

January 27, 2020

*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**

Last week was a short but busy one for the Legislature. Despite the abbreviated schedule, MOCPA had a successful CPA Day.

The Legislature observed the holiday on Monday, and then convened on Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday morning was the joint session to hear the State of the Judiciary. The forecast of a large winter storm for Thursday prompted both chambers to adjourn Wednesday afternoon. Several committee meetings had to be canceled. This early in the session, a short week doesn't adversely impact the progress of legislation. Look for both chambers to hit it hard this week to make up for the lost time.

MOCPA members traveled to Jefferson City on Wednesday. Despite the short week and busy schedule of the Legislature, CPA Day attendees were able to get updates from several key legislators. Members heard from Sen. Andrew Koenig, chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee; Rep. Chrissy Sommer, chair of the House Ways and Means Committee; and MOCPA member Sen. Denny Hoskins, CPA. Attendees also received an update on MOCPA's legislative priorities for the session.

As CPA Day participants delivered *Legislator Tax Guides*, they were encouraged to explain MOCPA's priorities to their legislators. These priorities include:

- **[HB 1417](#) and [SB 703](#)**, which make changes to the peer review statute to bring it in compliance with the AICPA peer review administration guidance.
- **[HB 1734](#) and [SB 704](#)**, which implement the partnership audit changes needed in response to changes at the federal level.
- **Licensing Mobility and Reciprocity**—CPAs were encouraged to discuss with their legislators the need to protect CPA's mobility statutes when making changes to reciprocity processes for other professions.
- **Reducing Barriers to Entering the Profession**—MOCPA alerted legislators that it will be exploring options for amendments to licensing legislation that will reduce barriers to sitting for the exam. These include allowing out of state residents to sit in Missouri and allowing

candidates to sit after completing 120 hours of college coursework, while maintaining 150 hours to become licensed.

- **Providing Technical Assistance on Wayfair Legislation**—Missouri is one of only two states that have not adopted an economic nexus statute in response to the Supreme Court decision in *Wayfair*. There are several legislative proposals filed this session. MOCPA has not endorsed any one proposal but is working to provide technical assistance to the Legislature.

Special thanks to all the CPAs who gave up a day of their time to help communicate MOCPA's legislative message to Representatives and Senators. Hearing the message directly from constituents is the most effective method of getting legislators to focus on our issues.

### **Legislation of Interest**

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking. It is much too early to tell which of these may gain traction. Watch future weekly updates for reports on which of these bills are moving.

### **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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