

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE:
FACSIMILE SIGNATURE:
SECRETARY OF STATE:
SIGNATURE:

Secretary of State may affix his printed facsimile signature to documents required to be attested to or issued by his office, if it is followed by the handwritten signature of Deputy Secretary of State as designated by the Secretary of State.

OPINION NO. 109

April 19, 1965

Honorable James C. Kirkpatrick
Secretary of State
Capitol Building
Jefferson City, Missouri



Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Recently your office requested an opinion of this office regarding the use of a printed facsimile signature on certain documents that must be attested to or issued by your office in considerable volume. You attached a notary public commission form and various forms used in the corporation department.

The question may be restated as follows:

"May the Secretary of State substitute a printed facsimile of his signature for his written signature to documents that must be attested to or issued by his office, if followed by the handwritten signature of the Deputy Secretary of State?"

The Secretary of State is authorized by Section 28.030, RSMo Cum. Supp. 1963, to appoint a Deputy Secretary of State:

"* * *who shall possess all the powers and perform any of the duties prescribed by law to be performed by the secretary of state, when and for such periods of time as the secretary of state may designate.* * *"

The Secretary of State is authorized under this section to delegate to his deputy any power and duty that the secretary has to sign documents. Such signature by the deputy, if authorized by the secretary, would have the same effect as the handwritten signature of the Secretary of State.

CONCLUSION

Therefore, it is the opinion of this office that the Secretary of State may affix his printed facsimile signature to documents required to be attested to or issued by his office, if it is followed by the handwritten signature of the Deputy Secretary of State as designated by the Secretary of State.

The foregoing opinion, which I hereby approve, was prepared by my Assistant, Jeremiah D. Finnegan.

Very truly yours,

NORMAN H. ANDERSON
Attorney General