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OPINION LETTER NO. 40-2018

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 18, 2018, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Terry Briggs regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article IV of the Missouri Constitution, version 2 (2018-323). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri constitution to:

- enact a state sales tax of three-eighths of one percent;
- use revenues from this state sales tax to fund the state highway patrol's enforcement of state motor vehicle and traffic laws, provide for the families of law enforcement officers killed or disabled in the line of duty, and provide grants to local law enforcement agencies for equipment and training; and

- require the state auditor to annually audit the funds raised and expended by this state sales tax and certain state highway funds?

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