



March 13, 2013

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 Senate was locked in a filibuster that resulted in an early spring break for them. The House demonstrated it could handle controversial bills by passing a school transfer bill on a close vote. At the halfway point of the session, several bills MOCPA is tracking have made it past the halfway point in the process. MOCPA's government advocacy team is working on a plan to address the difficulty members have been encountering with the new Salt Parity Act.

The Legislature is off this week, which is the halfway point of the session. Spring break started a day early for the Senate when the majority floor leader adjourned the chamber on Wednesday following two days of filibuster of a bill relating to gender-affirming care for minors. On adjournment, the two sides did not appear to be close to any compromise. Hopefully, talks will continue during spring break, and the Senate will return to a normal flow of legislation when they come back.

The House has very different rules for debate and no filibuster, so it is able to handle controversial legislation without shutting down as long as a majority of members agree. It demonstrated that last week by passing a bill allowing public school students to transfer to schools outside of their home district, with certain restrictions. After a lively debate, the bill passed with 85 votes. This is only three more than needed, so if any changes are made by the Senate, the bill could face a rocky path when it returns.

Legislation of Interest

This week marks the halfway point of the session. One benchmark for a bill's chance of success is if it has made it halfway through the process at this point. Because the vast majority of legislation passes in the last two weeks, this is no assurance, but it is a good sign. At this point, the following bills MOCPA is tracking have made it to the halfway point, advancing out of the chamber of origin:

- [HB 268—Establishes the Regulatory Sandbox Act.](#)
- [HB 713—Modifies provisions relating to motor vehicle assessment valuations.](#)
- [HB 133—Establishes the Entertainment Industry Jobs Act.](#)
- [SB 3—Modifies provisions relating to the promotion of business development.](#)
- [SB 100—Creates and modifies provisions relating to gold and silver.](#)
- [HB 415—Requires dealers to collect and remit sales tax on motor vehicle sales.](#)
- [SB 25—Authorizes an income tax deduction for certain federal grant money.](#)
- [HB 154—Provides a sales tax exemption for sales of certain medical devices.](#)
- [SJR 3—Modifies provisions relating to taxation.](#)
- [HB 186—Modifies provisions relating to tax levies by political subdivisions.](#)
- [SB 94—Establishes tax credits for the production of certain entertainment.](#)
- [SB 96—Modifies provisions relating to votes in political subdivisions.](#)

[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.

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, 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!

For Additional Information

Because this week is legislative spring break, there will not be a *Government Advocacy Update* next week.

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.

Register Today!

Attend a complimentary, virtual mid-session **Legislative Update on March 31**; 9 to 9:50 a.m. You'll receive an update from Chuck Pierce on bills MOCPA is following that could impact your business, clients and the profession. [Click here](#) to sign up!

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