

County: _____

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.

INITIATIVE PETITION

Page No: _____

To the Honorable Denny Hoskins, 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, 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]

CIRCULATOR'S 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)
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 PLEADED 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.

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: You are advised that the proposed constitutional amendment may be interpreted to change, repeal, or modify by implication or may be construed by some persons to change, repeal, or modify by implication certain sections of the Missouri Revised Statutes, including, but not limited to: 32.063, 37.007, 52.250, 137.115, 139.040, 139.055, 173.610, 311.060, 315.015, 315.041, 315.069, 316.040, 316.090, 316.155, 317.011, 324.010, 324.012, 324.038, 324.071, 324.144, 324.215, 324.247, 324.478, 324.703, 333.021, 333.081, 333.091, 339.030, 339.040, 339.080, 339.090, 339.110, 340.216, 341.020, 341.170, 343.010, 362.111, 365.100, 407.020, 407.025, 407.1400, 408.010, 408.140, 408.330, 408.512, 536.087, and 536.110.

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

Section A. Article XI of the Constitution is revised by adopting three new Sections to be known as Article XI, Sections 14, 15, and 16 to read as follows:

Section 14. 1. The people find that excessive credit card interchange fees, transaction fees, and other payment processing charges burden small businesses, inflate consumer prices, and reduce economic competitiveness. The purpose of this section is to limit such fees in transactions occurring in Missouri, promote fair commerce, and protect Missouri merchants and consumers.

2. No transaction fee shall exceed one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the total purchase price or amount charged for any sale of goods or services occurring in Missouri.

a. This cap applies to the aggregate of all transaction fees charged on a given transaction, including all network, interchange, assessment, and processing fees combined.

b. For purposes of this section, a sale occurs in Missouri if the Missouri merchant receives payment in Missouri, delivers goods to a Missouri location, or provides services to a Missouri resident or in Missouri.

3. Any payment card network, payment processor, bank, merchant services provider, or intermediary doing business in Missouri is subject to this section for transactions involving Missouri merchants. No contract, agreement, or rule of any payment card network or processor shall require or permit the collection of fees in violation of this section.

4. No person or entity shall impose, by separate line item, hidden fee, or any other method, a charge that in substance circumvents the 1.5% cap. Any fee, surcharge, or adjustment that is a condition of accepting payment shall be included in calculating compliance with the cap.

5. The Attorney General of Missouri shall enforce this section and may bring actions for injunctions, restitution, and civil penalties.

6. A Missouri merchant charged transaction fees in excess of the cap may bring a civil action to recover the excess amount, plus court costs and reasonable attorney fees.

7. Civil penalties for violations of this Section 14 shall not exceed \$10,000 per transaction, in addition to restitution.

8. This section shall take effect January 1, 2027. Payment processors and networks shall adjust their fee structures to comply by that date.

9. If any provision of this section or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this section that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

10. Definitions. For purposes of this section:

a. "Credit card" means any card, plate, digital credential, or other device used to obtain credit, goods, or services, access a credit account, or otherwise initiate a payment through a credit-based transaction.

b. "Debit card" means any card, plate, digital credential, or other device used to access funds in a deposit account and initiate a payment not based on credit.

c. “Transaction fee” means any percentage-based fee or charge, however denominated, that is deducted, withheld, or charged by a payment card network, payment processor, bank, acquirer, merchant services provider, or any other intermediary, in connection with processing a credit card, debit card, or other electronic payment transaction. This does not include flat per-transaction fees of fifty cents or less.

d. “Missouri merchant” means any individual, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, or other business entity lawfully operating in Missouri that accepts payment in exchange for goods or services.

Section 15. 1. To preserve payment choice, privacy, and access to commerce for Missourians who use cash, the people declare that businesses serving the public in physical locations in this state shall accept United States currency and coin for in-person transactions, subject to narrow, explicit exceptions.

2. Any in-person business establishment shall accept cash tendered by an individual as payment for goods or services provided at the establishment’s physical premises in Missouri.

3. This Section applies only to payments tendered by individuals. It does not apply to payments tendered by businesses, governments, or other organizations, nor to business-to-business transactions.

4. An establishment may refuse suspected counterfeit currency or coin, may decline to accept cash in denominations that are unlawful to accept under federal law, and may request exact change when the establishment in good faith lacks sufficient coin or currency on hand to make change.

5. Nothing in this Section requires acceptance of cash where federal law or regulation prohibits cash acceptance or requires a different payment method.

6. The requirements in subsection 2 do not apply to the following:

a. Airlines;

b. Online retail and online-only services;

c. Tuition payments;

d. Transactions wholly governed by or occurring within facilities or programs regulated under Chapter 313, RSMo, or any successor gaming regulation, including but not limited to casino gaming, state lottery, pari-mutuel wagering, charitable gaming, and any related cashless wagering systems;

e. Campaign finance contributions, expenditures, or disclosures governed by Chapter 130, RSMo, or any successor campaign finance law; and

f. Any lawfully required recordkeeping, receipt, or documentation practices for taxation, licensure, auditing, or compliance.

7. Nothing in this Section alters or relieves any duty to collect, remit, or report taxes, or to retain receipts or records as required by law. Nothing in this Section alters or affects state or local campaign finance laws or disclosure requirements. Nothing in this Section alters or affects statutes or regulations governing casino, gaming, horse racing, pari-mutuel wagering, lottery, or related activities.

