***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script
Session Begins**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review opening week of the First Regular Session of the 100th General Assembly…

**Nat Snd 1 :02 Q: (sfx out)**

The gavel came down on Wednesday, with nine new members taking oath of office and officially becoming Missouri senators, plus another eight returning for a second term…

**Nat Snd 2 :01 Q: I…I….**

After standard opening day business, Missouri senators could introduce resolutions…

 **Nat Snd 3 :01 Q: have a resolution….**

In a rare move, discussion started on the first day, when new Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Dave Schatz of Sullivan introduced [Senate Resolution 19](https://www.senate.mo.gov/19info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=1162163), which would make changes to some rules of the Missouri Senate…

 **Schatz 1 :12 Q: and Means Committee.**

Returning Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader Gina Walsh of Bellefontaine Neighbors says it comes down to putting experienced lawmakers on committees…

 **Walsh 1 :13 Q: when we’re gone.**

On Thursday, the resolution was amended, to allow Rule 88 to be left as is.

In terms of the session to come, Sen. Schatz says his priorities now come in second, when compared to other senators…

**Schatz 2 :17 Q: at this point.**

Senator Walsh says she has specific goals in mind…

 **Walsh 2 :15 Q: of Medicaid expansion.**

Senator Schatz points out he believes transportation funding *has* to be addressed soon…

 **Schatz 3 :11 Q: if we could.**

Senator Walsh says she still hopes for [Medicaid](https://www.medicaid.gov/) expansion…

 **Walsh 3 :12 Q: to keep trying.**

Committee assignments could come next week. Session will end in May.

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.