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April 24, 2017

OPINION LETTER NO. 266-2017

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 14, 2017, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Timothy Gilio regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article IV of the Missouri Constitution, version 1 (2018-183). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

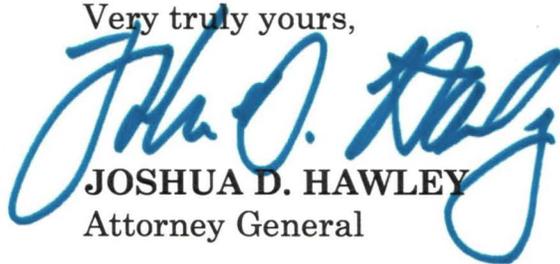
Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to release all incarcerated individuals convicted only of nonviolent cannabis (marijuana) related crimes; add up to a 5% sales tax on marijuana for personal use to fund public education and veteran care; and remove state prohibitions on:

- marijuana possession for personal use regardless of age;
- growing marijuana for one's own personal or physician recommended (medical) use regardless of age (no plant limitations may be imposed by any other legislation);

- selling marijuana to anyone 21 or older; and
- selling marijuana to anyone 18 or older for medical use?

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