



April 17, 2023

*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 Legislature had a short week last week due to the Easter holiday. Both chambers spent the week in clean-up action on their own bills. This week will be focused on the budget in both chambers. The Senate begins its committee mark-up on the operating budget, and the House will take up the capital improvement budget. Both chambers will crank up committee hearings on the other chamber's legislation.

The Legislature took Monday off in observance of the Easter holiday. This gave them slightly less than two full days of floor activity. The time on the floor for both chambers was spent in an effort to move as many of their own bills to the other chamber as possible. This is done to create as many bills as possible that will become targets for adding amendments.

The Senate has announced a revised schedule for this week to allow the Appropriations Committee to begin its mark-up of the House budget. The budget must be passed by May 5. That deadline gives the Senate one week for mark-up, one week for passing the budget on the floor, and one week to work out differences with the House before a final vote. This is certainly an attainable timeline, assuming no significant hurdles on the Senate floor.

This schedule also provides increased time for committees to meet. The committees are all expected to start hearing and voting on the other chamber's bills. Most bills will be heavily amended in committee with the creation of bills called committee substitutes. These in many cases are virtual rewrites of the legislation. Informally these have been referred to as "Christmas tree bills," with amendments, sometimes unrelated to the original bill, tacked on to help secure passage. Legislatively speaking, 'tis the season for negotiations.

**Legislation of Interest**

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking. The deadline for filing new bills has passed. However, bills are frequently amended, 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.

**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.

**Provide Input on PTET to MODOR**

MOCPA's government advocacy team and a small working group of volunteer members will be meeting with the Missouri Department of Revenue's taxation division to discuss the challenges CPAs are encountering with the PTET filings this year. We will be sharing ways to improve the process so that it will go better in the future.

If you have questions, issues or practical solutions that you'd like addressed during this meeting, please [click here](#) to share with us by **June 1**. Individual comments will not be responded to but will be aggregated and presented to the Department's personnel during our meetings.

Some of the issues CPAs have experienced this year can be fixed administratively in time for next filing season (our primary focus), while others will require legislation. Any legislative remedies will likely not be effective until 2025. Thank you for your ongoing input and patience during this process!

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