



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

April 1, 2024

OPINION LETTER NO. 9-2024

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 March 22, 2024 for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2024-173. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow local voters the right, option, authority to set, control, impose, establish, levy, collect, fix, reduce, eliminate or change the rate or dedicated use of a county excise tax on tobacco cigarettes;
- allow any county tobacco cigarette tax to be approved by a majority of qualified voters casting ballots in a county election on a county-wide tobacco cigarette tax measure; and
- use the county tobacco tax proceeds solely for education, health and mental health, crime prevention, job creation, veterans' services, or other local use specifically approved by local voters?

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,


ANDREW BAILEY
Attorney General

OP-2024-011