**The Senate Minute: Digital Audio File Script on SB 816**

Missouri senators spend time discussing an issue not debated on the Missouri Senate floor for a number of years.

[Senate Bill 816](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=22749318) would repeal the death penalty.

Senator Paul Wieland of Imperial sponsors the measure and tells his colleagues he believes to be pro-life is to cover all aspects of life…

**Wieland 1 / Runs :11 / OC: use taxpayers’ dollars.**

*“Another reason is, I consider myself a fiscal conservative, and I’m not convinced that the way we implement the death penalty in the state of Missouri today is the most effective way for us to use taxpayers’ dollars.”*

During debate, Sen. Gina Walsh of Bellefontaine Neighbors told the sponsor she supports his idea…

**Walsh 2 / Runs :11 / OC: 20 years ago.**

*“And, as you said, it takes over 20 years — sometimes — to carry out this sentence. That we haven’t reviewed their cases. We haven’t looked into what the science of today would show what happened 20 years ago.”*

After debate concluded, Sen. Wieland mentioned he brought Senate Bill 816 forward to begin a dialogue that he believes is long overdue

Reporting for the Missouri Senate, I’m Dean Morgan.