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OPINION LETTER NO. 308-2017

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 26, 2017, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Winston Apple regarding a proposed amendment to amend Chapter 128, Revised Statutes of Missouri (2018-193). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend Missouri law regarding the election of members of the U.S. House of Representatives as follows:

- elect candidates by a statewide vote instead of by voters in a congressional district;
- each political party, through its primary process, provides an ordered list of candidates for each office for the general election;
- at the general election, each voter casts a vote for the ordered list of candidates of one party; and

- the proportion of votes per political party determines the number of representatives elected from each party's list, in the order on the list?

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