***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script  
Budget Complete**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the Fiscal Year 2024 state operating budget…

**Nat Snd 1 :02 Q: you about 70….**

After four months of work, the Show-Me State’s financial blueprint now sits on the governor’s desk. A Missouri Senate-House conference committee hammered out the final details on Wednesday evening. The Missouri House of Representatives, and then the Missouri Senate passed the final version ahead of the Friday evening deadline.

Senator Rusty Black of Chillicothe serves on the [Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/3). He says Missouri senators spent several hours on House Bill 2 when they considered the initial version of the budget last week…

**Black :08 Q: spend time doing.**

Senator Tracy McCreery of St. Louis County adds, when it comes to the budget, it takes months for lawmakers to get to the first week of May…

**McCreery 1 :06 Q: needs and obligations.**

**Nat Snd 2 :07 Q: these budget items.**

Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee Chair, Sen. Lincoln Hough of Springfield, says time became critical this week because the upper chamber received measures in addition to the standard 13 bills that comprise the annual state budget…

**Hough :06 Q: done by Friday.**

Senator Lauren Arthur of Kansas City, who also serves on the panel, adds the state is able to use federal dollars for teacher pay and other education-related items…

**Arthur :06 Q: down the line.**

Fiscal Year 2024 will start on July 1…

**Nat Snd 3 :02 Q: Committee Substitute be….**

Work also continued on other measures, mainly those from the Missouri House of Representatives.

Several hours were dedicated to [House Bill 301](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB301&year=2023&code=R) on Tuesday. Senator Tony Luetkemeyer of Parkville handles this measure in the upper chamber, which seeks to modify provisions relating to public safety…

**Luetkemeyer :10 Q: entire state economy.**

During discussion on the floor of the Missouri Senate, Sen. Steven Roberts of St. Louis says he does not believe this proposal is the right approach…

**Roberts :10 Q: do about that.**

House Bill 301 has been laid over for future talks…

**Nat Snd 4 :02 Q: for third reading….**

Senator Denny Hoskins of Warrensburg handles [House Bill 268](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB268&year=2023&code=R) in the upper chamber. He tells his colleagues this proposal would establish the Regulatory Sandbox Act…

**Hoskins :08 Q: Small Business Board.**

In a previous version of the bill, there was some wording that related to the Missouri Housing Development Commission, which caught Sen. McCreery’s attention…

**McCreery 4 :09 Q: little bit uncomfortable.**

House Bill 268 has also been set aside for further consideration.

The final week of the First Regular Session of the 102nd General Assembly will start on Monday.

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.