

The **Association** report

from the **Capitol**

January 22, 2019

It wasn't exactly a running start, but the 2019 Missouri Legislative Session did get underway earlier this month after much discussion of rules and procedural matters.

A bright spot in the early going came from Gov. Mike Parson in his State-Of-The-State Address. He extolled the need for better state employee pay as well as plans for repairing bridges. Gov. Parson's years as a legislator apparently have prepared him well in regard to recognizing the practical needs of the state.

While there have been few committee hearings, several bills have been introduced which are of interest to our members. A few of those are as follows;

[SB15](#) (Wallingford) Would prohibit all drivers from using hand-held wireless communications devices while driving. It was assigned Jan. 17 to the Senate Transportation Committee.

[HB542](#) (Lovasco) Would prohibit MoDOT from using roadside dynamic message signs to convey information not related to traffic conditions, weather or emergency alerts. It has not been assigned to a committee.

[HB416](#) (Gray) Specifies that a state employee who works 10-hour days and 40-hours a week cannot be required to take 2 hours of vacation for paid holidays. Not assigned to a committee.

I'll have more information on these bills and others as we move through the legislative session.

From Harry Hill, Lobbyist
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