



January 30, 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 dove into some of the more controversial issues it faces last week. Measures to reform school curriculum and sports along with measures to change the way initiative petitions are circulated were the subjects of lengthy committee hearings. Legislative committees also held hearings on several tax bills of interest to MOCPA members.

The Legislature adjourned last session without resolving some controversial issues that were considered high priority by conservative legislators. This created tension, particularly in the Senate, that in some cases carried over to the elections. When the Legislature convened this year, the big question was if those topics would be addressed or again deferred. That question was answered last week as the Legislature gave several of these bills priority in committee hearings.

The Senate held a lengthy hearing on several education bills that established a parent's bill of rights and additional rules on curriculum in schools. The House had a marathon hearing on legislation establishing rules for transgender participation in sports. The House also took up legislation making changes to how the initiative petition process works. All these issues were discussed last session, but in most cases, did not advance past the committee stage. In all cases this year, legislation either has or will be advanced by the committees. These issues will now advance to floor debate, which is expected to be contentious. Whether legislators can work out a compromise and pass

these issues this session will likely play out for some time and slow progress on other issues.

Legislative committees also held hearings on legislation of interest to MOCOPA. The Senate held hearings on bills to phase out the corporate tax over time. The House held hearings on several bills that would exempt social security income from state income tax. Both chambers held hearings on bills that would change the way personal property is taxed. These bills are all included on MOCOPA's website and in the link below, but it is too early to predict which if any of them may advance.

Legislation of Interest

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCOPA 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.

For Additional Information

This *Government Advocacy Update* will continue weekly through the legislative session. If you have any questions on MOCOPA's government advocacy efforts, please visit the [Web page](#), or contact [Dena Hull](#) at (800) 264-7966, ext. 105.

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