



February 21, 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 had another shortened session last week due to weather. This week is also shortened as the Legislature observes the President's Day holiday. The Senate attempted to shift away from redistricting last week, but the tensions continued. Candidate filing begins this week with uncertainty over congressional and state senate district boundaries.

To allow time to work out a compromise on the redistricting, the Senate convened on Tuesday instead of Monday. With no solution at hand, the Senate attempted to move away from the congressional redistricting last week by taking up other bills on the calendar. It was clear however that frustration over the redistricting issue had carried over to the general mood of the Senate. There was lengthy debate on the two bills the Senate took up on Tuesday. This continued on Wednesday until the adjournment in advance of the looming snowstorm.

The House also had a shortened week, adjourning on Wednesday so legislators could travel home ahead of the storm. The House did much of the work in the short week in committee continuing to hold hearings and advance bills to the floor.

Filing for election opens on Feb. 22 at 8 a.m. This year's election includes all House districts, one half of state senate districts, all congressional districts and one U.S. senator. Because this is the first election after the census, all districts

other than the U.S. Senate seat are subject to adjustment. Districts must be drawn to balance population as well as other many other factors.

As filing opens, there is uncertainty over many of these districts. House districts have been approved by a citizen committee and barring a court challenge are set. The citizen committee to establish state senate districts could not reach an agreement and has asked a panel of judges to set the district boundaries. The Legislature needs to pass a bill establishing congressional districts. This bill has passed the House but is locked in an intense debate in the Senate. Candidates can file for any district but must reside in the district by the time they take office.

[Click here](#) for an article that provides a more in-depth analysis of this situation.

### **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 25; 9 to 10 a.m.** You'll receive an update from Chuck Pierce on bills MOCPA is following that could impact your business. In addition, you'll hear from Wayne Wallingford, the new director of the Missouri Department of Revenue, and a tax season update from Joel Allison, the Department's acting director of the tax division. [Click here](#) to sign up!

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