***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script: SB 66**

Another new law is poised to take effect later this month in the Show-Me State.

[Senate Bill 66](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57095462) will make changes to certain parts of law relating to workers' compensation.

Sponsor, Sen. Dave Schatz of Sullivan, says maximum medical improvement — or MMI — is the biggest piece of the bill…

**Schatz 1 / Runs :12 / OC: period of time.**

*“In workers’ compensation cases, claimants are often encouraged to get a third, fourth and beyond, medical opinion to continue to draw temporary benefits. This situation means that both the worker and the employer face uncertainty for a prolonged period of time.”*

During discussion, Sen. Scott Sifton of Affton mentioned there can be differing opinions on maximum medical improvement…

**Sifton 2 / Runs :11 / OC: hear from both.**

*“Have what we call ‘dueling experts,’ where you have somebody testifying from the employer’s standpoint, and somebody testifying from the employee’s standpoint. I assume, under current law, the administrative law judge gets to hear from both.”*

The new law will take effect on Aug. 28.

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