



May 18, 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**

The 2026 Missouri legislative session officially came to an end shortly after 6 p.m. on Friday, May 15. In total this session, legislators filed 3,110 bills—a new record number. Of those, 1,119 were pre-filed on opening day of bill filing; 100 were Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed and sent to Governor Kehoe. For comparison, in the 2025 session, 2,684 bills and joint resolutions were filed, with 67 being Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed.

Governor Kehoes administration will spend the next eight weeks reviewing the TAFP'd bills and issuing his signature or vetoes. Bills signed by the governor will become law on August 28, unless they were passed with an emergency clause. In that event, they will become effective immediately upon signature. Appropriation decisions must be made by June 30, and policy decisions must be made by July 14. The FY 27 budget fiscal year starts July 1. We will continue to monitor the governor's actions and will provide updates, as needed, throughout the interim

At the beginning of session, leadership in both chambers typically lay out their priorities for the year with the understanding that these can quickly change dependent on the political will of each chamber. This year was starkly different as both House Speaker Jon Patterson and Senate President Pro Tem Cindy O'Laughlin declined to outline legislative priorities.

However, even without a clear House or Senate position on priorities, the consensus on a major win for the majority party was the passage of [HJR 173](#), which seeks to place before the voters a proposal to phase out the state's income tax. Other issues which contributed to numerous hearings and floor debate are outlined below.

### **Of note to the CPA profession:**

SB 1233, relating to CPA licensure pathways, awaits the governor's signature. Final printed language can be found [here](#).

**Major issues that passed this session include:**

- Modifications to the state income tax ([HJR 173 & 174](#));
- Restrictions of the filing of abusive litigation regarding website access ([HB 1842, SB 907](#));
- Economic Development Incentives ([HB 3231](#));
- Reinstitution of Historic Tax Credits ([HB 3080](#));
- Legislation regarding the updating on the process of garnishments ([HB 1870, SB 835](#));
- A ban on intoxicating hemp to align with the federal prohibition ([HB 2641, SB 904](#));
- Clarifying language that judges may finalize a divorce while a woman is pregnant ([HB 1908](#));
- Creation of a board to hear eligibility denials made by MSSHAA ([SB 863](#));
- Omnibus Professional Registration ([SB 1233](#));
- Licensure reciprocity ([HB 2974](#));
- Election reforms ([HB 1871](#));
- Limiting drone use around stadiums and open-air venues ([SB 1421](#)); and
- Dissolution of Public Water Districts ([HB 2397](#)).

**Major issues that failed to pass this session, include:**

- Legislation that would ban illegal slot machines in retail stores in Missouri (HB 2989);
- Tort reform issues dealing with statute of limitations and product liability (HB 1664);
- Elimination of the state and local sales tax on food (SB 1017);
- Legislation preempting local governments from regulating tobacco sales (HB 2084, SB 1064);
- Changes and limitations on building and energy codes (HB 1791 and HB 2384);
- Property tax reform (HB 2780, HB 1768, SB 1410);
- Regulations for the solar industry (SB 849, SB 919);
- Initiative Petition reform (HB 2124);
- A permanent ban on transgender minors accessing cross-sex hormones and puberty blockers (HB 2033, SB 1085);
- Open school enrollment for K-12 (SB 971);
- Regulation on Kratom products (SB 1605);
- A grading system for public schools on an “A” through “F” scale (SB 1653);
- Mandatory retention (HB 2872);
- AI regulation (SB 1012);
- PBM regulations (HB 1850, SB 984);
- Child care tax credits (HB 2409); and
- Medicaid Work Requirements (HJR 154, SJR 108).

**TAFP Bills**

The full listing of Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed bills may be found [here](#).

**Budget Update**

The House Committee on Budget convened Wednesday afternoon to perform their last constitutionally mandated duty for the 2026 legislative session which is to review Missouri's 69 tax credit programs. These are spread throughout the various'

departments, although only 58 are currently authorized and have not yet expired. While the departments administer the various tax credits, the Legislature is ultimately responsible for their funding and approval. The hearing lasted 30 minutes and all programs were ultimately approved as the funding had already been agreed .to when the Fiscal Year 2027 was passed

**For Additional Information**

If you have any questions on MOCPA's legislative efforts, please contact [Dena Hull](#) at (314) 392-5805.

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