July 19, 1820

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was July 19, 1820, the day Missouri’s first constitution was adopted.

It started with the words, “We, the people of Missouri, inhabiting the limits hereinafter designated, by our representatives in convention assembled, at St. Louis, on Monday the 12th day of June, 1820, do mutually agree to form and establish a free and independent republic, by the name of ‘the State of Missouri;’ and for the government thereof, do ordain and establish this constitution.”

Just 38 days earlier, convention delegates began meeting inside St. Louis’ Mansion House Hotel.

The original state constitution contained 13 articles, including Article 12, which allowed for amending the document. That would happen next in 1845, and then again in 1865, 1875, 1922 and 1945.

But, it all started with 40 people from 15 counties who took 38 days to draw up Missouri’s first constitution.

July 19, 1820, the date marking adoption of Missouri’s first constitution, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(*Sources: University of Missouri Digital Library, Missouri Digital Heritage and the Missouri Constitution of 1820*)