***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script
Public Safety**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the first hearing of a new interim panel…

**Nat Snd :02 Q: At this time….**

The [Missouri Senate Interim Committee on Public Safety](https://www.senate.mo.gov/sips/) held its first meeting on Monday.

The panel’s opening hearing lasted more than six hours, with some 20 different people testifying.

The issue of gun safety has become more important over the past few years, with a growing number of shootings capturing headlines throughout the country.

Senator Doug Libla of Poplar Bluff is the committee chair. He says this group has a limited time to meet…

 **Libla :10 Q: committee in January.**

Senator Brian Williams of University City also serves on the panel. He says the question, to him, comes down to how can a legislative goal of finding a solution come down to as small a number of laws as possible?...

 **Williams :13 Q: state of Missouri.**

Earlier this year, Missouri Senate Majority Floor Leader Caleb Rowden of Columbia talked about five key public safety reforms lawmakers passed *last* year…

 **Rowden :13 Q: to the individual.**

Missouri Senate Assistant Minority Floor Leader Shalonn “Kiki” Curls of Kansas City adds public safety was also a factor during *this* year’s legislative session…

 **Curls :05 Q: potentially be significant.**

Public safety and tort reform have met at the crossroads for many years in the Missouri Senate. Those who favor tort reform have advocated not only for economic impact, but to address safety concerns as well.

For others, changes made in [Senate Bill 7](https://www.senate.mo.gov/19info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=29) — which makes changes to Missouri’s joinder and venue rules — is not the answer, at least, according to Sen. Karla May of St. Louis…

 **May :07 Q: for class-action suits.**

But, for Senate Bill 7 sponsor — Sen. Ed Emery of Lamar — the costs of the old system had to be taken into consideration…

 **Emery :08 Q: me the most.**

The Missouri Senate Interim Committee on Public Safety has until Jan. 31 of next year to prepare a report for the full Missouri Senate.

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.