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

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review another upcoming new state law…

**Nat Snd :10 Q: of the motion….**

[Senate Bill 43](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=207) was pre-filed on Dec. 1; heard by the [Missouri Senate Families, Seniors and Health Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/87) on Jan 29; perfected on March 4; sent to the Missouri House of Representatives on March 6; sent to the executive branch on May 9; and signed into law on July 9.

Senator Travis Fitzwater of Holts Summit is the sponsor. When Missouri senators began discussing Senate Bill 43 on the floor of the Missouri Senate on March 3, he told his colleagues this measure’s root cause has special meaning to him…

**Fitzwater :25 Q: system looks like.**

This new law will also address 17 additional provisions, all of which relate to vulnerable people in our state. These include lowering Missouri’s age of marriage, something that comes from [Senate Bill 66](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=449), which Sen. Tracy McCreery of St. Louis County sponsored this year…

**McCreery :32 Q: it not rape.**

Senate Bill 43 will become law on Aug. 28.

And — as we learned earlier this month — there are three, new Missouri Senate [select committees](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeGroup/5) in operation: the [Missouri Senate Select Committee on Equal Protection and DEI](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/93); the [Missouri Senate Select Committee on Government Modernization and Transformation](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/91); and the [Missouri Senate Select Committee on Property Taxes and the State Tax Commission](https://www.senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeDetails/92). These panels could begin to hold hearings at any time.

Next up for lawmakers will be the annual veto session, which will be held in September. The only legislation to see any vetoes from the governor this year are line items in the appropriations bills that comprise the Fiscal Year 2026 state operating budget, which could be considered during veto session.

And remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate — plus, see a complete list of [truly agreed to and finally passed legislation](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/BTS_Web/TrulyAgreed.aspx?SessionType=R) — by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

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