



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI  
ERIC SCHMITT

August 9, 2019

OPINION LETTER NO. 167-2019

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 August 1, 2019, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Winston Apple regarding a proposed amendment to amend Chapters 130 & 143, Revised Statutes of Missouri (2020-099). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend Missouri law to:

- create the Missouri Elections Trust Fund to be administered by the Department of Revenue;
- create a \$5 state income tax return checkoff to finance the Fund; and
- use the money to provide matching public funding, based on campaign filings with the Missouri Ethics Commission, for candidates for elected office who agree (1) to not accept contributions from corporations or political action committees that accept corporate contributions; and (2) that at least one-half of all money raised by the candidate will come from individuals contributing \$200 or less per election cycle?

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