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

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review a historic week…

**Nat Snd 1 :09 Q: by May 10.**

The next phase of the budget process started this week, when Missouri senators were set to create their own version of the state’s next spending blueprint.

Senator Rusty Black of Chillicothe, who serves on the [Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/3), says every piece of the total budget is important…

 **Black :09 Q: suffering from PTSD.**

Senator Tracy McCreery of St. Louis County says the Fiscal Year 2025 budget is tied to [Senate Bill 748](https://www.senate.mo.gov/24info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=38)…

 **McCreery :09 Q: federal reimbursement allowance.**

 **Nat Snd 2 :06 Q: $4.5 billion in it.**

Senator Lincoln Hough of Springfield chairs the Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee. He brought Senate Bill 748, which he sponsors, to the floor of the Missouri Senate on Tuesday evening…

 **Hough :08 Q: get it done.**

After lengthy discussion, Senate Bill 748 received preliminary Missouri Senate early Thursday morning. This measure still needs another positive vote before it could move to the Missouri House of Representatives for consideration.

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader John Rizzo of Independence says the $4.5 billion connected to the FRA remains the unknown…

 **Rizzo :10 Q: entire committee process.**

 **Nat Snd 3 :04 Q: when it happens.**

There are other factors involved in getting the budget passed. Some Missouri senators want to see [Senate Joint Resolutions 74, 48, 59, 61 & 83](https://www.senate.mo.gov/24info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=209) sent to the governor immediately. This resolution, upon voter approval, would modify provisions relating to constitutional amendments.

Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Caleb Rowden of Columbia says this is more commonly known as IP, or initiative petition, reform…

 **Rowden :07 Q: as it comes.**

Senator Doug Beck of St. Louis is among those who oppose this plan; however, he says, if it has to be done — it needs to be done a certain way…

 **Beck :04 Q: confuse the voters.**

Missouri senators expect to take up this resolution on Monday…

 **Nat Snd 4 :06 Q: defund Planned Parenthood.**

Passing the next budget also hinges on the governor signing [House Bill 2634](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB2634&Year=2024&code=R). This measure seeks to modify provisions relating to public funding of abortion facilities and affiliates, and provisions relating to MO HealthNet providers, and was sent to the governor for his consideration last month.

Senator Steven Roberts of St. Louis is among the Missouri senators who opposes this idea…

 **Roberts :08 Q: and cancer screenings.**

Each line item in the budget is for benefit of people throughout our state.

Senator Tony Luetkemeyer of Parkville is vice-chair of the Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee…

 **Luetkemeyer :08 Q: Guard in Missouri.**

By law, the budget has to be delivered to the executive branch no later than 6 p.m. on Friday, May 10…

 **Nat Snd 5 :02 Q: move the Senate….**

There are two weeks left in session, which will resume 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.