



May 9, 2022

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 passed a record budget by the Constitutional deadline. The amendment process put two more bills on MOCPA's tracking list. The Legislature begins the final week of the session.

The Legislature faced an unusual challenge in the budget process this year. More money was available than ever before due to a combination of increased federal aid and revenue collections that exceeded expectations. This created more budget pressure than in years where funds are tighter. There were lots of ideas on how to spend the excess. Budget writers were challenged to find ways to spend the surplus that complied with federal restrictions and did not create ongoing programs that could not be supported in future years. The budget committees in both chambers worked diligently and were able to pass a record \$43 billion budget on the last day of the deadline.

At this point in the session, bills are being heavily amended. This can either be detrimental or beneficial depending on your perspective. Sometimes issues that you object to can be attached to something you support or vice versa. However, sometimes the process works well, and two issues of importance to MOCPA benefitted from it last week.

We have previously reported on the matter of issuing a one-time tax credit based on the 2021 tax liability. That issue was previously contained in a budget bill. Last week, a bill that changed the pay frequency for state

employees, [HB 2090](#), was amended on the Senate floor to include the tax credit program. The House passed the bill the next day. The legislation now goes to Governor Parson for approval.

The bill provides that up to \$500 million may be returned to taxpayers. The rebate is limited to the tax liability or a maximum of \$500 per taxpayer for taxpayers with Missouri adjusted gross income of less than \$150,000 for individual taxpayer or \$300,000 for a married couple. The rebates will not be calculated until after the October extension deadline. If the total amount exceeds the \$500 million limit, the individual rebates will be adjusted pro-rata to stay within the total. Bottom line for CPAs for client questions, there is no way to know how much your rebate will be or exactly when you can expect it.

Another issue of importance to MOCPA members, the establishment of a pass-through entity workaround, was advanced by the amendment process. The provisions of the SALT Parity Act were amended to [HB 2400](#), a non-controversial bill that makes changes to professional employer organizations. This bill now joins [SB 807](#), [SB 931](#), and [SB 968](#) that all await a vote in the senate.

This is the last week of the session. The Legislature has many priorities left to accomplish. Probably the biggest is re-drawing of the Congressional Districts. Last week, a House committee made one more attempt to redraw the boundaries. The Legislature has until 6 p.m. Friday to pass this, or it goes to the courts to be resolved.

In this last week, you can expect the process of heavily amending bills to intensify. This makes it very difficult to track legislation. Look for a summary report of what passed next week, with a deeper dive into the details of the legislation to follow later.

Legislation of Interest

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking.

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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