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April 20, 2017

OPINION LETTER NO. 265-2017

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

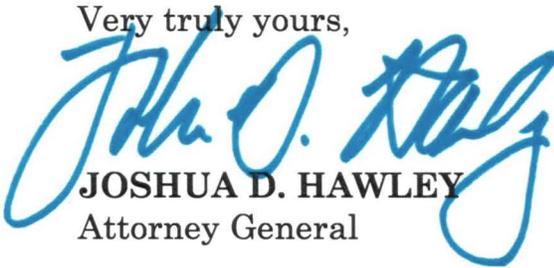
Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated April 10, 2017, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Charles Jones regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article IV of the Missouri Constitution (2018-179). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to release all individuals from incarceration, parole and probation regardless of additional crimes convicted of, if they have been convicted of a non-violent cannabis (marijuana) related crime; remove state prohibitions on personal and medical marijuana growth and use by anyone 18 years and older, remove state prohibitions on possession of marijuana by anyone under 18, and remove state prohibitions on use of marijuana by anyone under 18 if the minor has parental consent or a doctor's prescription; and prohibit state funds from being used to assist federal marijuana law enforcement?

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