

February 5, 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

The House passed its first bill of the session in a close vote last week. The Senate continued to face delays and was mired in multi-hour filibuster. A MOCPA priority bill advanced in the House.

One of the more contentious issues of this session is passage of legislation allowing public school students to transfer to a different district than the one they live in. This issue has been heavily debated the last several sessions and passed the House last year. The first bill passed by the House this year was a bill establishing the process for these types of transfers to occur on a limited basis with restrictions. The bill passed with only one more vote than needed, demonstrating the sensitive nature of this subject. The bill now goes to the Senate where it is also expected to generate extensive debate.

The Senate continued its trend of having extensive floor debate over what are normally routine matters. The confirmation of a list of gubernatorial appointments had been held up by several senators for a couple of weeks. Monday, the blockade appeared to have broken and the Senate took up the appointments. Apparently, everything wasn't worked out though and it took a 16-hour filibuster to get the list approved.

Whatever the breakthrough was, it seemed to hold and on Wednesday the Senate approved another list of appointments with no controversy. Included in the list that passed without controversy was the newest member of the State Board of Accountancy. Congratulations to Susan Eickhoff, CPA, of KPMG on her confirmation, and we thank her for agreeing to serve the profession.

MOCPA's priority legislation on PTET changes, <u>HB 1912</u>, was referred to the House Rules Committee. It will have a second hearing before this committee this week. This is the next step in getting this important bill to the House floor for a vote.

Legislation of Interest

<u>Click here</u> to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA 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 MOCPA's government advocacy efforts, please visit the <u>Web page</u>, or contact <u>Dena Hull</u> at (800) 264-7966, ext. 105.

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