***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script: FY 2018 Budget**

Missouri’s new fiscal year will start this Saturday.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2018 totals $27.6 billion.

Senator Mike Cunningham of Rogersville serves on the [Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee](http://www.senate.mo.gov/aprp/), and says the state still faces a leftover shortfall…

**Cunningham 1 / Runs :11 / OC: way in the hole.**

*“We’ve gone through tough times before. I — oh, my goodness — I’ve been up here 13 years in office, I think it is, and two years spent up here as chief of staff. And pretty tough times, but this is one of the tougher budgets and we were just way in the hole.”*

Senator Cunningham also says, unfortunately, school transportation tends to be cut.

Senator Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur considers the budget a snapshot of the state…

**Schupp 2 / Runs :08 / OC: the most part.**

*“Our priorities as a Legislature are the priorities of those people who are in charge; so, my colleagues across the aisle, for the most part.”*

Fiscal Year 2018 runs from July 1 of this year through June 30 of next year.

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