**This Week in the Missouri Senate:
Digital Audio File Script on Priority Legislation**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review legislation at the top of most senators’ lists this year…

**Nat Snd 1 / Runs :01 / OC: House Bill 1891.**

*“…for House Bill 1891….”*

Several hours were spent on Tuesday debating [House Bill 1891](http://house.mo.gov/BillSummary.aspx?bill=HB1891&year=2016&code=R), a measure that would prohibit any public employee from being required to pay dues or other fees to a labor organization.

During discussion, Sen. Bob Onder of Lake St. Louis told his colleagues he does not believe “outside factors” should be able to take money from someone’s paycheck without that person’s approval…

**Onder 1 / Runs :05 / OC: condition of employment.**

*“Public unions are essentially coercing political contributions as a condition of employment.”*

Senator Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur believes government should not interject itself into this matter…

**Schupp 2 / Runs :06 / OC: that they can?**

*“Why is there such a fear of people getting together to do the best that they can?”*

House Bill 1891 has been truly agreed to and finally passed, and now goes to the executive branch…

**Nat Snd 2 / Runs :01 / OC: declared passed.**

*“…declared passed….”*

The week also included lengthy debate on ethics reform.

Senator Mike Cunningham of Rogersville says [House Bill 2203](http://house.mo.gov/BillSummary.aspx?bill=HB2203&year=2016&code=R) has been sent back to the House. The measure would change the laws regarding the investment of campaign funds…

**Cunningham 3 / Runs :06 / OC: were in office.**

*“Two that had taken the money, put in bank accounts and then had used it to pay other people while they were in office.”*

Senator Schupp believes Missouri needs total transparency…

**Schupp 4 / Runs :07 / OC: what candidates forward.**

*“I think the public is clamoring for the truth and for knowing who is behind moving what issues and what candidates forward.”*

**Nat Snd 3 / Runs :01 / OC: of the committee.**

*“Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the committee….”*

[Senate Concurrent Resolution 58](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=25582908) urges the [National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency](https://www.nga.mil/Pages/Default.aspx) to build a new facility in St. Louis.

Sponsor, Senate Minority Floor Leader Joseph Keaveny of St. Louis, says the federal government is moving closer to a decision on the NGA’s future…

**Keaveny 5 / Runs :05 / OC: end of April.**

*“They’ll come out with the recommendation on March the 25th, so the final decision won’t be until the end of April.”*

Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard of Joplin adds he believes it’s mandatory to keep the NGA in Missouri…

**Richard 6 / Runs :02 / OC: in St. Louis.**

*“We’re going to make every attempt to keep these jobs in St. Louis.”*

Senate Concurrent Resolution 58 was truly agreed to and finally passed on Wednesday…

**Nat Snd 4 / Runs :01 / OC: call the roll.**

*“…Call the roll….”*

Wednesday also saw the Missouri Senate [Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety Committee](http://www.senate.mo.gov/TRAN/) hear [Senate Bill 1037](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=27131339), sponsored by Sen. Kurt Schaefer of Columbia.

His proposal would modify exemptions to duty to retreat when using force against another person.

Final committee action has not yet been taken…

**Nat Snd 5 / Runs: 01 / OC: and Small Business.**

*“…Insurance and Small Business….”*

Senator Gina Walsh of Bellefontaine Neighbors presented [Senate Bill 907](http://www.senate.mo.gov/16info/bts_web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=24429795) to the Missouri Senate [Small Business, Insurance and Industry Committee](http://www.senate.mo.gov/SBIN/).

Her measure seeks to create a right to unpaid leave for employees who are affected by domestic violence.

No final committee has yet been taken on Senate Bill 907.

And, remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

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