

INITIATIVE PETITION

To the Honorable Denny Hoskins, Secretary of State for the state of Missouri: _____ 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, 2026, 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]

CIRCULATORS AFFIDAVIT

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)

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Denny Hoskins
MO. SEC OF STATE

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: _____

Signature of Affiant (Person obtaining signatures) _____ Street Address of Affiant _____ Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, A.D. _____

Printed Name of Affiant _____ City, State and Zip Code of Affiant _____ Signature of Notary _____ Address of Notary _____ Notary Public (Seal) _____ My commission expires _____

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

Article III of the Constitution is revised by adding seven new sections to be known as Article III, Sections 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, and 60 to read as follows:

Section 54.

Courts shall immediately rewrite misleading ballot titles to be unbiased, clear, accurate, and easy to understand, notwithstanding sections 2(b) and 3(c) of Article XII of this Constitution and any other provision of law or of this Constitution to the contrary.

Section 55.

1. The legislature shall be prohibited from weakening citizens' initiative or referendum powers; no law passed by the legislature and no legislatively-referred constitutional amendment shall weaken citizens' initiative or referendum powers, notwithstanding sections 2(a) and 2(b) of Article XII of this Constitution, section 1 of Article III of this Constitution, and any other provision of law or of this Constitution to the contrary. The phrase "weaken citizens' initiative or referendum powers" shall be construed broadly, examples thereof including, but not being limited to, raising signature thresholds; shortening the time allowed for signature collection; narrowing allowable subject matter; imposing additional requirements on petitioners; preventing or delaying judicial revision of misleading ballot titles; prohibiting or nullifying severability clauses in initiated measures; rendering a simple statewide majority of votes cast on the measure insufficient to enact a law or constitutional amendment proposed by citizen initiative, or otherwise impeding or restricting citizens' powers of initiative or referendum.

Section 56.

1. The legislature shall be prohibited from repealing, changing, or superseding any citizen-initiated law, proposing to change any citizen-initiated amendment, or passing any law similar in effect to one rejected by referendum petition, unless three fourths of the House and Senate refer the change to a vote of the people.
2. This section shall apply to initiative petitions and referendum petitions decided on or after January 1, 2010.
3. This section shall not be construed to deprive any member of the legislature of the right to introduce any measure.

Section 57. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution to the contrary, pre-existing signature and vote requirements shall be maintained, as follows: a simple statewide majority of votes cast on the measure by individual legal voters shall be sufficient to enact any law or constitutional amendment proposed by initiative petition; a simple statewide majority of votes cast on the measure by individual legal voters shall be sufficient to reject any law upon which a referendum is ordered by referendum petition; signatures from five percent of the individual legal voters in each of two-thirds of Missouri's congressional districts shall be sufficient to propose a law; signatures from eight percent of the individual legal voters in each of two-thirds of Missouri's congressional districts shall be sufficient to propose a constitutional amendment; signatures from five percent of the individual legal voters in each of two-thirds of Missouri's congressional districts shall be sufficient to order a referendum; and the number of signatures required shall be calculated based on the total vote for governor at the general election last preceding the filing of any petition. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any law or constitutional amendment referred to voters by petition shall be decided when approved or rejected by a majority of the votes cast thereon, and not otherwise.

Section 58. The legislature shall be prohibited from referring a measure to appear on a ballot less than one hundred twenty days before the election, notwithstanding section 52(b) of Article III or section 2(b) of Article XII. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for laws or proposed constitutional amendments referred or proposed by the legislature, if the legislature makes an express finding by roll call vote that an election sooner than one hundred twenty days is necessary for the protection of the peace, protection of state or local governmental finances, or another bona fide emergency, then an election may be held sooner than one hundred twenty days after the measure or proposal is delivered to the secretary of state. The express finding shall be subject to de novo judicial review. Any citizen shall have standing to bring an action challenging the express finding and the timing of the election.

Section 59. Sections 54, 55, 56, 57, and 58 are self-executing and shall be construed to strongly protect the citizens' powers of initiative and referendum, all political power being vested in the people and founded upon their will only.

Section 60. If any provision of Sections 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, or 59, or the application thereof to anyone or to any circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of those provisions and the application of such provisions to others or other circumstances shall not be affected thereby.