



16-032

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STATE OF MISSOURI

ELECTIONS DIVISION
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March 4, 2015

The Honorable John Watson
State Auditor
State Capitol Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

RE: Petition approval request from Michael Dean regarding a proposed amendment to the Revised Statutes of Missouri (2016-032)

Dear Auditor Watson:

Enclosed please find an initiative petition sample sheet for a proposal to amend the Revised Statutes of Missouri filed by Michael Dean on March 4, 2015.

We are referring the enclosed petition sample sheet to you for the purposes of preparing a fiscal note and fiscal note summary as required by Section 116.332, RSMo. Section 116.175.2, RSMo requires the state auditor to forward the fiscal note and fiscal note summary to the attorney general within twenty days of receipt of the petition sample sheet.

Thank you for your immediate consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Jason Kander

cc: Hon. Chris Koster
Sheri Hoffman
Barbara Wood

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STATE AUDITORS OFFICE

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Whereas:

- Decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court have equated spending money in elections with speech and granted corporations the constitutional rights of the People, permitting the wealthy to buy enormous influence in our government through uncontrolled political spending. This undermines the aspirations of Missourians to a true democracy with a level playing field.
- Corporations, including for-profit and non-profit organizations, unions, and other artificial legal entities, are created under state laws. There is no mention of these entities in the Constitution.
- Money is property, not speech. Its unregulated use for political purposes creates unequal access to political power and influence. Money contributed or spent for political purposes should be subject to regulation.

Therefore:

(1) We the People of the state of Missouri, with the legislative power retained by us under the Missouri Constitution (including Article III, Sections 49 through 53), hereby call for an Article V Convention by enacting into law this Application, in accordance with Article V of the U. S. Constitution, for the specific and exclusive purpose of considering a Constitutional Amendment consistent with the following principles:

(a) Corporations Are Not People. Artificial entities, such as corporations, unions and non-profit corporations, established by the laws of any State, the United States, or any foreign state, shall have no constitutional rights and shall be subject to regulation by the People, through Federal, State or Local law. Nothing in this clause shall be construed to limit the rights of the People as specified in the U.S. Constitution and its Amendments.

(b) Money is Not Speech. Money is property and shall not be construed as speech. The People, to ensure a level playing field for all people regardless of their economic status, empower and direct Federal, State, and Local governments to regulate, limit or prohibit the contribution and spending of money for political purposes and to require full and prompt public disclosure of all such transactions.

(2) This measure constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States, until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have made similar applications pursuant to Article V.

(3) A copy of this initiative shall be transmitted to the President of the United States; to each member of the Missouri Congressional Delegation; to the presiding officers of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives; to each Governor and presiding officer of each legislative body of each of the United States.

(4) This Application shall be codified in the Missouri Revised Statutes.