***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script
Tort Reform**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review one of the higher-profile and more controversial measures considered during this year’s regular legislative session…

**Nat Snd :08 Q: and venue laws.**

[Senate Bill 7](https://www.senate.mo.gov/19info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=29) modifies provisions of civil procedure regarding joinder and venue. This new law will take effect on Aug. 28.

This is an issue that came about after the original tort reform efforts of 2005. Since then, a number of measures has been introduced in the Missouri General Assembly aimed at curbing methods to skirt those original laws.

Senator Ed Emery of Lamar sponsored Senate Bill 7 this year. He says changes were made to his proposal during lengthy debate…

 **Emery 1 :23 Q: plaintiffs’ attorney side.**

Senator Karla May of St. Louis is among the senators who went into this debate with concerns. She says their main goal was to protect every Missourian…

 **May 1 :24 Q: the same product.**

Senator Emery says the hope is to keep from manipulating the system…

 **Emery 2 :14 Q: much of that.**

Senator May adds she still believes this new law will negatively impact class-action lawsuits…

 **May 2 :18 Q: against a corporation.**

Part of Senate Bill 7 cites a [specific court case](https://law.justia.com/cases/missouri/supreme-court/2019/sc96704.html) as its guide for how such lawsuits proceed from here. The decision was made public at the same time first debate started on this particular measure.

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.