

It is a class A misdemeanor punishable, notwithstanding the provisions of section 560.021, RSMo, to the contrary, for a term of imprisonment not to exceed one year in the county jail or a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars or both, for anyone to sign any initiative petition with any name other than his or her own, or knowingly to sign his or her name more than once for the same measure for the same election, or to sign a petition when such person knows he or she is not a registered voter.


County: _____

INITIATIVE PETITION

Page No: _____

To the Honorable John R. Ashcroft, Secretary of State for the state of Missouri:
 We, the undersigned, registered voters of the state of Missouri and _____ County (or City of St. Louis), respectfully order that the following proposed amendment to the constitution shall be submitted to the voters of the state of Missouri, for their approval or rejection, at the general election to be held on the 3rd day of November, 2020, and each for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of the state of Missouri and _____ County (or City of St. Louis); my registered voting address and the name of the city, town or village in which I live are correctly written after my name.

[OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE]

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STATE OF MISSOURI, COUNTY OF _____ I, _____ being first duly sworn, say (print names of signers)

NAME (Signature)	DATE Signed	REGISTERED VOTING ADDRESS (Number)(Street), (City, Town Or Village)	ZIP CODE	CONG. DIST.	NAME (Printed or Typed)
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					

signed this page of the foregoing petition, and each of them signed his or her name thereto in my presence; I believe that each has stated his or her name, registered voting address and city, town or village correctly, and that each signer is a registered voter of the state of Missouri and _____ County (or city of St. Louis). FURTHERMORE, I HEREBY SWEAR OR AFFIRM UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE BY ME ARE TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT I HAVE NEVER BEEN CONVICTED OF, FOUND GUILTY OF, OR PLED GUILTY TO ANY OFFENSE INVOLVING FORGERY. I am at least 18 years of age. I do ___ do not ___ (check one) expect to be paid for circulating this petition. If paid, list the payer: _____ day of _____, A.D.
 Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, A.D.

Signature of Affiant (Person obtaining signatures) _____ Street Address of Affiant _____
 Printed Name of Affiant _____ City, State and Zip Code of Affiant _____
 Signature of Notary _____ Address of Notary _____ (Seal)

NOTICE: The proposed amendment revises Article IX of the Constitution by amending Sections 1(a) and 3(b) and adopting two new sections to be known as Article IX, Sections 1(c) and 11.

Be it resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the Constitution be amended:

Section A. Article IX of the Constitution is revised by amending Sections 1(a) and 3(b), and adopting two new sections to be known as Article IX, Sections 1(c) and 11 to read as follows:

Section 1(a). A general diffusion of knowledge and intelligence being essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people, [the general assembly shall establish and maintain] equality of educational opportunity, as described in this section, is a fundamental right. The general assembly shall ensure the equality of educational opportunity for all persons in this state through the establishment and maintenance of a uniformly regulated, thorough, appropriate, and adequate system of free public schools governed by publicly elected school boards for the gratuitous instruction of all persons in this state within ages not in excess of twenty-one years as prescribed by law. The general assembly shall have an affirmative duty to adequately and equitably fund the free public schools established by this article.

Section 1(c). Any voluntary early childhood education program established by a publicly elected school board for persons between the ages of three and five years shall be funded as part of the free public schools established by this article.

Section 3(b). In event the public school fund provided and set apart by law for the support of free public schools, shall be insufficient to sustain free public schools that satisfy all requirements of this article [at least eight months in every year in each school district of the state], the general assembly shall [may] provide for such deficiency. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, new or increased taxes or fees enacted by the general assembly for the purpose of funding free public schools as established in this article, are not subject to the provisions of article X of this constitution. [; but in] In no case shall there be set apart less than twenty-five percent of the state revenue, exclusive of interest and sinking fund, to be applied annually to the support of the free public schools. For the purpose of calculating state income tax rates, state net general revenue shall not include funds used solely to meet the requirements of providing free public schools. The provisions of this section and section 1(a) may be enforced by a private cause of action brought by or on behalf of any taxpayer, student of a public school, or school district within this state against the general assembly in a circuit court of proper venue and, if the suit is sustained, the plaintiff or plaintiffs shall receive from the state any costs, including attorneys' fees incurred by the plaintiff or plaintiffs in maintaining such suit.

Section 11. Appropriations made for the purpose of satisfying this article by the general assembly or any county, city, town, township, school district, or other municipal corporation shall only be to aid, support, or sustain the system of free public schools and in no event shall any appropriation be made, funds expended, or tax credits or other tax expenditures enacted after January 1, 2020 for the benefit of private schools. Nothing in this section shall prevent a contract for services between a public school and a private entity where necessary to meet the requirements of this article.