***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script  
First Half Review**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the first half of the First Regular Session of the 102nd General Assembly…

**Nat Snd 1 :05 Q: in the Senate.**

Session started on Jan. 4. In the 10 weeks that followed, Missouri senators have introduced 723 bills and sent 30 of these to the Missouri House of Representatives. This includes a [supplemental budget bill](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB14&year=2023&code=R) for the current fiscal year, which has since been signed by the governor.

Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Caleb Rowden of Columbia says lawmakers have made some accomplishments in the first half of the 2023 legislative session…

**Rowden :10 Q: long days, presumably.**

This legislation features a measure aimed at bringing film production back into the Show-Me State.

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader John Rizzo of Independence praises passage of [Senate Bills 94, 52, 57, 58 & 67](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44658)…

**Rizzo 1 :08 Q: credit for us.**

Workforce development and economic development remain key priorities for the Missouri Senate this session…

**Nat Snd 2 :03 Q: floor and debated.**

Senator Denny Hoskins of Warrensburg sponsors [Senate Bills 3 & 69](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44651), legislation that seeks to modify provisions relating to the promotion of business development…

**Hoskins :07 Q: product to market.**

His proposal awaits action in the Missouri House of Representatives…

**Nat Snd 3 :02 Q: for working families.**

At the same time, [Senate Bill 21](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44523) would modify the duration of unemployment benefits based on the unemployment rate.

Senator Tracy McCreery of St. Louis County is among the senators who stood up against this measure when it was discussed on the floor of the Missouri Senate on Feb. 7…

**McCreery :09 Q: best for them.**

This legislation awaits further Missouri Senate action…

**Nat Snd 4 :02 Q: to talk about….**

Education remains a leading interest for lawmakers as well.

Senator Lauren Arthur of Kansas City sponsors [Senate Bill 17](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44539). She tells the [Missouri Senate Education and Workforce Development Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/75) her proposal would modify terms used in the elementary and secondary school funding formula…

**Arthur :13 Q: SAT is calculated.**

Senate Bill 17 awaits final committee action…

**Nat Snd 5 :05 Q: the PSRS/PEERS system.**

Senator Rusty Black of Chillicothe sponsors [Senate Bill 75](https://www.senate.mo.gov/23info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=44690), which would change certain rules relating to retired teachers…

**Black :09 Q: within a school.**

Senate Bill 75 is in the Missouri House of Representatives for consideration there…

**Nat Snd 6 :07 Q: year after year.**

When Missouri senators return to Jefferson City, some expect them to return to the discussions that were happening on the floor of the Missouri Senate when they left.

Senator Cindy O’Laughlin of Shelbina is Missouri Senate Majority Floor Leader…

**O’Laughlin :09 Q: a path forward.**

Senator Rizzo says, above all else, they want to keep the Missouri Senate functioning…

**Rizzo 2 :06 Q: sort of compromise.**

Session will resume Monday…

**Nat Snd 7 :02 Q: adjourned until Monday….**

…at which point, there will be eight weeks left. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget has to be complete no later than 6 p.m. on Friday, May 5. The First Regular Session of the 102nd General Assembly will end at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 12.

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.