



February 23, 2026

In order to be responsive to the latest legislative developments, MOCPA continually monitors proposed legislation. We utilize 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.

Session Update

Last week, the House continued to move methodically through its calendar, with the volume of legislation advancing toward passage steadily increasing. It sent 13 bills to the Senate for further consideration. The House took up for debate [HB 2989](#), which is commonly referred to as the Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) bill. It would establish a regulatory framework for so-called “gray machines.” Following extensive debate, the House approved the legislation. The bill now moves to the Senate, where President Pro Tem Cindy O’Laughlin has publicly expressed reservations about the proposal.

In contrast, the Senate operated on a shortened schedule last week, having not convened on Monday in observance of Presidents’ Day. Continuing its deliberate, line-by-line approach to floor debate, the chamber considered only a limited number of measures and ultimately Third Read and passed three bills.

This week is expected to bring a marked increase in activity. Tuesday, February 24, is the opening day of candidate filing, and prospective candidates are anticipated to gather at the Secretary of State’s Office to secure placement on the ballot. Additionally, the February 27 deadline for bill filing is this Friday, and a surge of legislative filings is expected ahead of that cutoff.

Bills 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.

Of special note, [SB 1233](#), which seeks to expand current CPA requirements by allowing licensure after earning a bachelor’s degree, attaining two years of work experience, and passing the Uniform CPA Exam, was debated on the Senate floor. The bill was amended to include new sections defining AI and CPAs’ use of the technology. It is scheduled to be Third Read in the Senate today.

Other bills on MOCPA's priority list that had activity last week included:

·[HB 1707](#), which would modify the definition of "gross receipts" for the purposes of sales tax, to provide that charges related to the extension of credit will include applicable credit/debit card fees. The House Committee on Commerce passed the bill by a 10-0 vote.

·[SJR 102](#), which is a proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit state agencies from penalizing or withholding local tax revenues from counties whose property tax assessments fall below the upper allowable assessment range. Counties that exceed the maximum allowable levels could still face legal penalties, but not the withholding of local tax revenues. The Senate Select Committee on Property Taxes and the State Tax Commission received public testimony on the measure, and it will appear before Missouri voters in 2026.

For Additional Information

This *Government Advocacy Update* will continue regularly through the legislative session. If you have any questions on our legislative efforts, please contact [Dena Hull](#) at (800) 264-7966, ext. 105.

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