8. This Section is a matter of statewide concern. No law, rule, regulation, ordinance, order, or policy of any political subdivision may authorize the refusal of cash in circumstances where this Section requires its acceptance or otherwise conflict with this Section.

9. This Section is self-executing. The attorney general may bring civil actions to enforce this Section. Any individual aggrieved by a violation may seek appropriate relief in a court of competent jurisdiction, including injunctive or declaratory relief and reasonable attorney’s fees for a prevailing party, as provided by law. The general assembly may enact laws consistent with this Section to aid its enforcement.

10. This Section shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes. In the event of a conflict between this Section and any statute, rule, or local enactment, this Section shall control.

11. If any provision of this Section, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remaining provisions and applications shall be given effect to the fullest extent possible.

12. This Section shall take effect on January 1, 2028.

13. Definitions. For the purposes of this section:

a. "Cash" means United States currency and coin that are legal tender under federal law.

b. "In-person business establishment" means any place of business physically open to the public in Missouri where goods or services are offered or provided to members of the public who are physically present on the premises.

c. "Individual" means a natural person acting primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.

d. "Online-only service" means a business that conducts transactions exclusively by remote means and does not serve the public at a physical premises in Missouri.

e. "Airline" means an air carrier as defined by federal law engaged in interstate or foreign air transportation.

f. "Tuition payment" means payment made to a public or private educational institution for tuition charged to a student.

Section 16. 1. The people of Missouri find and declare that unnecessary delay in business licensing harms economic opportunity. It is the policy of this state to ensure prompt and fair action on all business license applications.

2. A licensing authority shall approve or deny a completed application for a business license within sixty (60) calendar days after the date the completed application is received.

3. If a licensing authority does not issue a written approval or written denial within sixty (60) calendar days of receiving a completed application, the application shall be deemed approved by operation of law, and the licensing authority shall promptly issue the license.

4. The sixty-day deadline may be extended by mutual written agreement between the applicant and the licensing authority.

5. The automatic-approval provision does not apply to:

a. Licenses or permits for activities regulated primarily under federal law where the state is acting as a delegated agent and federal law requires a longer review period.

b. Licenses involving public health, safety, or environmental reviews where applicable federal standards require longer timelines.

c. Healthcare licenses, registrations, or permits, as defined in subsection 11(d).

d. Childcare facility licenses, registrations, or permits, as defined in subsection 11(e).

e. Gaming, lottery, pari-mutuel, horse racing, casino, charitable gaming, sports wagering, online gaming, or any other gambling-related licenses, permits, or registrations issued under Chapter 313, RSMo, or successor provisions.

f. Liquor licenses, permits, or related authorizations under Chapter 311, RSMo.

g. Marijuana, cannabis, or other controlled substance cultivation, manufacturing, distribution, testing, pharmacy, dispensary, or related licenses, registrations, or permits issued under Chapters 195 or 196, RSMo, Article XIV of the Missouri Constitution, or successor provisions.

h. Tobacco product manufacturing, wholesale, retail, or distribution licenses, permits, or registrations under Chapters 149 or 407, RSMo, or successor provisions.

i. Professional licenses where the applicant is under pending disciplinary investigation for conduct that, if proven, would disqualify the applicant.

j. Any application where a background check from another jurisdiction is required and cannot reasonably be completed within sixty days despite the licensing authority's good-faith efforts.

6. This Section does not alter Substantive qualifications for licensure, any lawful requirement for background checks, fingerprints, or investigations, any applicable federal requirements, or the authority of licensing authorities to deny applications for lawful reasons.

7. This Section is a matter of statewide concern. Any statute, regulation, ordinance, rule, or policy in conflict with this Section is superseded.

8. This Section is self-executing. The general assembly may enact laws consistent with this Section to facilitate its operation.

9. If any provision of this Section or its application is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue in effect.

10. This Section shall take effect October 1, 2027.

11. Definitions. For purposes of this Section:

a. "Business license" means any permit, license, certificate, registration, or other written authorization issued by a state agency, department, board, commission, or by a political subdivision, that is required by law to engage in a lawful business, trade, profession, or occupation in Missouri.

b. "Completed application" means an application that contains all information, documentation, and fees required by the licensing authority's published application process.

c. "Licensing authority" means any state or local governmental entity authorized by law to issue a business license.

d. "Healthcare" means any service, facility, or professional activity involving the diagnosis, treatment, prevention, rehabilitation, management, or care of physical, mental, dental, or speech/hearing conditions. This includes, but is not limited to: physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, dentists, dental hygienists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, chiropractors, optometrists, podiatrists, psychologists, social workers, pharmacists, emergency medical services providers, paramedics, EMTs; hospitals, clinics, urgent care centers, mental health facilities, rehabilitation centers, senior living communities, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, hospice providers, long-term care facilities, home health agencies, and any other facility providing residential or outpatient care.

e. "Childcare facility" means any person, organization, or facility that provides care, supervision, or educational programming for children, including day care centers, in-home child care providers, preschools, early childhood education programs, and any entity required to be licensed or certified under Chapter 210, RSMo, or successor provisions.