***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script
Physical Therapists**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the first Missouri Senate measure to be signed into law this year…

**Nat Snd 1 :03 Q: modify the provisions….**

[Senate Bill 51](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44469) was pre-filed on Dec. 1; heard by the [Missouri Senate Governmental Accountability Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/78) on Jan. 19; sent to the Missouri House of Representatives on Feb. 2; truly agreed to and finally passed on April 12; and signed by the governor on April 27.

Senator Karla Eslinger of Wasola is the sponsor. She tells the Missouri Senate Governmental Accountability Committee, which she chairs, her proposal relates to physical therapists…

 **Eslinger 1 :10 Q: Therapy Practice Act.**

Senator Eslinger also says this new law will allow someone who sprains an ankle, as an example, to immediately see a physical therapist…

 **Eslinger 2 :18 Q: patient’s delayed treatment.**

During discussion on the floor of the Missouri Senate, Sen. Doug Beck of St. Louis talks about his personal experience with this issue…

 **Beck :20 Q: to do this.**

Senate Bill 51 will take effect on Aug. 28.

While this is the first *Senate* bill to receive executive branch approval this year, it was not the first measure to be signed into law. [House Bill 14](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB14&year=2023&code=R), the first supplemental bill for the current budget year, was signed back in February. [House Bill 15](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB15&year=2023&code=R), the second supplemental appropriations measure for this fiscal year, was signed on May 15. We will talk more about these measures when we highlight the budget for the upcoming fiscal year at the end of next month.

 **Nat Snd 2 :03 Q: Senate stand adjourned….**

In the meantime, the First Regular Session of the 102nd General Assembly has officially come to a close. On Tuesday, the Missouri Senate adjourned sine die — or, with “no appointed date for resumption” — as required by the Missouri Constitution.

The governor still has until July 14 to sign, veto or let legislation become law without his signature. Since Fiscal Year 2024 will start on July 1, he is expected to sign the 13 bills that comprise Missouri’s next operating budget before that day arrives.

Next up for lawmakers will be the annual veto session, which will take place in September.

And, remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate — plus, see a complete list of [truly agreed to and finally passed](https://senate.mo.gov/23info/BTS_Web/TrulyAgreed.aspx?SessionType=R) legislation — by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

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