Feb. 27, 1855

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Feb. 27, 1855, the day the Missouri Legislature placed the Missouri School for the Blind under state control.

Its original name was the Missouri Institution for the Education of the Blind, and was initially opened in 1851. The name change happened in 1879.

In 1860, the school became the first in the country to use the braille system, and would go on to start one of the first braille printing presses in the U.S.

Before starting the school, Missouri senators helped come up with a funding mechanism for sight-impaired students in 1847, which led to creation of the Missouri School for the Blind.

Feb. 27, 1855, the date marking the Missouri General Assembly taking the Missouri School for the Blind under state control, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: Missouri School for the Blind and Missouri Senate Journal)