

STAPLE
HERE

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 John R. Ashcroft, 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 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.

RECEIVED
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[Signature]

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						
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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. _____

Signature of Affiant (Person obtaining signatures) _____ Street Address of Affiant _____ (Seal)

Printed Name of Affiant _____ City, State and Zip Code of Affiant _____ Signature of Notary _____ Address of Notary _____

NOTICE: The proposed amendment revises Article VIII of the Constitution by adopting six new Sections to be known as Article VIII, Sections 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14.

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 six new Sections to be known as Article VIII, Sections 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 to read as follows:

Section 8. Ballot titles for ballot measures, whether proposed by the General Assembly or through citizen initiative or referendum, shall be clear, unbiased, fair, sufficient, and to the extent possible shall only include language found in the proposed measure.

Section 9. 1. All established political parties in the state shall have a right to have their designated nominees 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, has one of its candidates for any statewide office receive 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 have at least one candidate for any statewide office receive more than two percent of the entire vote cast for the office.

Section 10. 1. In any party primary election, each registered voter shall be entitled to receive the ballot of one and only one political party. 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.

2. In a contest for nomination for or election to an office of a political subdivision or special district, the requirements of this section shall not apply in any circumstance where it conflicts with a federally mandated voting system or with a law or policy adopted in any election after the year 2014 by a majority of the voters casting votes in such election of the subdivision or district.

3. Nothing in this section shall apply to the election of delegates selected by senate district to a constitutional convention under the provisions of Article XII of this Constitution.

4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution to the contrary and subject to other provisions of this article relating to primaries, voters shall have the liberty to choose all the candidates they like in each primary, special, and general election race conducted by election authorities in the State of Missouri, including all subdivisions therein, held on or after the enactment of this section.

5. The instructions on every ballot subject to this section shall state, "Choose ALL candidates you like in each race."

6. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes for each office shall be declared the winner of the election for that office. In all elections where multiple candidates are to be elected for the same office or position, the number of candidates receiving the highest number of votes for the respective number of offices or positions appearing on the ballot shall be elected.

7. Nothing in this section shall authorize or allow any voter to assign to a candidate any order, ranking order, or ranking number, indicating a voter's preference for or against any candidate.

Section 12. 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 or ballots cast on election day are counted, who may be present while the ballots are being prepared for counting and counted and may remain until all ballots are 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 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 an observer does not meet the qualifications of subsection 3 of this section, the election authority shall notify the designating party chair and such chair may designate a replacement 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, who meet the qualifications of subsection 3, at his or her discretion before 5:00 pm on the Monday preceding the election.

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 nonpartisan election, each nonpartisan 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 nonpartisan candidates appear on the ballot, the nonpartisan 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.

5. For purposes of this section, "observer" shall mean a watcher, challenger, or observer of an election as provided by law.

Section 13. 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 qualified registered voters in such precincts shall be subject to the manual audit. The manual audit shall be open to the public, be completed within fourteen (14) days of the conclusion of the election, and document the exact method of random selection to select precincts. Results from the manual audit shall be publicly available within two (2) days after its completion.

2. For the randomly selected precinct(s), the election authority shall manually audit one (1) contested election or ballot issue which shall be randomly selected from each of the following categories, where applicable: (A) Presidential and Vice-Presidential electors, United States senate candidates and state-wide candidates; (B) State-wide ballot issues; (C) United States representative candidates and state general assembly candidates; (D) Partisan circuit and associate circuit judge candidates and all nonpartisan judicial retention candidates; and (E) all remaining candidates or ballot issues for the remaining political subdivisions and special districts, including the county, in the randomly selected precincts. In addition to the randomly selected office or ballot measure above, the election authority shall manually audit all races in which the margin of victory between the two (2) top candidates is equal to or less than one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the number of votes cast for the office.

3. If, based on the manual audit, the election authority finds evidence of errors in the original tabulation that could change the result of any election or would exceed a threshold established by law, the election authority shall immediately notify the candidates in such election of the evidence of errors in the tabulation and such candidates may request a manual recount of all ballots in that election as provided by law.

Section 14. 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.