**This Week in the Missouri Senate:  
Digital Audio File Script on HB 1941**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review a new law that will oversee the online world of fantasy sports…

**Nat Snd / Runs :06 / OC: it not gambling?**

Senator Keaveny: *“This is the regulation of the fantasy sports.”*

Senator Schmitt: *“Well, the question — right — is, ‘Is it gambling, or is it not gambling?’”*

[House Bill 1941](http://house.mo.gov/billsummary.aspx?bill=HB1941&year=2016&code=R) was signed into law on June 10.

The new law will exclude any fantasy contest from gambling or advance gambling activity.

During Missouri Senate debate on the measure, on May 10, bill handler — Senate Minority Floor Leader Joseph Keaveny of St. Louis — told his colleagues this concept was mentioned during the governor’s annual budget message to lawmakers…

**Keaveny 1 / Runs :13 / OC: can live with.**

*“There’s been negotiations with governor’s office, the industry. I worked with the Senate majority leader, the president pro tem and myself. We finally reached an agreement where all parties can live with.”*

But, Sen. Eric Schmitt of Glendale says he’s not sure why the new law is needed…

**Schmitt 2 / Runs :16 / OC: what’s the problem?**

*“This seems like a very, very regulated construct of fantasy sports, and — I guess — I’m wondering…. I know the governor had it in his State of the State, and I don’t really know where that came from, but…. What is the rationale for all of this stuff? I mean, I don’t know — I guess, what’s the problem?”*

Before now, online fantasy sports had not been regulated in Missouri…

**Keaveny-Schmitt 3 / Runs :12 / OC: personally believe it.**

Senator Keaveny: *“Trying to regulate an industry that’s previously not been regulated.”*

Senator Schmitt: *“I would argue that it is a game of skill.”*

Senator Keaveny: *“It’s a game of chance or a game of skill.”*

Senator Schmitt: *“So, you think fantasy sports is a game of chance.”*

Senator Keaveny: *“I, personally, believe it.”*

Senator Keaveny also mentions this idea had been presented to the gaming companies early on.

During Missouri Senate discussion, Sen. Rob Schaaf of St. Joseph also said he’s unsure why this had become a priority…

**Schaaf 4 / Runs :09 / OC: to operate freely.**

*“Right now, people who do fantasy sports, they don’t have to have a license. Why should we go down that road and limit their ability to operate freely?”*

House Bill 1941 will take effect on Aug. 28.

In addition, other measures have been signed by the executive branch, including:

* [Senate Bill 579](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=22246494), which modifies provisions relating to infection reporting of health care facilities and telehealth services;
* [Senate Bill 620](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=22246437), which modifies composition of the [Career and Technical Education Advisory Council](https://boards.mo.gov/userpages/Board.aspx?370) and requires it to establish minimum requirement for a career and technical education certificate;
* [Senate Bill 875](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=24287466), which allows a pharmacist to select an interchangeable biological product when filling a biological product prescription;
* [Senate Bill 968](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=25586057), which allows current members of the [Missouri National Guard](http://www.moguard.com/) and reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces to receive in-state residency status for college.

The last day for legislation to be signed or vetoed will be July 14.

And, remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate — plus see a complete list of [Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/BTS_Web/TrulyAgreed.aspx?SessionType=R) legislation — by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

Reporting for the Missouri Senate, I’m Dean Morgan.