemental budget. The committee on redistricting approved legislation redrawing the congressional boundaries. The bill is likely to be taken up this week on the floor. Legislation needs to be approved by the end of February when filing for the offices begins. The House budget committee held a hearing all week on the supplemental budget. There is no word on yet on the timeline for the bill, but there are some critical funding deadlines in late February and March that need to be met.

As previously reported, there is still a lot of tension among Senators. In response to that, the Senate spent much of the floor time last week debating several potential changes to the rules. These types of issues generally don't garner much public interest but can be extremely controversial among the Senators. If these resolutions make it to the floor for debate, they are likely to tie up a lot of time.

Last week, the Senate voted to confirm Wayne Wallingford as the new director of revenue. He fills the vacancy created when Ken Zellers was named Commissioner of Administration. Wallingford was serving in the House and had previously served two terms in the Senate. He chaired the Ways and Means Committee in both chambers. He is retired from the Air Force and has a great deal of experience in the private sector. MOCPA had a good relationship with Wallingford during his legislative term, and we expect that to continue in his new role.

Legislation of Interest

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking. New bills are filed daily, and the list is updated each week. Be sure to check the list regularly to look for legislation that may be of interest to you or your clients.

For Additional Information

This *Government Advocacy Update* will continue weekly through the legislative session. If you have any questions on MOCPA's government advocacy efforts, please visit the [Web page](#), or contact [Dena Hull](#) at (800) 264-7966, ext. 105.

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