



# Legislative Update

**April 3, 2026**

While the halls of the Capitol were active this week, the most significant developments occurred at the intersection of policy and politics. The week was defined by the closing of the candidate filing period which set up some new and interesting dynamics that will play out through the end of session.

The final days of candidate filing brought unexpected drama to the political landscape. Most notably, 13-term Congressman Sam Graves announced he will not seek reelection, a decision that has fundamentally shifted the strategic alignment of many down ballot races in that area of the state.

On Tuesday night, the Senate engaged in a lengthy filibuster regarding new regulations for intoxicating hemp products. The resulting legislation, which is now headed to the Governor's desk, mandates the removal of all intoxicating hemp products from store shelves effective November 12th.

## **In Brief...**

- This week Attorney General Catherine Hanaway filed a lawsuit against Kansas City-based CBD American Shaman, accusing the company of falsely marketing kratom-derived products like 7-OH as safe alternatives for opioid recovery. The state alleges these "gas station drugs" are dangerous synthetic opioids linked to serious health risks, while the company maintains its products are safe and intends to defend itself in court.
- March general revenues into the state of Missouri were -1.66% below March 2025. This number is generally in line with expectations.

## **State Budget Update**

A looming fiscal crunch in Missouri has forced the state House to significantly scale back earmarks in its construction budget, moving from nearly 400 special appropriations in previous years to just 10 new items in the current proposal. Lawmakers gave initial approval to four spending bills totaling \$2.5 billion for state maintenance and construction, which serves as an addition to the \$50.4 billion operating budget already sent to the Senate. To address the shrinking surplus, the House budget relies heavily on \$1.3 billion in remaining American Rescue Plan Act funds and \$324 million from general revenue to complete ongoing projects.

The reduction in so-called pet projects reflects a shift from the multi-billion-dollar surpluses of recent years to a more restrictive environment where general revenue is expected to drop to approximately \$265 million by mid-2027. The House Budget Chairman emphasized the need for fiscal restraint, noting that even the current \$2.5 billion package which includes \$137.2 million for critical state facility maintenance must be prioritized over new local projects.

While some lawmakers argue that any remaining earmarks are still too many, the current plan focuses on finishing previously approved construction and addressing essential infrastructure needs as the state's cash reserves dwindle.



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## Floor Activity

### [HB 1717](#) - **Psilocybin Research for Veterans and First Responders**

This legislation establishes a structured framework for the use of psilocybin as an alternative therapy within clinical trials. The bill is strictly limited to veterans and first responders aged 21 or older who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), major depressive disorder, substance use disorders, or those requiring end-of-life care. Participants must be formally enrolled in a study and are required to report their participation to the Department of Mental Health. The bill passed 137-11.

### [HB 1855](#) - **Alpha-gal Syndrome Reportable Condition Framework**

HB 1855 integrates Alpha-gal syndrome into Missouri's reportable condition framework to better track and understand the disease's prevalence. The bill mandates that laboratories finalize and report positive results to the Department of Health within seven days. Subject to funding, the department is tasked with following up via sampling methods to ensure cases meet the official definition of the syndrome.

The legislation received backing from the Missouri Farm Bureau and the Missouri Cattlemen's Association. The House passed the measure 125 - 25.

## Committee Activity

### **APRN Independent Practice**

This week the Senate Emerging Issues and Professional Registration Committee voted out [Senate Bill 979](#) which would create a pathway to independent practice for APRNs after 2,000 hours of collaborative practice with a physician. This bill was heard several weeks ago and had been held up in committee but was ultimately voted out 6-0

## Hearings Next Week

### [Senate Transportation, Infrastructure, and Public Safety Committee](#)

**[Date: Wednesday, April 8](#)**

**[Time: 11:00 AM](#)**

**[Room: SCR 2 - 1st Floor](#)**

[HB 1827](#) – adds licensed occupational therapists to the designated professionals that can assign disabled license plates.

## MAFP Bill Report

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



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## 2026 Dates of Interest

- April 6 - Easter Holiday
- April 15 - Last Day to Place House Consent Bills on the Senate Calendar
- 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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