



April 10, 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

Last week, the Senate tried to tackle one of the big issues of the session but was unable to reach a solution. House bills were assigned to Senate committees and the House began holding hearings on Senate bills, signaling that the final flurry of amendments and omnibus bills is about to begin.

One of the big issues before the Legislature this session is whether to allow betting on sporting events. This is now legal in most of the surrounding states, so Missouri is losing revenue, and many constituents are contacting their legislators encouraging them to pass it. In Missouri, one aspect to the debate has been whether video lottery terminals should be authorized at the same time. Authorizing these benefit benevolent organizations that are not impacted by sports betting. Additionally, revenue from these machines can be allocated to veterans' homes, while sports betting revenues are earmarked for education.

The House has already passed a measure to legalize sports betting, but it does not address video lottery terminals. The Senate took up its version of this bill last week. After lengthy debate, an amendment authorizing video lottery terminals was offered but was defeated. Supporters of the video lottery measures indicated they were prepared to continue the debate indefinitely, so the bill was placed on the informal calendar. Unless some compromise is reached, passage of this bill will likely take a great deal of floor time.

With only five weeks left in the session, Senate floor time is becoming a precious commodity. The Senate has so far not assigned many House bills to Senate committees. That changed last week, and most of the House bills were assigned. As these bills are heard in committee, look for most of them to be heavily amended

before they pass out of committee. Once they come up on the floor, they will take on even more amendments. The House has already started a similar process with Senate bills.

This happens every session and is not unusual. It does make tracking legislation challenging. If there is a particular bill you are interested in, it is best to check on it often. There will be a lot of activity, but it is almost impossible to predict what will make it to the finish line. Although there are five weeks left in the session, very few, if any, bills will pass before the last week.

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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