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January 3, 2017

OPINION LETTER NO. 28-2017

The Honorable Jason Kander
Missouri Secretary of State
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Kander:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated December 22, 2016, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Marc Ellinger regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article IV of the Missouri Constitution, version 3 (2018-070). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- guarantee the right to hunt except as expressly authorized in this Constitution;
- not include confined big game hunting, breeding big game species, or raising big game species as farming/ranching under Missouri Constitution or law;
- prohibit confined big game hunting without a permit until November 7, 2021, at which time all big game species must be located where they may be confined legally under state and federal laws and regulations in effect at that time; and

- prohibit captive privately-owned big game species from being imported into Missouri except in certain circumstances?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,



CHRIS KOSTER
Attorney General