July 5, 1919

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was July 5, 1919, fourth day of the Extra Session of the 50th General Assembly.

This was a Saturday. Lawmakers were also in session on Independence Day. There were 23 senators present on this day and 10 absent with leave.

This extra session started on July 2, barely two months after the regular session had concluded. There were two points in the governor’s call for the extra session: Consider ratification of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote; and appropriate the necessary money to pay for the extra session.

Despite this singular reason for the extra session, both Missouri senators and the governor had also considered another issue to be pressing enough for consideration during this session. Senate Bill 2 sought to appeal a law put into place just two years earlier, which abolished capital punishment in our state. The measure was referred to the Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, which heard the bill almost immediately following second read, reported the bill “do pass” and then the full Missouri Senate took it up for consideration.

Focus then turned to House Bill 1, which was the appropriations measure for the extra session. The Senate moved to meet as a Committee of the Whole. After much work on this bill, senators then moved to adjourn until 12:05 the next morning, a Sunday.

July 5, 1919, the date marking the fourth day of the Extra Session of the 50th General Assembly, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Source: [*Journal of the Missouri Senate*](https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/senatej/id/88295/rec/166))