March 15, 1907

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was March 15, 1907, the day state representatives approved a Missouri Senate resolution that gave the Show-Me State the ability to let citizens draft initiative petitions and referendums to be determined on ballots.

After this, supporters took a year to inform Missourians of the move, which won by 36,000 votes on Nov. 3, 1908.

The move to enact such new rules came as part of America’s post-Civil War era, when many people were looking for ways to get more directly involved in decisions made by federal, state and local governments.

The rules dictating initiative petitions and referendums are contained in Article III, Sections 49-53, of the [Missouri Constitution](http://www.sos.mo.gov/pubs/Missouri_Constitution_01.2013_spreads.pdf).

March 15, 1907, the date marking the day when the Missouri House of Representatives approved a Missouri Senate resolution allowing Missourians to vote for referendums and initiative petitions, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: Missouri Secretary of State, Missouri Constitution)