***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script: Budget**

Missouri’s Fiscal Year 2018 budget takes center stage once again this week in the Missouri Senate.

The constitutional deadline for having the $27.8 billion financial plan to the executive branch is this Friday at 6 p.m.

[Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee](http://www.senate.mo.gov/aprp/) Chair, Sen. Dan Brown of Rolla, says the panel faced perennial questions going into this year’s budget…

**Brown 1 / Runs :10 / OC: tougher than some.**

*“How do we meet the, and manage, the ever-rising costs of* [*Medicaid*](https://www.medicaid.gov/)*? And, yet, we’re still going to take care of the most vulnerable in the state of Missouri. And, this year was a little tougher than some.”*

Senator Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur adds she is concerned with the elderly and those Missourians who need care…

**Schupp 2 / Runs :10 / OC: much more money?**

*“There’s a real concern about what that’s going to look like at the end of the day, and what that’s going to mean for people. Is it going to land them in nursing homes that are going, in the long-term, end up costing the state much more money?”*

Fiscal Year 2018 will start on Saturday, July 1.

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