Jan. 13, 1875

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Jan. 13, 1875.

Former Missouri Sen. Michael Kinney, also known as “The Silver Fox,” was born. He is better known for his soft-spoken and dedicated service to the Missouri Senate and St. Louis’s 5th Senatorial District for 56 years. This places him in the history books for the longest service not only in the Missouri Senate, but in any legislative branch in the United States, state or federal.

Kinney succeeded his brother, Thomas, in the Senate after he passed away May 15, 1912.

In the 1920s, Kinney survived an attempted assassination in which he was shot several times while waiting for a train at St. Louis County Station. He went on to sponsor, co-sponsor, and pass many bills. One of his most notable established the Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital in the 1930s.

He continued to serve in the Senate until 1969, where he was defeated by Robert Byrd, who was born during Kinney’s fifth year in the Senate.

Jan. 13, 1875, the date marking the birth of Missouri’s longest-serving senator, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: *Remember the longest-serving senator*, by Bob Priddy; Missouri State Historical Society; and http://gangstersinc.ning.com/profiles/blogs/st-louis-a-gangster-history)