***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script: SB 182 Signed Into Law**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review one of the measures that have been signed into law by the governor…

**Nat Snd 1 / Runs :04 / OC: Public Construction Act.**

*“Senate Bill 182 is the ‘Fairness in Public Construction Act.’”*

[Senate Bill 182](http://www.senate.mo.gov/17info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=57095469) will modify provisions of law relating to project-labor agreements.

During floor discussion on Feb. 6, bill sponsor — Sen. Bob Onder of Lake St. Louis — said Senate Bill 182 addresses union-only project-labor agreements, which he calls project-specific collective bargaining agreements...

**Onder 1 / Runs :10 / OC: the union’s demands.**

*“PLA’s essentially ensure that all work on a public project is done by union contractors, or those non-union contractors that will acquiesce to the union’s demands.”*

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader Gina Walsh of Bellefontaine Neighbors countered her fear is this would start a precedent of dictating to cities and counties…

**Walsh 2 / Runs :06 / OC: their aldermanic meetings?**

*“So, are we going to legislate what people can talk about in their municipalities and their aldermanic meetings?”*

Senator Mike Cunningham of Rogersville — who supports the measure — says, at the $50 million mark, many local contractors are currently excluded…

**Cunningham 3 / Runs :11 / OC: people of Missouri.**

*“It also was proven to show that it increased the cost up to 18 to 22 percent, some figure like that, of the cost of construction. So, not a lot of those going on, but that was a good thing for the people of Missouri.”*

But, Sen. Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur — who opposes the idea — says the new law will go after a small number of people…

**Schupp 4 / Runs :10 / OC: of the marketplace.**

*“Are trying to join together to participate in a project to earn a fair day’s living for a good day’s work, and we’re taking that out of the marketplace.”*

Senator Cunningham adds making this change will mean more people working…

**Cunningham 5 / Runs :10 / OC: will go up.**

*“Maybe not just work six months — nine months — out of the year, keep them busy. And, I think competition — once we get things rolling — competition will drive things up. I think it will drive up wages. The more jobs we can create here in Missouri, the more wages will go up.”*

Senator Schupp agrees with Sen. Walsh’s point on overshadowing local governments…

**Schupp 6 / Runs :09 / OC: in these projects.**

*“I think that we have taken away local control and, kind of, diminished or undermined the marketplace opportunities that everyone would have when they engage in these projects.”*

During Missouri Senate perfection on Feb. 8, Sen. Onder reiterated — without this law — non-union contractors cannot bid on most state projects…

**Onder 7 / Runs :11 / OC: on that pension.**

*“They have to hire out of the union hiring hall. They have to follow union work rules. I’ll tell you what’s really wrong is, those non-union workers have to pay into the union pension system, even though they’ll never be vested in or draw on that pension.”*

Senator Jamilah Nasheed of St. Louis believes this measure will keep many cities from bidding…

**Nasheed 8 / Runs :07 / OC: longer do that.**

*“Even if you will like to go into a PLA, the state is telling you that ‘no way, no how.’ You can no longer do that.”*

The new law will take effect on Aug. 28.

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/17info/BTS_Web/TrulyAgreed.aspx?SessionType=R) legislation — by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

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