Dec. 2, 1846

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Dec. 2, 1846, just a few weeks into the First Session of the 14th General Assembly.

This is within the first quarter-century of our state’s history, when the Legislature started session during the third week of November.

This particular Thursday started at 9:30 with one Missouri senator presenting a remonstrance of, according to the Missouri Senate journal, “sundry citizens of Hickory County, against the removal of the county seat of said county — and against the addition of any portion of Dallas and Camden counties” — which was referred to a select committee consisting of three senators.

Other legislation was also referred to committee.

What is interesting for this date is the motion to go into secret session, with no real information available in the standard journal; however, there is also an executive journal, which mentions communication from the governor. In it, there is a recorded vote senators took, regarding a judge’s vacancy in Hannibal. This “advise and consent” role is now covered under Gubernatorial Appointments. It has been quite some time since the Missouri Senate held a secret session.

After this — again, according to the Missouri Senate journal — “after having been engaged some time therein [meaning secret session], resumed its ordinary business.”

Senators then moved to adjourn until 2:30.

The afternoon’s business was standard, and senators again adjourned until the following morning.

December 2, 1846, the date marking an extremely rare “secret session” of the Missouri Senate, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Source: [*Journal of the Missouri Senate*](https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/senatej/id/25037/rec/13))