

The **Association** report

from the capitol

February 12, 2015

Bills are starting to move at the capitol now with a couple of proposals appearing that are of interest to our Association. We're supporting one of these bills and the other, HB519, we oppose.

Rep. Nate Walker of Kirksville is sponsoring HB750 which is intended to specify that a state employee who works 10-hour days and 40 hours a week cannot be required to take two hours of vacation leave for paid holidays. This bill was initiated at our request and needs some refinement before it moves to a committee hearing. While it was introduced on Feb. 2 it has not yet been assigned to a specific house committee.

HB519 would require state agencies to suspend pay or charge annual leave or sick leave for employees who are placed on administrative leave for more than 15 days. On behalf of the Association, I spoke in opposition to HB519 which was heard Monday (2-9-15) in the House Government Efficiency Committee. I told committee members the bill, if passed, would restrict the flexibility needed by state agencies for employees to be treated in a fair and equitable manner.

The committee took no action on HB519 which is sponsored by Rep. Rob Vescovo, a first-term legislator from Jefferson County.

**From Harry Hill, Lobbyist
Transportation Employees' Association of Missouri**