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June 25, 2009

OPINION LETTER NO. 140-2009

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

Dear Secretary Carnahan:

You have submitted a proposed fair ballot language statement for Senate Joint Resolution No. 5 relating to county assessors. The fair ballot language statement, prepared pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, is as follows:

A **“yes”** vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to require that assessors in charter counties be elected officers. This proposal will affect St. Louis County and any county that adopts a charter form of government. The exception is for a county that has between 600,001-699,999 residents, which currently is only Jackson County.

A **“no”** vote will not change the current requirement for charter counties.

If passed, this measure will not have an impact on taxes.

Pursuant to §116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Honorable Robin Carnahan

Page 2

June 25, 2009

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the joint resolution, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Koster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CHRIS KOSTER

Attorney General