**The Senate Minute: Digital Audio File Script on Medicaid Expansion**

[House Bill 1565](http://house.mo.gov/BillSummary.aspx?bill=HB1565&year=2016&code=R) is among the measures Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed this week.

But, the subject of the proposal — which is to raise the [MO HealthNet](http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/) asset limits for the disabled — was not the biggest point for some Missouri senators; instead, it was expansion of [Medicaid](https://www.medicaid.gov/).

During debate, Sen. Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur questioned why Missouri has not taken advantage of available federal dollars for expansion…

**Schupp 1 / Runs :10 / OC: don’t know why.**

*“This is the biggest match ever. I mean, in terms of percentages, this is —. You know, they were going to pay 100 percent, and this body said no — and I don’t know why.”*

Outgoing Missouri Senate [Appropriations Committee](http://www.senate.mo.gov/aprp/) Chair, Sen. Kurt Schaefer of Columbia, responds by saying the reason comes down to fiscal responsibility…

**Schaefer 2 / Runs :12 / OC: fiscally responsible way.**

*“And, it’s not a question of, ‘Oh, well, you’re mean,’ or you like these people or you don’t like those people or you don’t like this group or that group. That’s not the question. The question is, ‘How do we address public policy in a fiscally responsible way?’”*

Reporting for the Missouri Senate, I’m Dean Morgan.