**The Senate Minute: Digital Audio File Script on Mid-Session**

In the first 11 weeks of session, 583 Missouri Senate and 1,457 Missouri House bills have been introduced.

Of these, 50 Missouri Senate and 134 Missouri House measures have been passed by their respective chamber.

Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard of Joplin says there’s still plenty to do in the second half of session…

**Richard 1 / Runs :09 / OC: some of that.**

*“I still want to finish talking to the speaker about finishing the tort reform and we still have some issues on some of his priorities that he sent early on, on campaign finance. We’d like to finish some of that.”*

For Senate Minority Floor Leader Joseph Keaveny of St. Louis, the focus is beginning to turn to the Fiscal Year 2017 budget…

**Keaveny 2 / Runs :11 / OC: for mental health.**

*“Increase the funding for the mental health advocates and the counselors. I think we could solve a lot of our problems, both as a society, and help some individuals if we just increase the funding for mental health.”*

Lawmakers will return to the Capitol on March 29.

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