Oct. 23, 1983

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Oct. 23, 1983, the end of the first week of the Extra Session of the First Regular Session of the 82nd General Assembly.

This extra session had started on Oct. 19. The previous June saw voters approve bonds for state buildings. The governor was asking lawmakers to do several things: Issue these bonds; supplemental and emergency appropriations; authorize projects for economic development; money for schools; establish a job training fund; change rules relating to alcohol and drug offenses; laws relating to taxes; radioactive waste compact; welfare rules; and health care regulations.

Opening day saw the usual housekeeping measures, dozens of gubernatorial appointments and lawmakers gather to hear from the governor. Afterward, the first legislation of the extra session would be introduced.

More legislation would be introduced on the second day. Missouri senators would then move to adjourn until the 25th. This way, lawmakers would not have to be back in Jefferson City until the following Tuesday.

Over the years, the call for extra sessions — or called sessions, as they were known in the early years of our state — has been different. Sometimes, it is one item, or a narrowly defined list of things the governor may want from the Legislature. Other times, like in 1983, it can be a lengthy list of issues that may or may not be related. In any event, it is solely up to the executive branch as to why he wants lawmakers to come back to the Capitol.

In this instance, the extra session would take the entire 60 days, as allotted in the state constitution.

October 23, 1983, the date marking the end of the first week of the Extra Session of the First Regular Session of the 82nd General Assembly, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Source: [*Journal of the Missouri Senate*](https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/senatej/id/229141/rec/282))