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February 2, 2017

OPINION LETTER NO. 101-2017

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

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

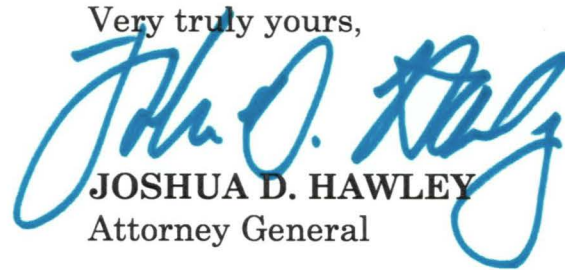
This opinion letter responds to your request dated January 23, 2017, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Damien Johnson regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article VIII of the Missouri Constitution (2018-114). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to add a section to Article VIII that requires candidates for US Senate, US Congress, Governor, Lt. Governor, Treasurer, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Senator and Representative be listed as non-partisan without any indication of party designation; discontinue primary elections, require that all candidates participate in a November general election without party designation, and require 50% plus one vote to win the general election or move to a top-tier runoff election; and candidates will not be charged over \$100.00 or be required to collect signatures?

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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,



**JOSHUA D. HAWLEY**  
Attorney General