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June 6, 2016

OPINION LETTER NO. 123-2016

The Honorable Jason Kander  
Missouri Secretary of State  
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center  
600 West Main Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Secretary Kander:

This opinion letter responds to your request dated May 27, 2016, for our review under § 116.025, RSMo, of a proposed fair ballot language statement for the initiative petition submitted by Shelia Dundon, version 6, relating to an amendment to Article XVI of the Missouri Constitution (2016-135). The proposed fair ballot language statement is as follows:

A **“yes”** vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to allow the use of marijuana for medical purposes. This amendment creates regulations and licensing procedures for marijuana and marijuana facilities. This amendment also imposes a 4 percent tax on the retail sale of marijuana for medical use sold at marijuana facilities. The funds from these taxes shall be used for health and care services for military veterans by the Missouri Veterans Commission and to administer the program to license and regulate marijuana and marijuana facilities.

A **“no”** vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution as to the use of marijuana.

If passed, this measure will impose a 4 percent tax on the retail sale of marijuana.

Pursuant to § 116.025, RSMo, we approve the legal content and form of the proposed fair ballot language statement.

Because our review of the fair ballot language statement is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the initiative petition, nor as the expression of any view regarding the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours,

  
**CHRIS KOSTER**  
Attorney General