June 12, 1861

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was June 12, 1861, the day then-Missouri Gov. Claiborne Fox Jackson issued a war proclamation.

The move follows the day when what was to have been a simple meeting to determine Missouri’s secession from the Union turned into a shouting match.

Upon the unraveling of this gathering, the governor and his assistants immediately got on a train back to Jefferson City. After the train passed over the Gasconade and Osage Rivers, the order was given to burn both bridges. Telegraph lines were also cut. Then, orders were given to the state guard to be ready for immediate action.

The proclamation, in part, read, “…calling the militia of the state, to the number of 50,000, into active service of the state — for the purpose of repelling said invasion.”

From this point, state government moved to Neosho, while Jefferson City was under federal control. This would last for most of the Civil War.

And, it started on June 12, 1861 — the date marking issuance of the war proclamation that put the Show-Me State into the Civil War — on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: [The Civil War Muse](http://www.thecivilwarmuse.com/index.php?page=planters-house-meeting); [Missouri secretary of state’s office](http://cdm.sos.mo.gov/cdm/ref/collection/CivilWar/id/7048))