



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI  
ERIC SCHMITT

July 29, 2019

OPINION LETTER NO. 158-2019

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 July 19, 2019, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Shetova Hayes regarding a proposed amendment to amend Chapter 558, Revised Statutes of Missouri (2020-092). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend Missouri law regarding minimum prison terms for offenders found guilty of dangerous felonies (includes arson, assault, murder and robbery) as follows:

- for the first conviction, the offender must serve 50% of the court sentence (current law is 85%);
- for the second and subsequent convictions, the offender must serve 85% of the court sentence (no change to current law);
- this amendment will be effective for all dangerous felonies occurring on or after August 28, 1994; and
- require parole to be granted to offenders with the best possible institutional score?

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric S. Schmitt".

ERIC S. SCHMITT  
Attorney General