



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI  
ERIC SCHMITT

June 10, 2022

OPINION LETTER NO. 15-2022

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 June 1, 2022, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language statement for the initiative petition relating to Elections for state and Federal Officials, version 1 (2022-051). The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to make primary elections for statewide office, Missouri General Assembly and United States Congress open elections in which all candidates appear on a single ballot.

The amendment would create a runoff between the top four candidates for each office selected at the primary election using ranked choice voting to determine the winner of the general election.

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution and primary and general elections will remain unchanged.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

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Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric S. Schmitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and "S".

**ERIC S. SCHMITT**  
Attorney General