***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script
Budget Due**

The Missouri General Assembly’s only constitutional obligation is nearing its deadline.

Senator Rusty Black of Chillicothe serves on the [Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/3).

He says Missouri senators spent several hours on [House Bill 2](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB2&year=2023&code=R) when they considered the initial version of the Fiscal Year 2024 state operating budget last week…

 **Black :08 Q: spend time doing.**

The state’s budget process starts when Missouri Senate, House and executive branch officials agree on the Consensus Revenue Estimate in December.

Senator Tracy McCreery of St. Louis County adds, when it comes to the budget, it takes months for lawmakers to get to the first week of May…

 **McCreery :06 Q: needs and obligations.**

The budget has to be completed and delivered to the governor by 6 p.m. on Friday, May 5. Fiscal Year 2024 will start on July 1.

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