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OPINION LETTER NO. 415-2017

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 October 2, 2017, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Lowell Pearson regarding a proposed amendment to amend Chapter 192, 195, 263 & 311, Revised Statutes of Missouri (2018-271). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

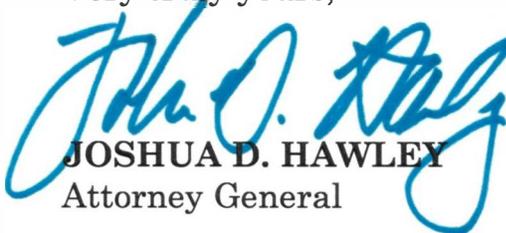
Do you want to amend Missouri law to:

- remove state prohibitions on personal use and possession of medical cannabis (marijuana) with a written certification by a physician who treats a patient diagnosed with a qualifying medical condition;
- remove state prohibitions on growth, possession, production, and sale of medical marijuana by licensed and regulated facilities, and a facility's licensed owners and employees;
- impose a 2% tax on the retail sale of medical marijuana; and

- use funds from this tax for veterans' services, drug treatment, early childhood education, and for public safety in cities with a medical marijuana facility?

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