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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 had two joint sessions last week that resulted in shortening the amount of time available to work on legislation. The Senate did not advance any legislation in the limited amount of floor time available. The House finished several bills, including two that are on MOCPA's list of priority bills.

Whenever the General Assembly has a joint session, which is typically done to receive some type of official speech, it loses most of the morning available to work on regular legislation. Both chambers must convene, then recess to the joint session. The Senators then must enter the House, hear the speech, and return to the Senate chambers. After that, the chambers typically adjourn or recess. On Tuesday, the Legislature heard an address from an Israeli Consul General, then on Wednesday they heard the state of the judiciary address from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Although the Senate did reconvene on Wednesday, it did not advance any legislation. At this point in the session, the Senate has not passed any bills, and in fact, has not taken a final vote on any legislation.

The House continues to move legislation forward through committees and has passed some legislation. This week, it approved two bills that are on the MOCPA tracking list. [**HB 1488**](#) establishes several new tax credits for childcare costs. [**HB 1960**](#) sets up an alternative regulatory path for businesses that meet certain criteria. Both bills will now go to the Senate.

Legislation of Interest

[Click here](#) 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 [Web page](#), or contact [Dena Hull](#) at (800) 264-7966, ext. 105.

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