***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script
Session Begins**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the beginning of the 2025 regular legislative session…

 **Nat Snd 1 :02 Q: afternoon, senators, distinguished….**

History is made, as the first female Missouri Senate Majority Floor Leader becomes the first female Missouri Senate President Pro Tem.

Also, the First Regular Session of the 103rd General Assembly started on Wednesday with 10 new senators sworn into office.

For some Missouri senators, this year may be more of a continuation of this past year…

**Nat Snd 2 :09 Q: childcare more affordable.**

New Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Cindy O’Laughlin of Shelbina talked about finishing the current fiscal year budget back in May…

 **O’Laughlin 1 :05 Q: that they did.**

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader Doug Beck of Affton says he would also like to take up where lawmakers left off in 2024…

 **Beck 1 :08 Q: in the state.**

As always, reaching success means different things to different senators…

**Nat Snd 3 :09 Q: currently went through.**

Senator O’Laughlin says she went into this past year skeptically…

 **O’Laughlin 2 :09 Q: we did that.**

Senator Beck says the Legislature was able to increase teacher salaries in 2024…

 **Beck 2 :08 Q: it a continuation.**

There is also the matter of putting legislative victories into perspective…

**Nat Snd 4 :09 Q: the federal government.**

Senator O’Laughlin says people have started to see a legislative win become reality…

 **O’Laughlin 3 :06 Q: adopt property-tax freezes.**

Senator Beck cautions the Legislature is only playing a small role in major infrastructure improvements…

 **Beck 3 :06 Q: to do that.**

There are some who are asking how well the Missouri Senate can function this year…

 **Nat Snd 5 :07 Q: a little bit.**

Senator O’Laughlin says success is all about compromise…

 **O’Laughlin 4 :09 Q: we get there.**

Senator Beck says he agrees it is possible to reach a compromise on most items…

 **Beck 4 :09 Q: things like that.**

Where opening day is largely ceremonial…

 **Nat Snd 6 :02 Q: that the Senate….**

The first *full* week of session will start on Monday. Committee hearings could also begin yet this month.

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.