

June 5, 2025

This week the MO Senate returned back to the Capitol for the First Extraordinary Special Session to address three specific areas of concern, that being storm assistance, stadium funding, and an appropriation bill for projects found in HB 19 that ultimately was killed the last few days of the 2025 session. With tensions still remaining high in the Senate, many prepared for a long week. However, when everyone tuned in Monday, it was actually uneventful and was mostly dedicated to filing over 30 various bills' to be considered, some outside of the purview of the Governor's call and Tuesday was dedicated to Senate Committee's working through several key pieces of legislation that were filed.

The Senate was expected to come to order Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. But, by around noon, the Senate still had not convened and many speculated the smooth waters that were experienced Monday and Tuesday had come to an end. The delay, however, was due to fruitful conversations going on between the Governor and Senators and not speculated intra-chamber disagreements. After several hours of conversations, Governor Kehoe announced that the Special Session call was expanded to include:

- Upping the storm relief tax credit for insurance deductibles, to \$135 million
- Upping the Disaster Relief Fund, to \$100 million
- Upping the funds earmarked to MURR, to \$50 million
- Upping the capital projects from HB 19 (which includes MIURR) to \$360 million; and
- Property tax relief for all MO citizens.

Immediately after the Governor expanded the call, the Senate convened and quickly got to work to debate SB 1, sponsored by Senator Lincoln Hough, which contained some of the appropriation funds from HB 19; SB 3, sponsored by Senator Kurtis Gregory (R-Marshall), which includes amateur sports tax credits and proposed stadium funding; and SB 4, sponsored by Senator Jason Bean (R-Holcomb), which authorizes the expedited disbursement of funds from the Missouri Housing Trust Fund for emergency aid.

While the Senate spent mere minutes on both SB 1 and 4, the real debate of the evening was with SB 3. During debate, Senator Joe Nicola (R-Grain Valley) offered an amendment to cap property tax increases at 5% per assessment cycle or limit them to the consumer price index—whichever is lower—for certain counties. Senator Nicola was determined to get some form of tax relief passed and after nearly five hours of debate, eventually a compromise gave way and Senator Kurtis Gregory offered a Senate

substitute to include tax credits for homestead damages and Nicola's property tax credit amendment for certain counties, however excluding Jackson County.

Once all three bills were perfected the Senate briefly adjourned around midnight, reconvening around 1:45 am to provide final approval.

- SB 1, was passed by a partisan vote of 23-10.
- SB 4, was non-controversial and passed by a 29-4 vote, and
- SB 3, the most controversial bill of the three was passed by a 19-13 vote, with some unexpected "yes" votes from Freedom Caucus and Democrat members.

All three bills now will head to the House for further consideration.

The full list of bills that were filed during the First Extraordinary Session can be viewed here.

Key Upcoming Dates

- June 30, 2025 Final day for Governor to sign or line-item veto budget
- July 1, 2025 First day of new fiscal year
- July 14, 2025 Last day for Governor to sign or veto policy legislation
- August 28, 2025 Effective date for policy bills without an emergency clause
- September 10, 2025 Veto Session
- December 1, 2025 First day of bill filing
- January 7, 2026 First day of Legislative session

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