

County: \_\_\_\_\_

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To the Honorable Denny Hoskins, Secretary of State for the state of Missouri

[OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE]

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

RECEIVED		DATE	REGISTERED VOTING ADDRESS (Number)(Street), (City, Town Or Village)	ZIP CODE	CONG DIST.	NAME (Printed or Typed)
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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: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Ballot summaries, including summary statements and fiscal note summaries, shall be unbiased, clear, accurate, and easy to understand. Ballot summaries shall not seek to mislead voters. No current or future law passed by the legislature shall prevent the circuit court or appellate courts, including the supreme court, from immediately adjudicating and rewriting ballot summaries in whole or in part.

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. As of the effective date of this section, the legislature shall be prohibited from changing any citizen-initiated law, changing any citizen-initiated amendment, or passing, proposing, or referring any law or constitutional amendment similar in effect to a law rejected by referendum petition, except by a vote of eighty percent of the House and Senate, notwithstanding any provision of law or of this Constitution to the contrary.
2. For the purposes of this section, a "citizen-initiated law" is defined to be a law that the people have proposed and enacted by the initiative. For the purposes of this section, a "citizen-initiated amendment" is defined to be any section or article of this Constitution, or any portion thereof, that the people have proposed and enacted by the initiative as a constitutional amendment. For the purposes of this section, "changing" a citizen-initiated law or citizen-initiated amendment means passing, proposing, or referring a law or constitutional amendment which, if enacted, would modify, repeal, supersede, or undermine any part of a citizen-initiated law or citizen-initiated amendment, whether explicitly or by implication. For the purposes of this section, a law "rejected by referendum petition" is a law which has been passed by the legislature then subsequently rejected by the people by way of a referendum ordered by petition. For the purposes of this section, "by a vote of eighty percent of the House and Senate" shall mean at least eighty percent of the members of the House and at least eighty percent of the members of the Senate each separately approve.
3. The prohibitions of this section shall be construed to protect laws and constitutional provisions enacted by citizen initiative after January 1, 2010, including both those enacted before and after the effective date of this section, and to protect referendum petition vetoes after January 1, 2010, including both those before and after the effective date of this section, from action by the legislature on or after the effective date of this section. "Referendum petition vetoes" shall mean when laws passed by the legislature are rejected by the citizens by referendum petition.
4. This section shall not be construed to deprive any member of the legislature of the right to introduce any bill or measure, but passage or referral thereof by this legislature is subject to the prohibitions and requirements of this section.

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.