



**STATE OF MISSOURI**  
**Office of**  
**Secretary of State**

**CERTIFICATE OF SUFFICIENCY OF PETITION**

STATE OF MISSOURI

ss.

SECRETARY OF STATE

I, John R. Ashcroft, Secretary of State of Missouri, do hereby certify that my office has examined for compliance with the Missouri Constitution and Chapter 116, RSMo, the initiative petition submitted by Greta Bax with the following official ballot title:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow the Missouri Gaming Commission to issue one additional gambling boat license to operate on the portion of the Osage River from the Missouri River to the Bagnell Dam;
- require the prescribed location shall include artificial spaces that contain water and are within 500 feet of the 100-year base flood elevation as established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and
- require all state revenues derived from the issuance of the gambling boat license shall be appropriated to early-childhood literacy programs in public institutions of elementary education?

State governmental entities estimate one-time costs of \$763,000, ongoing costs of \$2.2 million annually, initial fee revenue of \$271,000, ongoing admission and other fee revenue of \$2.1 million annually, and annual gaming tax revenue of \$14.3 million. Local governments estimate unknown revenue.

Pursuant to the Order of the Circuit Court of Cole County, I further certify that this petition contains a sufficient number of valid signatures to comply with the Constitution of Missouri and Chapter 116, RSMo. Therefore, this initiative petition shall be placed on the ballot at the November 5, 2024 General Election.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of my office in the City of Jefferson, State of Missouri, on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August 2024.



  
Secretary of State

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COLE COUNTY, MISSOURI

OSAGE RIVER GAMING AND	)	
CONVENTION, <i>et al.</i> ,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Case No. 24AC-CC07163
	)	
JOHN R. ASHCROFT,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

**FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW,  
AND FINAL JUDGMENT**

All parties appeared before this Court, stipulated evidence was taken on the record by agreement of the parties, and arguments were made to the Court. This Court having weighed all the facts and law, now issues its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Final Judgment in this matter.

No party has requested findings of fact and conclusions of law. No evidence was presented against any of the facts entered in the joint stipulation, and no evidence was presented that any signatures previously counted as valid were not, in fact, valid. The Court finds that the facts stipulated by the parties are sufficient and credible to enter judgment, and such facts form the factual basis for this Court’s judgment. Due to the stipulated facts and the timelines necessary for the Secretary of State to act on this Judgment, the Court dispenses with any further findings and enters the following Judgment:

The Initiative in question had sufficient valid signatures of registered voters in each of the following congressional districts as follows:

- a. CD 1 – 34,330 valid (25,632 needed)
- b. CD 2 – 36,153 valid (36,099 needed)
  - i. 34,068 (originally found valid by the Secretary)
  - ii. 2,085 (additional valid signatures presented by Plaintiffs)
- c. CD 3 – 34,790 valid (33,299 needed)

- d. CD 4 – 30,014 valid (29,449 needed)
- e. CD 5 – 33,528 valid (28,458 needed)
- f. CD 7 – 31,432 valid (30,013 needed)

“If the signatures are present, the initiative is sufficient, and the people have the right to put the proposition on the ballot.” *Ketcham v. Blunt*, 847 SW.W.2d 824, 831 (Mo. App. W.D. 1992). Based on the stipulated evidence this Court finds that proponents of the Initiative submitted a sufficient number of valid signatures of registered voters in six of eight congressional districts as required by Article III, Section 50 of the Missouri Constitution.

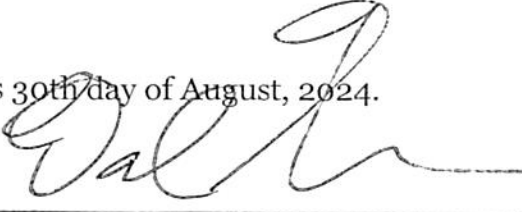
This Court concludes that based on the evidence, the Initiative is sufficient, the August 13, 2024 Certificate of Insufficiency for the Initiative should be reversed, and a new Certificate of Sufficiency should be issued.

This Court also concludes that pursuant to Section 116.200, RSMo., it shall order the Initiative to appear on the ballot.

WHEREFORE, this Court hereby issues its final judgment on Count I in the First Amended Petition, as the only Count remaining in the case, in favor of Plaintiffs and against Defendant and further declares and orders that:

- a. The Initiative has sufficient valid signatures in six of eight congressional districts and qualifies to appear on the November ballot under the provisions of the Missouri Constitution;
- b. The Secretary of State shall issue a Certificate of Sufficiency for the Initiative; and
- c. The Secretary of State shall certify to local election authorities that the Initiative be placed on the November 5, 2024 general election ballot and shall take all steps necessary to ensure that it is on said ballot.

So ordered and adjudged this 30th day of August, 2024.

  
Honorable Daniel Green  
Judge  
Division II

