



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ERIC SCHMITT

February 19, 2021

OPINION LETTER NO. 13-2021

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 February 4, 2021 for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Chris Vas, Article V, version 1 (2022-005). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

- Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to provide that:
- appellate court (supreme court and court of appeals) judges shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate;
 - the governor shall appoint the chief justice of the supreme court; and
 - the governor's appointments to the appellate court are for life?

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 blue ink that reads "Eric S. Schmitt".

ERIC S. SCHMITT
Attorney General