

The **Association** report

from the **Capitol**

May 9, 2018

As the legislation session hurtles toward the May 18th finish line, it appears a consensus has been reached on state employee pay.

If the agreement between house and senate appropriations committee negotiators stands as is, state workers making less than \$70,000 a year would get a pay increase of \$700 a year. Workers making more than \$70,000 would get a 1% raise. There is a caveat, however. The pay raise effective date would be delayed until Jan. 1, 2019.

An appropriations staff spokesperson said the raise, which would normally go into effect at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, 2018, is being delayed to help pay for the increased cost of state workers health insurance premiums.

Before this issue and others can be finalized and sent to the governor, it must first be approved by the full house and senate. Back in January, in his “State Of The State” address, Governor Greitens had proposed a pay raise of \$650 per year for workers making less than \$50,000 a year. It would be unusual for the full house or senate to reject their appropriations committee’s recommendations at this point in the legislative session. By law, appropriations bills must be completed one week before the session’s end.

Despite occasional rumors to the contrary, [HB1413](#), “paycheck protection,” legislation, has not been taken up again for debate by the senate. Time constraints would seem to make it more unlikely for the senate to wade into an issue that would take several hours to complete. I’ll send out another report if a significant development in this area occurs.

From Harry Hill, Lobbyist
Transportation Employees’ Association of Missouri