

STAPLE  
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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 5th day of November, 2024, 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.

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CIRCULATOR'S AFFIDAVIT

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

	Signature	Date Signed	Registered Voting Address	Zip Code	Cong. District	Printed First and Last Name
1						
2						
3						
4						
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6						
7						
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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: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Affiant (Person obtaining signatures) \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address of Affiant \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Affiant \_\_\_\_\_ City, State and Zip Code of Affiant \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of Notary \_\_\_\_\_ Address of Notary \_\_\_\_\_

(Seal)

NOTICE: The proposed amendment revises Article VIII of the Constitution by adopting eight new Sections to be known as Article VIII, Sections 24, 24a, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30.

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

Section A. Article VIII of the Constitution is revised by adopting eight new Sections to be known as Article VIII, Sections 24, 24a, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30 to read as follows:

Section 24. 1. Prior to the certification of the election results, each election authority shall, at a minimum, undertake a manual audit of randomly selected precincts which shall equal the greater of: 5% of all election precincts within the election authority's jurisdiction, one precinct, or any number required by law. No such audit shall be performed, conducted, or overseen by any non-governmental entity. All ballots cast at such election by valid registered voters in such precincts shall be subject to the manual audit. All ballots cast but not counted for any reason shall additionally be subject to a separate manual review, but the results of such separate review shall not be used to impact any election result absent a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction or pursuant to any recount procedure authorized by law. The manual audit shall be open to the public, be completed within fourteen (14) days of the conclusion of the election, and results from the manual audit shall be publicly available within two (2) days after its completion. If, based on the manual audit, the election authority finds evidence of errors in the original tabulation that would change the result of any election or exceed a threshold established by law, the manual audit shall be converted to a full and binding manual recount of all ballots in that election. Each election authority shall report with documentation to the secretary of state, at least once every four years, demonstrating that the election authority conducted at a minimum the manual audit required in this section.

Section 24a. 1. Subject to appropriation and upon request by an election authority, the secretary of state shall provide technical assistance and recommended guidelines for the management, administration, and accuracy of voter rolls and registrations maintained and used by any election authority, including but limited to signature reviews and removing deceased individuals from the voter rolls, and may provide funding assistance to election authorities.

2. Subject to appropriation and federal law, election authorities shall update all voter rolls which such election authority has control over, upon the proper notification by a state or federal agency of any voter who is not a qualified registered voter in the jurisdiction of such election authority, including deceased individuals.

Section 25. 1. All established political parties in the state shall have a right to have candidates seeking the established political party's nomination for public office appear on the established political party's primary election ballot, and to have their nominee(s) for public office appear on the general election ballot. For purposes of this Section, "established political party" shall mean a political party which, at either of the last two general elections, polled for its candidate for any statewide office more than two percent of the entire vote cast for the office.

2. Any group of persons desiring to form a new political party throughout the state, which shall include being formed for all districts and counties in which the party may have nominations, shall file a petition with the secretary of state which shall be signed by at least ten thousand registered voters of the state obtained at large.

3. All established political parties in the state will retain their established political party status unless such party at any two consecutive general elections fails to poll for a candidate for any statewide office more than two percent of the entire vote cast for the office.

4. Any person desiring to be an independent candidate for any office to be filled by voters throughout the state, or for any congressional district, state senate district, state representative district, or circuit judge district, shall file a petition with the secretary of state. Any person desiring to be an independent candidate for any county office shall file a petition with the election authority of the county. If an independent candidate is to be nominated for a statewide office, the petition shall be signed by at least ten thousand registered voters of the state. If the independent candidate is to be nominated for a district or county office, the petition shall be signed by the number of registered voters in the district or county which is equal to at least two percent of the total number of voters who voted at the last election for candidates for the office being sought or is equal to ten thousand voters, whichever is less.

Section 26. To ensure the accuracy and integrity of elections, votes in all elections in Missouri shall be cast on paper ballots. Direct Recording Electronic voting machines, which record votes directly into computer memory, with or without Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail printers, shall not be purchased, leased, or used in Missouri elections after December 31, 2024.

Section 27.1. At each primary election, there shall be as many separate ballots as there are established political parties with candidates in the election.

2. In each primary election, each eligible registered voter shall be entitled to receive the ballot of one and only one political party, designated by the voter before receiving his ballot. Each eligible registered voter who participates in a party primary shall be entitled to vote on all questions and for any nonpartisan candidates submitted by political subdivisions and special districts at the primary election. Each eligible registered voter who does not wish to participate in a party primary may vote on all questions and for any nonpartisan candidates submitted by a political subdivision or special district at the primary election. For purposes of this Section "nonpartisan candidate" shall mean a candidate who is not a candidate of any political party and who is running for an office for which party candidates may not run.

3. The candidate who receives the most votes in each race, except in primaries for federal offices and statewide offices under Article IV, shall be declared the winner of the election for that office. If a race has multiple positions, then the candidate who receives the most votes shall be declared the winner of the first position, the candidate receiving the second-most votes shall be declared the winner of the second position, the candidate receiving the third-most votes shall be declared the winner of the third position, and this process shall continue until all open positions are filled in such election.

Section 28. 1. The chair of the county committee, or the city committee of a city not within a county, of each established political party with a candidate on the ballot shall have the exclusive right to designate an observer for any polling place on any day in which votes are being cast who may be present until all ballots are cast, and an observer for each location at which absentee ballots are counted, who may be present while the ballots are being prepared for counting and counted. No later than four business days before the election, the chair shall provide signed designation forms with the names of the designated observers to the local election authority for confirmation of eligibility to serve as an observer. The local election authority, after an observer does not meet the qualifications of subsection 3 of this section, the designating party chair may designate a replacement verifying the eligibility of each designated observer, shall sign off on the designation forms, unless the observer is found not to have the qualifications established by subsection 3 of this section. If the election authority determines that observer and provide the local election authority with the name of the replacement observer before 5:00 p.m. of the Monday preceding the election. The designating chair may substitute observers at his or her discretion during such hours.

2. An independent candidate shall also have the right to designate an observer in the same manner as each political party, except should more than one independent candidate appear on the ballot, the independent candidates shall agree on a single observer per polling place or location referenced in subsection 1 of this section.

3. All persons selected as observers shall only be required to have the same qualifications required by law for election judges.

4. In a non-partisan election, each non-partisan candidate on the ballot shall have the right to designate an observer in the same manner as each political party for each polling place or location at which such candidate appears on the ballot, except should more than three non-partisan candidates appear on the ballot, the non-partisan candidates shall agree on no more than two observers per polling place or location referenced in subsection 1 of this section. The General Assembly shall enact laws to provide for procedures to carry out this subsection 4.

5. For purposes of this section, "observer" shall mean a watcher, challenger, or observer of an election as provided by current or any future law enacted by the General Assembly.

Section 29. 1. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution which may be to the contrary, ballot titles and summaries for ballot questions, whether proposed by the General Assembly, or through citizen initiative or referendum, shall be unbiased, fair, and sufficient and shall only include language found in the proposed amendment.

2. Candidates and ballot questions, including ballot titles, appearing on the ballot shall not be changed, altered, added, or removed within eight weeks of the date of an election.

Section 30. If any portion, clause, or phrase of this Amendment is, for any reason, held to be invalid or unconstitutional in a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining portions, clauses, and phrases shall not be affected, but shall remain in full force and effect.