***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script
Witness Protection Fund**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review the first measure to be signed following extra session…

**Nat Snd :12 Q: of a soundbite.**

[House Bill 66](https://www.house.mo.gov/bill.aspx?bill=HB66&year=2020&code=S1) creates the Pretrial Witness Protection Services Fund, one of several individual qualifiers for the extraordinary session that concluded last week.

Senator Tony Luetkemeyer of Parkville handled the legislation in the upper chamber, which was discussed on Sept. 2…

 **Luetkemeyer 1 :15 Q: in our cities.**

Law enforcement officials believe fewer criminals are going to trial because of witness intimidation…

 **Luetkemeyer 2 :21 Q: after criminal trials.**

Senator Karla May of St. Louis points out the Missouri Department of Public Safety will oversee the fund…

 **May 1 :16 Q: witnesses for trial?**

She also mentions this already exists in state law…

 **May 2 :25 Q: it this time?**

Senator Doug Libla of Poplar Bluff also points out this fund existed in his [Senate Bill 1](https://www.senate.mo.gov/20info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=E1&BillID=49966062)…

 **Libla :07 Q: that’s very large.**

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader John Rizzo of Kansas City worries the extra session was called for the wrong reasons…

 **Rizzo :05 Q: not fund it.**

With an emergency clause, House Bill 66 became law upon the governor’s signature.

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.