

April 29, 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 Legislature advanced key legislation that was creating some bottlenecks. Several significant items remain to be tackled in the last three weeks. MOCPA's top legislative priority only needs a vote in the Senate to make it to the finish line. Now is the time to contact your state senator.

Three legislative priorities that had been causing a stalemate for discussions between the House and Senate moved to the next level last week. Legislation banning Medicaid funding for Planned Parenthood, making changes to elementary and secondary education, and revisions to the initiative petition process all had key votes last week. Advancing this legislation to the next stage will hopefully loosen the bottleneck of legislation, and other less controversial legislation may begin to move through.

There are still other hurdles to stall legislation over the remaining three weeks of session. Debate over the budget, approval of the Federal Reimbursement Allowance, and some changes made to the initiative petition process by the House, all have the potential to stall debate, particularly in the Senate.

Despite these potential hurdles, the MOCPA legislative priority addressing the passthrough entity tax, <u>HB 1912</u>, is in a position to be passed if Senate debate frees up. The bill is currently on the Senate calendar for third read of House Bills. This means the Senate could take the bill up at any time, and if passed without any amendments, it would go to the governor. The bill is likely to only get a limited amount of floor time, so it is important that all Senators know this is important to CPAs in their area. Please contact your state senator and ask them to vote for <u>HB 1912</u>. Here is the guide on how to do that:

- If you are not sure who your state senator is, look them up here <u>https://www.senate.mo.gov/LegisLookup/Default</u>.
- Contact Dena Hull <u>dhull@mocpa.org</u> to obtain suggested talking points and to let her know which senator(s) you are contacting.
- Let Dena know if you get any feedback on your email.

This process can be done in less than 30 minutes and could have a big impact on passage of the bill.

Legislation of Interest

<u>Click here</u> to view the complete list of high-priority bills MOCPA is currently tracking. Bills are being heavily amended at this point in the session, 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 as it may have changed.

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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