



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – WEEK #1

Stay tuned to this update each week as we bring you the developments in APRN legislation and regulation as well as context on what is occurring at the Capitol each week. This update will be limited to members only beginning in Week #2. If you are not currently a member, please visit <https://amnp.enpnetwork.com/membership/new>

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The Missouri General Assembly officially gavelled in the 2026 regular session this week. As is typical for the first week of session, most activity focused on procedural steps: bills were read in, committees were assigned, and calendars were set. Leadership in both chambers outlined priorities for the year ahead on Wednesday, with a short technical session on Thursday before lawmakers returned home for the weekend. The next week will start what will become the frenetic pace for legislators, as an election year and inner-party contests heighten the rhetoric from legislators and constituents alike.

But what the 2026 legislative session will look like is anyone's guess. Democrats are still furious over the end of the 2025 session with Republican leaders using the nuclear option to stop debate in the Senate. On an abortion issue at the close of the regular session and then again in September during special session on a congressional map redesign, Republicans used the "previous-question" motions to shut off debate from Democrats, enraging them in the process and possibly foreshadowing things to come in 2026. How Democrats choose to respond is still a mystery. However, Sen. Doug Beck (the highest ranking minority member in the Senate), has indicated that he's keeping his cards close to his vest, telling reporters "we'll just have to wait and see".

For Gov. Kehoe, an ambitious plan to eliminate the state's income tax will no doubt be an issue that is front and center during this session. Despite a \$2.6 billion gap in projected revenue vs. appropriations, conservative lawmakers are eager to repeal income and property taxes that they believe are only harming the economy. We'll know more about Gov. Kehoe's legislative priorities this week when he delivers his state of the state address to members of the Missouri House & Senate on Tuesday afternoon.

A key item to listen to closely during Kehoe's speech is his perspective and proposed initiatives relating to the Missouri Rural Health Transformation Plan (MRHT). The MRHT is a transformative grant to help states battle growing challenges in health care in rural areas. From hospital closures to clinic closures and everything in between, many rural facilities have been faced with massive budget shortfalls, leading up to closures and general lack of access to providers in numerous counties throughout the state. As part of the efforts, Kehoe's administration included a commitment to pursue legislative action to permit APRNs to practice to their level of education and training. In order to receive the funding, Missouri has to demonstrate that the state has eliminated the requirement for APRNs to maintain a CPA to practice. Failure to do so means a clawback from the federal government from the MRHT funds provided to the state (\$218 million for year #1). Expect the MRHT to be a significant driver of health care policy this session as legislators and the governor's executive agencies look to implement key initiatives related to the final MRHT plan submitted.

Legislatively, a record number of bills were filed this year, with over 1,800 total between the House and Senate. Last year, a total of 2,800 bills were filed throughout the session, with only 67 passed and signed by the governor. For APRNs, AMNP is currently tracking 36 separate bills that could impact Missouri NPs in some way. Of the 36 tracking thus far, eight specific bills are exclusive to APRNs, shown as follows:

### **APRN Specific Bills**

#### **SB 979 – APRN Transition to Practice**

- **Status:** Second Read and referred to Senate Emerging Issues Committee
- **Overview:** Provides that an APRN can practice without a collaborative agreement (CPA) if they have been in practice with a CPA after 2,000 hours of training. Also allows APRNs with specific pharma endorsements on their license to prescriber schedule II stimulants.
- **Next Steps:** Committee Hearing

#### **SB 1016 – APRN Transition to Practice**

- **Status:** Second Read and referred to Senate Emerging Issues Committee
- **Overview:** Provides that an APRN can practice without a collaborative agreement (CPA) if they have been in practice with a CPA after 2,000 hours of training.
- **Next Steps:** Committee Hearing

#### **HB 1635 – APRN Transition to Practice**

- **Status:** Second Read
- **Overview:** Removes all barriers to care and permits an option for APRNs to practice without a collaborative agreement (CPA) if they have been in practice with a CPA after 2,000 hours of training.
- **Next Steps:** Request assignment to committee

#### **HB 1636 – APRN Transition to Practice**

- **Status:** Second Read
- **Overview:** Removes barriers to care including geographic proximity and one-month preceptorship.
- **Next Steps:** Request assignment to committee

#### **HB 1989 – APRN Transition to Practice**

- **Status:** Second Read
- **Overview:** Provides that an APRN can practice without a collaborative agreement (CPA) if they have been in practice with a CPA after 4,000 hours of training.
- **Next Steps:** Request assignment to committee

#### **HB 2067 – APRN Prescriptive Authority**

- **Status:** Second Read
- **Overview:** Permits APRNs to prescriber schedule II stimulants
- **Next Steps:** Request assignment to committee

