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February 23, 2018

OPINION LETTER NO. 62-2018

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 February 14, 2018, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Steven Reed regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article V of the Missouri Constitution (2018-336). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri constitution to allow a certified paralegal or legal assistant certified by an accredited college or university who works alongside an attorney for three years to be eligible to take a bar examination, and if the paralegal or legal assistant passes the examination, allow that person to practice law and give legal advice in Missouri, without attending law school?

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

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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