The Association report

from the Capitol

May 19, 2014

CORRECTION NOTICE

In an Association report last week, I wrote that a state match for the deferred comp program is to resume on Jan. 1, 2015. That is not correct. The \$25-a-month match is to begin July 1, 2014 - at the beginning of the FYI5 budget. A 1% state employee pay raise is to become effective on Jan. 1, 2015. I regret the error.

A resumption of the state's contribution to the deferred compensation plan has been a top priority of the Association beginning in the 2013 legislative session. We had hoped to move the state match to the \$40-\$50 level, however budget constraints restricted it to \$25.

A struggling economy led the governor to withhold the state match in 2010 and eliminate it in 2011.

The 2014 legislative session ended on Friday (May 16.) However before closing up shop for the year, legislators on Wednesday (May 14) passed HJR68 which is intended to significantly boost funding for transportation related projects in Missouri. As a result of the legislative action, voters at the November general election will have an opportunity to approve a three-quarters of one percent general sales tax designated specifically for transportation. If approved by a simple majority, the tax is expected to generate more than \$500 million annually.

*REMEMBER - The state match for deferred comp is to resume on July 1, 2014.

From Harry Hill, Lobbyist Transportation Employees' Association of Missouri