

Protecting Your Interests

February 10, 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

The weather dramatically shortened the Legislature's work schedule last week. Despite the shortened week, the Senate advanced one of its top priorities, and budget committees in both chambers continued working.

The threat of severe winter weather across the state caused both chambers to shorten the week. The House had technical sessions on both Wednesday and Thursday. The Senate was in session Wednesday but did not convene on Thursday.

Before leaving for the week, the Senate finished reworking the ethics and redistricting proposal. When this legislation was first presented on the floor, it sparked approximately 12 hours of debate with no indication that a compromise was in the works. The Senate took up the measure on Tuesday, made only minor changes to it and passed it on a party-line vote with little additional debate.

Although both chambers had a shortened week, the budget committees continued to hold initial hearings on the budget. Passing the budget is the only thing that the Legislature must accomplish under the Constitution. Because committees can't meet during session, in a weird way, having a shortened session at this point may have been advantageous. The shortened schedule gave the committees more time to meet.

Legislation of Interest

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking. New bills are introduced regularly and added to the list. Be sure to check the list often 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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