



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI
ANDREW BAILEY

January 9, 2025

OPINION LETTER NO. 9-2025

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 December 30, 2024, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Deirdre Hirner, 2026-006. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow county voters to set and control county taxes on tobacco cigarettes, whether submitted to county voters by the county governing body or by initiative petition; 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 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