

The **Association** report

from the **Capitol**

April 13, 2017

With just a month left in the current legislative session, a lot of significant proposals are hanging in an “unfinished business” category. In some instances, we’d like some forward movement while others could just idle in place.

A couple of bills that could be detrimental to us are [HB251](#) and [SB228](#). Neither of these has moved since my last report on March 30, [HB251](#) would impose needless reporting requirements on associations such as ours. The latter of the two, [SB228](#), creates a new “hybrid” retirement plan for state employees.

A bill featuring a return to 5-year vesting for state employees was “perfected” by the full house on Wednesday (April 12.) Sponsored by Rep. Mike Bernskoetter of Jefferson City, it is [HB729](#).

A bill which would exempt Missouri employees from the state withholding tax for a 1-month period is sponsored by Rep. Brandon Ellington of Kansas City. This bill, [HB517](#), has not been referred to a committee. It is called the “Missouri Supporting Families Income Tax Holiday Act.”

Another bill of interest to some of our Association members, [HB1218](#), is sometimes referred to as the “10-hour work day bill.” If it were to become law, state employees who work 10-hour days and 40 hours a week would not be required to take two hours of vacation time for paid holidays. It is sponsored by Rep. Alan Gray of St. Louis and has not yet been assigned to a committee.

Typically, the legislature moves at a quickened pace in the final weeks of the session. With this in mind, it’s reasonable to expect a change in status for a number of bills before the session concludes at 6 p.m. on May 12. I’ll keep you apprised of significant changes.

**From Harry Hill, Lobbyist
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