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

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the first half of the 2025 regular legislative session and take a look at what could be coming in the second half…

**Nat Snd 1 :08 Q: lotta hard work**

The First Regular Session of the 103rd General Assembly began on Jan. 8. Since then, 10 new members have spent time with their 24 colleagues hearing bills in committee and discussing these measures on the floor of the Missouri Senate.

Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Cindy O’Laughlin of Shelbina is among those who continues to tout [House Bill 495](https://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB495&year=2025&code=R), which relates to public safety…

 **O’Laughlin :06 Q: for the governor.**

This is also the first proposal to reach the governor’s desk this session.

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader Doug Beck of Affton says there have other victories for other Missouri senators this year…

 **Beck :05 Q: out of chamber.**

 **Nat Snd 2 :04 Q: decisions than children.**

Among those pieces of legislation moving through the process this year is [Senate Bill 66](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=449). Missouri Senate Majority Floor Leader Tony Luetkemeyer of Parkville says this measure would modify provisions relating to the age of marriage…

 **Luetkemeyer :10 Q: piece of legislation.**

 **Nat Snd 3 :01 Q: I’m really happy.**

Another is [Senate Bill 38](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=250). Senator Barbara Anne Washington of Kansas City is the sponsor. She says her proposal seeks to create the "Missouri Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair, or CROWN, Act" to prohibit certain discriminatory practices as such they relate to hairstyles in elementary and secondary schools…

 **Washington :10 Q: cut their hair.**

 **Nat Snd 4 :09 Q: next fiscal year.**

The next big item for lawmakers will be the Fiscal Year 2026 state operating budget.

Senator Rusty Black of Chillicothe is vice-chair of the [Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/3)…

 **Black :04 Q: got more on-tap.**

Senator Maggie Nurrenbern of Kansas City also serves on the panel. She says she believes the proposed budget to be $300 million short on the education foundation funding formula…

 **Nurrenbern :08 Q: a quality education.**

The full Missouri Senate typically receives the 13 measures that comprise the next budget toward the end of April.

The Fiscal Year 2026 state operating budget is due to be delivered to the governor no later than 6 p.m. on Friday, May 9…

 **Nat Snd 5 :05 Q: of the people.**

Another issue that could become a focal point in the second half is property taxes.

Senator Joe Nicola of Grain Valley says he sponsors several measures that relate to this…

 **Nicola :08 Q: our property rights.**

Another issue is women’s health…

 **McCreery :07 Q: safe, legal abortions.**

Senator Tracy McCreery is from St. Louis County…

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

Session will resume on Monday.

The First Regular Session of the 103rd General Assembly will come to a close at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 16.

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.