Feb. 29, 1872

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was Feb. 29, 1872, during the Adjourned Session of the 26th General Assembly.

This was a Thursday, nearly three months into the session. Before 1971, the Legislature only held regular sessions every other year; however, they also started to meet during even-numbered years more often in Adjourned Sessions, with the intent of tying up loose ends. These sessions became more commonplace, and usually lasted as long as — if not longer than — regular sessions.

The day began with standard business. A senator let the body know he planned to introduce a resolution to repeal Missouri Senate Rule 35, which — at the time — required a bill to be read twice at the time of third reading. The rule has since been changed.

Among the bills heard during Reports of Standing Committees was House Bill 467, which incorporated the city of Independence.

Senators continued to take up legislation coming from committee until they moved to adjourn until 2 p.m.

Afternoon session consisted of more bills making their way through the process until senators moved to adjourn until the following morning at 10.

This particular Adjourned Session would continue through April 1.

February 29, 1872, the date marking the first *known* “Leap Day” the Legislature met, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Source: [*Journal of the Missouri Senate*](https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/senatej/id/19571/rec/3))