#### **HB 2287 – APRN Prescriptive Authority**

- **Status:** Second Read
- **Overview:** Permits APRNs to prescriber schedule II stimulants
- **Next Steps:** Request assignment to committee

## HB 2391 – APRN Transition to Practice

- **Status:** Second Read
- **Overview:** Provides that an APRN can practice without a collaborative agreement (CPA) if they have been in practice with a CPA after 2,000 hours of training.
- **Next Steps:** Request assignment to committee

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In both the House and Senate, Missouri's NPs have widespread support among an overwhelming majority of senators and representatives. However, we will still continue to encounter elected officials and other organizations that do not agree that full access to care is essential and 100% necessary. We will continue to press forward with health care policy that increases access, improves quality, and permits NPs to practice without a permission slip. We invite you to join us in fighting for these things this session. You can get involved in several ways:

- 1) **Join AMNP.** If you want to lend your voice to our mission, we invite you to join our cause. Membership is easy and inexpensive (about a coffee or two per month) and your involvement is needed now more than ever. If you'd like to become a member, visit <https://amnp.enpnetwork.com/membership/new>.
- 2) **Join the AMNP Advocacy Committee.** This committee works tirelessly throughout the session to review legislation, determine impact, and devise strategy to counter bad legislation and support good legislation.
- 3) **Attend an Advocacy Day.** This year, AMNP is hosting Advocacy Days on the last Wednesday of every month. This is your chance to come to the Capitol and tell the world who you are, what you're capable of, and why passing these reforms is desperately necessary. In addition to AMNP hosting monthly networking, MONA, STLNAP, and MO APRN FPA groups will be hosting Advocacy Days on alternate weeks. If you can't make an AMNP Day, please consider attending with one of the other groups.
- 4) **Testify on legislation.** There will hopefully be ample opportunities to come share your story. Legislators need to hear directly from those that legislation affects and the best way to do that is show up and testify on bills of interest. Often times, compelling stories in House and Senate hearings can change hearts and minds. This could mean the difference between a vote for us or a vote against us. Please consider attending a hearing this session and sharing your perspective.
- 5) **Contact Your Elected Official.** Occasionally throughout this session, we will be asking for you to engage with your senator and representative. This is often requested at a very specific point where we need public input on specific members of the legislature. We ask you to call or email your elected official and sincerely appreciate your willingness to reach out.
- 6) **Volunteer For Our Video and Podcasts.** AMNP is preparing to host podcasts this legislative session to give members exposure to legislators, lobbyists, and leaders that have relevant insight into our mission to provide every NP the opportunity to practice to their education and training. If you would like to participate, or you think you might have a patient willing to participate in our efforts, please reach out to us at [nursepractitioners@missourinp.org](mailto:nursepractitioners@missourinp.org).

These are just a few examples of how you can help propel our legislative efforts forward. Any and all opportunities you have to put a constituent face to an issue is worthwhile. The following page lists the dates for all of the APRN Advocacy Days for 2026.

## **2026 APRN ADVOCACY DAYS**

### **January**

- **January 21 – [MONA](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol for all organizations
- **January 28 – [AMNP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol

### **February**

- **February 4 – [StLNAP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol
- **February 11 – [MOAPRNFP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol
- **February 18 – [MONA](#)** sponsored Nurses Day at the Capitol
- **February 25 – [AMNP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol

### **March**

- **March 4 – [StLNAP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol
- **March 10-11 – [MOAPRNFP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol and annual meeting
- **March 24 – [MONA](#)** sponsored Nurses Day at the Capitol
- **March 25 – [AMNP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol

### **April**

- **April 1 – [StLNAP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol
- **April 8 – [MOAPRNFP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol
- **April 15 – [MONA](#)** sponsored Nurses Day at the Capitol
- **April 22 – [AMNP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol

### **May**

- **May 6 – [StLNAP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol
- **May 13 – [MOAPRNFP](#)** sponsored APRN Day at the Capitol

Click on the link to register for whatever date(s) you are able to attend. Attendance is free. You'll learn a LOT. And you'll be standing side by side with your peers putting a voice and face to the story.

Stay tuned to this weekly update for information about APRN legislation and how you can help this year. We look forward to getting these issues across the finish line.

As you can see, there are significant opportunities for progress this session and we will be actively advocating for your interests every single week. If you have any questions, we can help you in any way, or you'd like to visit the Capitol and would like someone to show you around, please don't hesitate to contact us by phone at 573.533.5062 or by email at [nursepractitioners@missourinp.org](mailto:nursepractitioners@missourinp.org).