***The Senate Minute* Script: Committee Hearings Coming**

The first committees will start hearing bills this week.

Numerous measures were sent to committee last week.

Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kehoe of Jefferson City says a big change this year is in the committee schedule…

**Kehoe 1 / Runs :10 / OC: session later earlier.**

*“That is the only spot that a Missouri citizen can weigh in on legislation. And a lot of times, our last hearing schedule was so compressed that we were always jumping around, trying to start session later, earlier.”*

The bulk of Missouri Senate committee hearings will now take place on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Senator Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur says she believes ethics reform should be at the top of the priority list…

**Schupp 2 / Runs :09 / OC: out of politics.**

*“Voters approves a measure, during the last election cycle, to limit campaign contributions — and to try to get ‘dark money,’ as we call it, out of politics.”*

Already, four committee hearings are set for this week, to hear proposals on collateral source, tax changes, health coverage and hazardous waste.

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