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

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review some of the committees that have met during the interim…

**Nat Snd / Runs :04 / OC: call the roll?**

*“I think we have a quorum. Madam Secretary, would you please call the roll…?”*

So far, since Missouri senators adjourned the regular legislative session back in May, five major panels have held hearings.

Most of these are interim or joint Missouri Senate-House committees with a relatively short deadline for finishing work.

The first of these was the [Senate Interim Committee on MO HealthNet Pharmacy Benefits](http://www.senate.mo.gov/sipb/).

The panel first-met on July 27, and is chaired by Sen. David Sater of Cassville…

**Sater 1 / Runs :14 / OC: it is unsustainable.**

*“This is the first of probably two or three meetings that we’re going to have on trying to figure out how we’re going to control* [*Medicaid*](https://www.medicaid.gov/) *pharmacy benefits. We’ve seen tremendous increase in the cost, in the last couple of years. It is unsustainable.”*

The Senate Interim Committee on [MO HealthNet](http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/) Pharmacy Benefits stems from several years of legislative attention paid to health care issues that affect our state. Its final hearing is now scheduled for Nov. 10, at which time it is believed members will issue final recommendations.

Also related to health care is the [Legislative Task Force on Dyslexia](http://www.senate.mo.gov/ltfd/), which met for the first time on Oct. 18. Senator Scott Sifton of Affton serves on the committee…

**Sifton 2 / Runs :13 / OC: had some background.**

*“This started for me with a constituent who contacted our office, was very frustrated with her ability to get services for her son at one of the school districts that I represent. Having been a nine-year school board member myself, had some background.”*

The Legislative Task Force on Dyslexia has a deadline of Aug. 31, 2018, to make recommendations. This group has more hearings scheduled for next month and December.

Another is the [Senate Interim Committee on Long-Term Care Facilities](http://www.senate.mo.gov/SILC/).

The panel met for the first time on Sept. 15, and is chaired by Sen. Mike Cunningham of Rogersville…

**Cunningham 3 / Runs :14 / OC: St. Louis or Springfield.**

*“We’re not here to decide whether or not there’ll be money spent on a home, look into to see whether or not it’s feasible, what might happen, different options, various options, stuff like that. So, we will be looking at that. We’re not here to decide one’s going to go in Hannibal or Kansas City or St. Louis or Springfield.”*

The Senate Interim Commmittee on Long-Term Care Facilities held its final meeting this week.

In addition, the [Senate Interim Committee on Utility Regulation and Infrastructure Investment](http://www.senate.mo.gov/siri/).

This group first met on Aug. 23, and is led by Sen. Ed Emery of Lamar…

**Emery 4 / Runs :14 / OC: of regulatory reforms.**

*“Kind of take a broad swath of what other states have done, in terms of infrastructure improvements, and how to finance those — and then, to try to find out what we should be doing in Missouri — if anything, in terms of regulatory reforms.”*

The Senate Interim Committee on Utility Regulation and Infrastructure Investment also held its final meeting this week.

Also this interim, the [Joint Committee on the Justice System](http://www.senate.mo.gov/jcjs/) met on Sept. 13.

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 for the Missouri Senate, I’m Dean Morgan.