



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

April 24, 2023

OPINION LETTER NO. 235-2023

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 April 13, 2023, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Anna Fitz-James, 2024-078. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow for dangerous, unregulated, and unrestricted abortions, from conception to live birth, without requiring a medical license or potentially being subject to medical malpractice;
- nullify longstanding Missouri law protecting the right to life, including but not limited to partial-birth abortion;
- require the government not to discriminate against persons providing or obtaining an abortion, potentially including taxpayer funding; and
- prohibit any municipality, city, town, village, district, authority, public subdivision, or public corporation having the power to tax or regulate or the state of Missouri from regulating abortion procedures?

Pursuant to § 116.334, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed statement. The summary is a concise statement, not exceeding one hundred words. It is in the form of a question using language that is neither intentionally argumentative nor likely to create prejudice either for or against the proposed measure. Because our review of the statement is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such § 116.334, RSMo review of the above proposed statement should be construed as an endorsement of the petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Finally, please note that our office has independently reviewed for legal content and form of the proposed fiscal note and fiscal note summary in accordance with § 116.175 RSMo. However, no such fiscal note summary in connection with this proposed measure has yet been approved by this Office.

Very truly yours,



ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General