



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI

ERIC SCHMITT
ATTORNEY GENERAL

JEFFERSON CITY
65102

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

February 7, 2019

OPINION LETTER NO. 44-2019

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 Gerald Peterson regarding a proposed amendment to amend Chapter 208, Revised Statutes of Missouri (2020-027). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend Missouri law to:

- adopt Medicaid Expansion for certain people 19 to 64 years old as set forth in the Affordable Care Act;
- require the state to pay for all birth control and family planning services (including the morning-after pill) for all state residents at least 13 years old;
- require the state to fund Planned Parenthood if federal funding is discontinued; and
- impose a tax on hospitals to pay for Medicaid Expansion and free birth control and family planning services if the state does not fund Medicaid Expansion?

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

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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, reading "Eric S. Schmitt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "S" at the end.

ERIC S. SCHMITT
Attorney General