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August 5, 2009

OPINION LETTER NO. 181-2009

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

Dear Secretary Carnahan:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated July 27, 2009, for our review under § 116.334, RSMo, of a proposed summary statement prepared for the petition (version 3) submitted by Todd Jones regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article III, Section 38 of the Missouri Constitution. The proposed summary statement is as follows:

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to repeal the "Missouri Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative" approved by voters in November 2006 which banned human cloning and guaranteed Missouri patients access to stem cell therapies and cures and permitted Missouri researchers to conduct stem cell research in accordance with federal law?

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Koster".

CHRIS KOSTER
Attorney General