



February 13, 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

Both chambers worked on difficult legislation last week. The Senate is moving along so far without the controversy seen in recent years, passing both difficult and routine legislation so far. Several of the bills passed have been issues that are of interest to MOCPA members.

Last week, both chambers took up complex legislation and worked through the issues without major controversy. The House passed a bill that allows the state to name a special prosecutor for certain violent crimes if the local prosecutor does not act. While this legislation applies to all political subdivisions, it was no secret that the primary target of the legislation was the City of St. Louis. This issue had been worked on during the interim by a working group of legislators. It received intensive debate during the committee process. When the final product came to the floor, there was substantial debate and several amendments, but at the end the House passed the bill.

Last session, the issue of guidance for school curriculum plagued the Senate. Although this was a priority of several Senators, a consensus bill did not make it to the Senate floor last session. Last week, the Senate passed a bill addressing this issue. Although the bill passed mostly along party lines, it represented enough of a compromise that it was not filibustered.

In recent sessions, issues like the one above have resulted in a virtual shut-down of the Senate. Senators tied up the floor debate either trying to advance or block debate on these types of issues. Last week's vote shows what many

hope to be a new Senate that will work to compromise on member's priorities without filibuster.

As a result of this new attitude in the Senate, it passed several non-controversial bills last week. The following bills of interest to MOCPA passed the Senate:

- [SB3](#)—Establishes provisions relating to the start of new businesses.
- [SB25](#)—Authorizes an income tax deduction for federal grants received for the expansion of broadband.
- [SB100](#)—Creates and modifies provisions relating to gold and silver.
- [SJR3](#)—Allows voters to authorize the Legislature to establish taxing digital products. If approved by voters, it would still require legislation to establish any new taxes.

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.

Register Today!

Attend a complimentary, virtual mid-session **Legislative Update on March 31; 9 to 9:50 a.m.** You'll receive an update from Chuck Pierce on bills MOCPA is following that could impact your business, clients and the profession. [Click here](#) to sign up!

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