***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script: 2018 Session Begins**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the first week of the Second Regular Session of the 99th General Assembly…

**Nat Snd 1
:04
Q: come to order….**

The session starts with a lot of issues left undecided…

**Nat Snd 2
:03
Q: of manufacturing jobs.**

Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard of Joplin says his top priority remains economic development…

**Richard 1
:04
Q: do to help?**

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader Gina Walsh of Bellefontaine Neighbors says she opposes Right to Work…

**Walsh 1
:06
Q:for your economy?**

**Nat Snd 3
:05
Q: we always do.**

For Missouri Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kehoe of Jefferson City, economic development *has* to be addressed…

**Kehoe
:05
Q: somebody right now.**

Senator Walsh adds her caucus has a short list of goals…

**Walsh 2
:06
Q: for working families.**

**Nat Snd 4
:07
Q: of my agenda.**

Senator Richard says there are leftover issues from the previous regular legislative session…

**Richard 2
:06
Q: how to handle.**

Senator Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur says [Medicaid](https://www.medicaid.gov/) expansion would benefit Missouri…

**Schupp 1
:03
Q: to their doctor.**

**Nat Snd 5
:05
Q: lines, health care.**

Senator Bill Eigel of Weldon Spring says his [Senate Bill 617](http://www.senate.mo.gov/18info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=69472991), while lowering taxes, would also raise the gas tax by 6 cents, which he says he would normally oppose…

**Eigel
:07
Q: tax reform measure.**

But, Sen. Schupp is concerned with cutting taxes…

**Schupp 2
:04
Q: the federal level.**

**Nat Snd 6
:02
Q: hand, be sworn….**

In addition, Missouri’s newest senator was sworn in on Wednesday. Senator Mike Cierpiot of Lee’s Summit replaces Will Kraus, who now serves on the [State Tax Commission](https://stc.mo.gov/)…

**Nat Snd 7
:02
Q: senator. Thank you….**

And, on Thursday…

**Nat Snd 8
:04
Q: appreciates working with….**

Ryan Silvey of Kansas City was approved by his, now, former colleagues for a spot on the [Missouri Public Service Commission](https://psc.mo.gov/). A special election for the 17th Senatorial District will be named at a later date…

**Nat Snd 9
:04
Q: Monday ‘til 4 p.m….**

Committee hearings will also start soon for Missouri senators.

And, remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

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