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March 30, 2015

OPINION LETTER NO. 35-2015

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

Dear Secretary Kander:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated March 18, 2015, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition submitted by Aundrea Riffle regarding a proposed amendment to amend Chapter 195, Revised Statutes of Missouri (2016-030). The proposed summary statement is as follows:

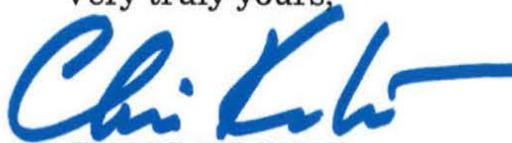
Shall Missouri law be amended to:

- change prison terms for nonviolent felony drug offenders serving a sentence without probation or parole by allowing such offenders to serve a minimum percentage of their prison term, depending on the number of previous convictions;
- allow courts to lower a sentence if an individual with these offenses is serving a sentence without probation or parole; and
- permit courts to order alternative sentences for these offenses, including restitution, treatment

programs, community service, and work release programs?

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,



CHRIS KOSTER
Attorney General