Feb. 25, 1907

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Feb. 25, 1907, another day under a smallpox outbreak in Jefferson City.

Over the course of three weeks, the outbreak hit Missouri, with one person from Jefferson City visiting St. Louis and returning with the virus. After this, there were between 38 and 52 cases in the Capitol City and lawmakers starting to leave for home. According to the Missouri Senate journal, two senators were absent, five were absent with leave and one was sick.

Now, a Senate resolution was offered that would allow the sergeant at arms to not only find the senators who had left not only the Capitol, but Jefferson City, and bring them back. This is from the resolution itself: “…[I]t is hereby made the duty of the said sergeant at arms to arrest — and he must arrest any and all of said absent senators — and bring him, or them, forthwith this body to be dealt with according to law.”

A report from the State Board of Health was then presented, mentioning the outbreak was nearly under control, and the Capitol had been thoroughly fumigated and disinfected. It also said there was no need to end session early.

A second resolution was then offered, making vaccinations mandatory for all lawmakers and staffers in the Capitol.

February 25, 1907, the date marking another day of a smallpox outbreak affecting the Capitol, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Source: [Missouri Legislative Library](https://www.senate.mo.gov/LegislativeLibrary/Timeline.html))