

April 8, 2019

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

Regulatory Alert

Recently, many MOCPA members received an email from the Missouri State Board of Accountancy requiring additional information regarding their online renewal application for their firm's permit to practice. Given the time of year and the email's format, this message may have easily been overlooked or marked as spam. Please take a minute to look for this email, and if you received it, comply by the deadline so that the State Board does not open a complaint. *(The email is being sent from regina.clemons@pr.mo.gov with a subject line of "Application for CPA Firm Permit Renewal for [Your Name].")* Given the timing and unclear nature of the request, the State Board has extended the deadline to April 30. We have been in touch with State Board members, working through why this request went out when and how it did, and we plan to discuss the issue further at their April Board meeting. We will continue to keep you posted, but in the meantime, please look for the notice, comply if you received it, and contact the State Board should you have any questions.

Session Update

Last week, both chambers worked primarily on moving bills out of the respective chamber of origin. Budget watchers are still anxiously anticipating the filing deadline. MOCPA legislation advanced in both chambers.

Last week's legislative focus was on moving bills out of the chamber of origin. That means the House worked on House Bills and the Senate worked on Senate bills. This week should see the beginning of committee work in both chambers that focuses on the bills from the other chamber. This is the start of legislative process that determines what will make it and what won't. It is also the time where it becomes harder to follow legislation as bills begin to be heavily amended.

Income tax collections continued to be a focus of the Legislature. As of last week, state revenues were down \$238 million, which is 3.5 percent. Revenue collections appear to be picking up, but this is a lot of ground to make up with the filing of returns in April. At this point, the state has borrowed the maximum it can from the reserve funds. Just like CPAs, budget writers are anxiously awaiting the end of tax season.

Two of MOCPAs priority bills addressing peer review advanced last week. [SB 219](#) passed the Senate 33-0. It now goes to the House. [HB 934](#) was voted do-pass by the Rules Committee. It now goes to the full House for a vote.

Legislation of Interest

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking, along with their most recent activity and current status. The following bills that MOCPA is monitoring had significant activity last week:

[HB 585](#), requiring PTINs on all state returns, was voted do-pass and referred to the Rules Committee.

[HB 1094](#), providing relief for underpayment penalties, was voted do-pass by the Rules Committee. It now goes to the full House for approval.

[SB 87](#), reauthorizing the refund check-off for pediatric cancer research, passed the Senate. It now goes to the House for approval.

[SB 174](#), which closes a loophole on bank returns, passed the Senate. It now goes to the House for approval.

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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