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

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review another of our state’s new laws…

**Nat Snd :02 Q: that would modify….**

[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; given preliminary Missouri Senate approval on Jan. 31; sent to the Missouri House of Representatives on Feb. 2; sent to the executive branch on April 12; and signed into law on April 27.

Senator Karla Eslinger of Wasola is the sponsor…

 **Eslinger 1 :18 Q: physical therapists immediately.**

Similar measures have been filed over the past couple of years. No fewer than five other proposals contained similar language *this* year as well.

When Sen. Eslinger presented Senate Bill 51 to the Missouri Senate Governmental Accountability Committee on Jan. 19, she mentioned the goal is to give people more options…

 **Eslinger 2 :28 Q: make that choice.**

When this legislation was first-discussed on the floor of the Missouri Senate on Jan. 31, Sen. Doug Beck of St. Louis talked about an experience he had with a physical therapist…

 **Beck :21 Q: to do this.**

Senate Bill 51 took effect on Aug. 28.

In the meantime, lawmakers are looking ahead to the upcoming legislative session. They have been able to pre-file legislation since July 1. Pre-filed measures will receive their official bill numbers for 2024 starting on Dec. 1. Legislation is numbered based on a senator’s seniority. There are other criteria, in case there are more than one senator who has been in the Missouri Senate for the same length of time. For the first day bills are given their numbers, each senator is allowed to pre-file three proposals. Others are allowed to follow, starting after Dec. 1.

The Second Regular Session of the 102nd General Assembly will begin in January.

And, remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

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