



Legislative Update

April 17, 2026

This week, the Missouri Senate considered and passed its version of Governor Kehoe's proposal to replace the state's personal income tax with a broader, higher sales tax. Following hours of behind-the-scenes negotiations on Wednesday night, the Senate brought the measure to the floor after 11:30 PM and passed it in less than an hour.

There are significant differences between the House and Senate versions of the legislation. The House version included automatic triggers for tax rate cuts and a specific target date for eliminating the income tax altogether. The Senate-passed version grants the General Assembly five years to determine which goods and services will be taxed but remains silent on specific triggers or implementation expectations. Although Governor Kehoe requested sales tax exemptions for real estate, healthcare, and agriculture, neither the House nor the Senate versions include these protections.

The exclusion of these exemptions has guaranteed opposition from the Missouri real estate industry, which has signaled plans to mount an aggressive campaign against the measure at the ballot box.

The bill now returns to the House for final approval or for a conference committee to reconcile the differences. While the proposal will ultimately be decided by voters, it is not yet determined if the vote will occur in August or November.

In Brief...

- Leaders in the Kansas City area unveiled a plan this week to contribute \$600 million in city funding toward a new downtown ballpark for the Kansas City Royals. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$1.9 billion and is expected to include state tax incentives.
- Missouri Division on Cannabis Regulation filed rules this week to issue an unlimited number of research licenses, allowing universities and private companies to study cannabis cultivation, safety, and its physiological effects on humans and animals.

State Budget Update

The Senate Appropriations Committee met this week to review and markup the House's version of the state's FY2027 operating budget. While numerous differences exist between the two chambers, a major Senate change involves redirecting funds originally set aside for the restoration and renovation of the State Capitol to plug gaps in next year's budget.

Appropriations Chair Senator Rusty Black acknowledged that FY2028 budget planning will likely be more difficult due to the depletion of reserves and the reliance on one-time funding sources to support ongoing expenses.

Committee Activity

[House Bill 2372](#) (Omnibus Healthcare Bill) is a remarkably wide-ranging legislative package designed to address numerous facets of the Missouri healthcare system, ranging from rural infrastructure to emerging medical treatments. During its presentation this week before the Senate Committee on Families, Seniors, and Health, Representative Tara Peters characterized it as a comprehensive vehicle aimed at increasing accessibility for all Missourians.



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The bill's immense scope is evidenced by provisions that allow municipal hospitals to expand investments to stay financially viable, establish new pathways for individualized patient treatments under the "Hope for Missouri Patients Act," and expand the role of community paramedics. It further touches on diverse issues such as workplace violence prevention in hospitals, the licensure of wholesale drug distribution, and even specific provisions regarding Alpha-gal syndrome. Other components include the expansion of doula services through Missouri HealthNet and the inclusion of Food as Medicine programs to address chronic illnesses through nutrition.

The bill faced opposition for various parts, but most of the opposition came from the insurance lobby over the various mandates the bill requires.

Hearings Next Week

Committee: [Insurance and Banking, Senator Sandy Crawford, Chairwoman](#)

Date: Tuesday, April 21

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Room: Senate Lounge - 3rd Floor

HCS HB 2103 - Amato

Modifies provisions relating to protections against document fraud

HB 2636 - Owen

Establishes the Uniform Mortgage Modification Act

[HCS HB 3010 - Stinnett](#)

Modifies provisions related to prior authorization of health care services

MAFP is supportive of HCS HB 3010. Members are invited to testify in favor of this legislation, and MAFP will support your travel. Please reach out to Bill Plank, MAFP Executive Director, at bpplank@mo-afp.org or call the MAFP office if you would like to come to Jefferson City to testify.

MAFP Bill Report

MAFP is currently tracking several bills on behalf of our members, which are included in the priority legislation report.

2026 Dates of Interest

- May 8 - Last Day for Floor Action on Appropriation Bills
- May 15 - Last Day of Session
- September 16 – Veto Session

Questions/Feedback

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