***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script: Priority Legislation**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review more measures making their way through the upper chamber…

**Nat Snd 1 / Runs :01 / OC: up for perfection.**

*“…taken up for perfection….”*

Another measure that relates to tort reform came before Missouri senators on Monday afternoon.

Senator Dave Schatz of Sullivan sponsors [Senate Bill 66](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57095462).

His proposal seeks to make changes to some of the laws relating to workers' compensation, specifically in regard to Maximum Medical Improvement, or MMI…

**Schatz 1 / Runs :08 / OC: returns to work.**

*“Temporary, total disability and temporary, partial disability payments will stop being paid once the claimant has reached that MMI and returns to work.”*

During discussion, Sen. Scott Sifton of Affton said he has concerns with the bill, as written…

**Sifton 2 / Runs :11 / OC: guard against it.**

*“We’d all like to think that there’s no world in which company physicians simply decide people are — reached maximum medical improvement this minute they come home from the E.R., there’s nothing to guard against it.”*

Missouri senators gave Senate Bill 66 first-round approval on Monday evening. On Thursday morning, Missouri senators voted 25-eight to send the proposal to the Missouri House of Representatives for similar consideration…

**Nat Snd 2 / Runs :01 / OC: Senate Bill 34.**

*“..President, I move that Senate Bill 34….”*

Part of Tuesday afternoon is spent talking about what to do with certain criminals who commit felonies in our state.

Senator Mike Cunningham of Rogersville sponsors [Senate Bill 34](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57095296), legislation that would create the crime of illegal reentry.

He tells his colleagues one change has been made to what was introduced last year…

**Cunningham 3 / Runs :08 / OC: through that again.**

*“Felony was in there last year. We lowered the penalty. Last year, I think it was a different class. And, last year, we lowered the C and I lifted the same. I didn’t want to go through that again.”*

During discussion, Sen. Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur adds she believes more legislation is growing out of fear…

**Schupp 4 / Runs :12 / OC: we are perpetuating.**

*“With the president’s new Executive Order, it changed from the old Executive Order a little bit, but to disallow people from countries that are Muslim to come into this country because of the fear that we are perpetuating.”*

By a 27-six vote Thursday morning, Senate Bill 34 now goes to the Missouri House of Representatives…

**Nat Snd 1 / Runs :01 / OC: Senate Committee Substitute.**

*“130 with Senate Committee Substitute….”*

Wednesday afternoon saw start of talk about a move to let a new industry into Missouri.

Senator Bob Onder of Lake St. Louis handles [House Bill 130](http://house.mo.gov/Bill.aspx?bill=HB130&year=2017&code=R) in the upper chamber.

The measure would create regulations relating to transportation network companies…

**Onder 5 / Runs :10 / OC: state of Missouri.**

*“Connect drivers with riders through a digital network. These companies have the potential of creating thousands of new jobs. Some estimate as many as 10,000 new jobs in the state of Missouri.”*

During dialogue, Sen. John Rizzo of Kansas City mentioned he is not impressed with the way some of these companies operate…

**Rizzo 6 / Runs :10 / OC: possibly a fine.**

*“If any other person was actively trying to deceive law enforcement, to operate outside of the law, I believe the penalty is a misdemeanor and time served and possibly a fine.”*

House Bill 130 has been set aside for future debate.

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.