

Government Advocacy Update



Protecting Your Interests

April 1, 2024

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

Last week was the start of the second half of the 2024 legislative session. Both chambers kicked off the second half much the same way they ended the first half. With seven weeks left, there are still a lot of high priority bills to get through.

A combination of lengthy debate in the Senate and caution over drafting large multi-subject bills by both chambers contributed to a slower than normal pace in the first half of the session. It is normal for the Legislature to compress most of the work into the last half of the session, but this year has been slow by almost any standard.

At the halfway point, none of this year's high priority legislation has passed, and in fact, all of it faces significant hurdles in getting to the finish line. Left to get done in the last half is the state budget, extension of the Federal Reimbursement Allowance, education reform, initiative petition reform and corrections to property tax relief for seniors that was passed last year.

Some of this legislation has passed at least one chamber, but in all cases, there are significant differences between House and Senate versions of the bills. That means the legislation is likely to be changed when it travels across chambers. When that happens, the differences must be worked out by conference committees and lengthy floor debate.

The Legislature took today off in observance of the Easter holiday so there are only three legislative days this week. The House is expected to take up the budget, which will consume at least one full day of floor time. If the pace doesn't pick up soon, it does not bode well for non-controversial legislation, like the MOCPA fix for the pass-through entity tax. There are many bills like this that are not controversial but need

committee and floor time to make it to the finish line. Both of those are looking like precious commodities right now.

Legislation of Interest

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking. Bills are being amended at this point in the process, 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 as it may have changed.

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.

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