



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI

JEFFERSON CITY

65102

JOSHUA D. HAWLEY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

P.O. Box 899  
(573) 751-3321

February 23, 2018

OPINION LETTER NO. 63-2018

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 16, 2018, for our review under § 116.332, RSMo, of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Matthew Patterson, version 1 (2018-354).

We conclude that the petition must be rejected for at least the following reasons:

1. The petition is not in the form prescribed by § 116.040, RSMo.
2. The petition does not contain "all matter which is to be deleted included in its proper place enclosed in brackets and all new matter shown underlined" as required pursuant to § 116.050, RSMo.

Because of our rejection of the form of the petition for the reasons stated above, we have not reviewed the petition to determine whether additional deficiencies exist. Pursuant to § 116.332.4, RSMo, the Secretary of

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State is authorized to review this opinion and “make a final decision as to the approval or rejection of the form of the petition.”

Very truly yours,



**JOSHUA D. HAWLEY**  
Attorney General