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February 7, 2019

OPINION LETTER NO. 39-2019

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 January 28, 2019, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Patricia Thomas regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article XIV, Sections 1-5 of the Missouri Constitution, (2020-022). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to provide that:

- employees shall have the freedom to get and keep their jobs without being forced to join or pay any fees to a union (labor organization);
- laws and ordinances cannot require certain wage rates (a prevailing wage) for maintenance or construction of public facilities; and
- it is a crime to purposely violate the provisions of this amendment?

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 cursive script that reads "Eric S. Schmitt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

ERIC S. SCHMITT
Attorney General