



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ERIC SCHMITT

July 16, 2021

OPINION LETTER NO. 85-2021

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 July 6, 2021 for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Austin Shaffer, 2022-038. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- eliminate using machines to count and calculate votes;
- require votes to be counted by hand by the judgement of the human eye;
- require a state-issued ID or driver license to vote;
- permit early voting no more than fourteen days prior to election;
- allow observers inside and outside polling stations to take pictures;
- allow the state General Assembly to adjust or void any vote totals it determines appropriate in presidential elections; and
- create the crime of treason against persons for voter fraud, failure to report results timely and certain poll worker actions?

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,

ERIC S. SCHMITT
Attorney General