***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script**

The First Regular Session of the 103rd General Assembly is in its final five weeks.

The focus is about to turn toward the Legislature’s only constitutionally mandated duty.

Missouri Senate Majority Floor Leader Tony Luetkemeyer of Parkville says the full Missouri Senate could discuss the Fiscal Year 2026 state operating budget as soon as next week…

 **Luetkemeyer :06 Q: to the Senate.**

But different senators have different ideas of how state funding should be divided.

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader Doug Beck of Affton says he believes education should be a budgetary priority…

 **Beck :08 Q: the voucher program.**

By law, Missouri senators have to have the budget delivered to the governor no later than 6 p.m. on Friday, May 9.

Missouri’s next fiscal year will start on Tuesday, July 1.

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