



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI  
ANDREW BAILEY

January 30, 2023

OPINION LETTER NO. 35-2023

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 January 18, 2023 for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition to amend Article VI, of the Missouri Constitution submitted by Richard Speidel, 2024-045.

We approve the petition as to form, but § 116.332 gives the Secretary of State final authority to approve or reject the petition. Therefore, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Because our review of the petition is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, because our review is mandated by statute, no action that we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or of the objectives of its proponents, or the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally.

Very truly yours,

  
ANDREW BAILEY  
Attorney General

Broadway Building  
P.O. Box 899  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Phone: (573) 751-3321  
Fax: (573) 751-0774  
[www.ago.mo.gov](http://www.ago.mo.gov)

OP-2023-035