

The **Association** report

from the **Capitol**

February 28, 2018

The legislative session has moved quickly to the half-way mark. Literally hundreds of bills have been introduced in the house and senate. And while some of these proposals could impact state employees, a matter of a more immediate concern is pay raise status.

Any pay raise would come through the appropriations process which is working with a recommendation from the governor. In his annual January speech to the legislature, the governor recommended a \$50 a month raise for all state workers making less than \$50,000 annually. Senate Appropriations Chair, Sen. Dan Brown, reportedly has declared that he intends to see that pay raise funding stays in the budget.

On a more personal note regarding the governor, on Tuesday (2-27-18) Rep. Jay Barnes of Jefferson City, introduced HR 5565 authorizing “a special investigative committee to investigate allegations against Governor Eric R. Greitens and report back to the House of Representatives.” The house is expected to adopt the resolution before it leaves for the week.

In specific legislative matters, the senate has not yet addressed [HB 1413](#), the “paycheck protection” bill. It has been referred to the Senate General Laws Committee where a hearing has not been scheduled. We believe certain requirements of this bill would be damaging to our voluntary association.

Recently filed bills include; [HB 2353](#) - specifies that pay periods for state employees shall not exceed 14 days. It has not been assigned to a committee.

[HB 2376](#) - Would allow members of MPERS who are drawing disability benefits to receive an annual increase in benefits equal to 80 of the increase in the C.P.I. not to exceed 5%. This bill has not been assigned to a committee.

**From Harry Hill, Lobbyist
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