



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ERIC SCHMITT

December 17, 2019

OPINION LETTER NO. 274-2019

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 December 5, 2019, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Mary Anne Sedey regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article VIII of the Missouri Constitution, version 7 (2020-135). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- establish automatic voter registration from lists of eligible adults from the department of revenue based on driver and nondriver license transactions, and from certain other state agencies if designated by the secretary of state;
- change current absentee voting by prohibiting a voter from having to state a reason for being prevented from going to the polls to vote on election day; and
- allow in-person absentee voting the weekend before an election?

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Eric S. Schmitt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "E" and "S".

ERIC S. SCHMITT
Attorney General