***The Missouri Senate Minute* Script
Budget Coming Due**

The pace of the 2021 legislative session is about to increase.

There are now two weeks left in the First Regular Session of the 101st General Assembly.

Missouri Senate Minority Floor Leader John Rizzo of Kansas City says most of the legislation that passes during the course of session happens in the final two weeks…

 **Rizzo :05 Q: with the majority.**

At the same time, the Fiscal Year 2022 state operating budget is nearing its deadline of 6 p.m. this coming Friday. Medicaid expansion remains on a lot of people’s minds, with questions of how to get to a final conclusion.

[Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee](https://www.senate.mo.gov/aprp/) Chair, Sen. Dan Hegeman of Cosby, adds lawmakers have always continued to add to Medicaid spending…

 **Hegeman :03 Q: without the expansion.**

Missouri Senate and House of Representative conference committees are expected to meet this week to reach agreement on a final budget for lawmakers to approve before Friday evening.

Reporting from the State Capitol, I’m Dean Morgan.