July 6, 1919

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was July 6, 1919, fifth day of the Extra Session of the 50th General Assembly.

This was a Sunday. Missouri senators had already met on Independence Day for this extra session. To date, this is only the second known time the Legislature met on a Sunday. Prior to this, it was done for a memorial service for a Missouri senator who had died in office.

There were 23 senators present and 10 absent with leave.

The Engrossed Bills Committee, the equivalent of today’s Rules Committee, reported out Senate Bill 2. This measure sought to repeal the ban on capital punishment that had only been on the books for two years, at this point. It was not part of the original call for the extra session, which was to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Missouri senators then took up Senate Bill 2, which passed by a vote of 20-to-one. In addition to the 10 senators absent with leave, another senator was also absent for the day. In a rare move, the Missouri Senate Journal points out three of the senators absent with leave were told the vote would not be taken on this measure until the next day and would have voted “yes.” This statement did not change the final vote.

Senators then approved House Bill 1, which was the appropriations bill for the extra session.

After this, senators moved to adjourn until the next day at 11 a.m.

July 6, 1919, the date marking the fifth day of the Extra Session of the 50th General Assembly, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Source: [*Journal of the Missouri Senate*](https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/senatej/id/88297/rec/166))