***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script: 2018 Session Begins**

Missouri senators are two days from returning to the Capitol.

This is the first week of the Second Regular Session of the 99th General Assembly, which will officially start on Wednesday at noon.

Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard of Joplin says as always, there are leftover issues from the previous regular legislative session…

**Richard 1  
:05  
Q: how to handle.**

Senator Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur says, despite opponents’ claims, [Medicaid](https://www.medicaid.gov/) expansion would benefit Missouri…

**Schupp 2  
:05  
Q: to their doctor.**

For the first time in a few years, Missouri will have all 34 districts represented, after Sen.-Elect Mike Cierpiot of Lee’s Summit is sworn in before session starts.

Committee hearings will also start soon for Missouri senators.

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