***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script: Second Half**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review how the beginning of the second half of session progressed…

**Nat Snd 1 / Runs :02 / OC: that substitute back?**

*“…Would you send that substitute back…?”*

Tuesday saw opening dialogue on [Senate Bill 190](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57121066), which seeks to modify provisions relating to ratemaking for public utilities.

Senator Ed Emery of Lamar is the sponsor, and offered a substitute measure late Tuesday afternoon…

**Emery 1 / Runs :08/ OC: that we’ve corrected.**

*“So, a couple of technical problems that we discovered. One of them related to one of those amendments, and another one that we discovered in the bill that we’ve corrected.”*

During discussion, Senate Minority Floor Leader Gina Walsh of Bellefontaine Neighbors mentioned she has concerns about how low-income people would fare…

**Walsh 2 / Runs :07 / OC: going to skyrocket.**

*“I just want to make sure that little lady that lives down the street from me, that her electric bill isn’t going to skyrocket.”*

Senate Bill 190 has been set aside for further talks, as has [Senate Bill 184](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57098189), which relates to water and sewer rate adjustments…

**Nat Snd 2 / Runs :02 / OC: before the body.**

*“…’Ayes’ appear to have it. The ‘ayes’ do have it. The bill is before the body….”*

Wednesday saw time spent on [Senate Bill 213](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57343914), which would establish requirements for certain settlement offers of tort claims which must be accepted within a specified period of time.

Senator Caleb Rowden of Columbia is sponsor, and says a “time-limited demand” is when a lawyer tells an insurance company his client has damages he wants restored immediately…

**Rowden 3 / Runs :06 / OC: our current law.**

*“What is thought to be done is to find a way around our current law.”*

During discussion, Sen. Scott Sifton of Affton said he believes improvements *can* be made to current law…

**Sifton 4 / Runs :05 / OC: thinks about this.**

*“Bearing in mind, of course, I’m just one of 33 and I don’t know what everybody else here thinks about this.”*

On Wednesday evening, Missouri senators gave first-round approval to Senate Bill 213. Another favorable vote would send the measure to the Missouri House of Representatives for similar consideration…

**Nat Snd 3 / Runs :02 / OC: Senate Bill Number.**

*“…Francois moves that Senate Bill No….”*

After passing several consent bills — measures considered noncontroversial or without a fiscal note — on Monday afternoon, Missouri senators spent time on [Senate Bill 293](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57611632).

Sponsor, Sen. Gary Romine of Farmington, says his proposal would modify the per-ton fee paid to the [Missouri Division of Fire Safety](http://dfs.dps.mo.gov/) for the use of explosives under the [Missouri Blasting Safety Act](http://dfs.dps.mo.gov/programs/investigations/blasting.php)…

**Romine 5 / Runs :10 / OC: administering the program.**

*“Therefore, we added language in the bill that states that the fee authorized in this section, and adjusted by the rule, shall not be greater than the cost of administering the program.”*

Senator Jason Holsman of Kansas City later reacted to an attempted amendment that would have related to noise ordinances…

**Holsman 6 / Runs :08 / OC: and county ordinances.**

*“But anytime you’re trying to mitigate nuisance liability…. You know, I think of the CAFOs [concentrated animal-feeding operations] and the health ordinances and county ordinances.”*

The amendment was withdrawn.

Senate Bill 293 received preliminary Missouri Senate approval on Monday evening, and was sent to the Missouri House on Thursday.

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.