

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI ANDREW BAILEY

March 3, 2025

OPINION LETTER NO. 40-2025

The Honorable Denny Hoskins Missouri Secretary of State James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center 600 West Main Street Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Hoskins:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated February 18, 2025, for our review under § 116.332, RSMo of the sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition submitted by Damien Johnson, Article I, 2026-027.

We conclude that the petition must be rejected for at least the following reasons:

Section 116.050.2, RSMo states that "The full and correct text of all initiative and referendum petition measures shall: (1) Contain all matter which is to be deleted included in its proper place enclosed in brackets and all new matter shown underlined;" This petition does not include, as part of the text of the proposed measure, a section number.

Because of our rejection of the form of the petition for the reasons stated above, we have not reviewed the petition to determine whether additional deficiencies exist. Pursuant to § 116.332.4, RSMo, the Secretary of State is authorized to review this opinion and "make a final decision as to the approval or rejection of the form of the petition."

Very truly yours,

ANDREW BAILEY Attorney General

OP-2025-040