***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script
2023 Session Preview: Budget**

Missouri senators are making their way back to Jefferson City.

When the 2023 legislative session starts on Wednesday, lawmakers will already start thinking about how the budget picture will look for the *next* fiscal year.

Missouri Senate Majority Floor Leader Caleb Rowden of Columbia says lawmakers continue to utilize the state operating budget as best as possible…

 **Rowden :07 Q: anytime in history.**

While the regular legislative session will start Wednesday, Missouri’s next fiscal year is still six months away.

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader John Rizzo of Independence adds he believes the Legislature should always take a careful approach when budgeting…

 **Rizzo :06 Q: like going in.**

The First Regular Session of the 102nd General Assembly will officially begin at noon on Wednesday. So far, more than 400 bills and resolutions have been pre-filed.

Reporting from the State Capitol, I’m Dean Morgan.