Oct. 31, 1861

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Oct. 31, 1861, the day the Confederate General Assembly started session.

Lawmakers met in what has become known as the “second Confederate capitol,” the Barry County Courthouse in Cassville. After leaving Jefferson City, they traveled to Neosho, where they had begun the third special session of the 21st General Assembly just two days’ prior. Moving from Neosho to Cassville became necessary in order to have a quorum.

Part of this special session’s work included appropriating $10 million in bonds to help secure the state against invasion and maintain its sovereignty. Members also reorganized the state guard and chose delegates to the Confederate Congress.

Before adjournment, members had voted to meet again in McDonald County, but this location was changed to New Madrid. The meeting never happened.

October 31, 1861, the date marking the restart of the third special session of the 21st General Assembly — at the “second Confederate capitol” in Cassville — on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: My Civil War Home [blog](http://mycivilwarhome.com/index.php/2015/10/31/missouris-confederate-general-assembly-at-cassville/) and [*Missouri Confederate House Journal*](http://digital.shsmo.org/cdm/ref/collection/amcw/id/10217))