

STAPLE  
HERE

County \_\_\_\_\_

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:

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 3rd day of November, 2026 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.

2024 DEC 19 AM 9:01

**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						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
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 \_\_\_\_\_ Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. \_\_\_\_\_ (Seal)

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

NOTICE: The proposed amendment revises Article III of the Constitution by adopting one new Section to be known as Article III, Section 54.

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

Section A. Article III of the Constitution is revised by adopting one new Section to be known as Article III, Section 54 to read as follows:

Section 54.

1. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, the legislature shall be prohibited from weakening citizens' direct lawmaking power. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "weakening citizens' direct lawmaking power" shall be defined to include proposing or passing any law or constitutional amendment which, if enacted, would weaken citizens' power of initiative, weaken citizens' power of referendum, or weaken both of those powers, whether explicitly or by implication. The term shall be construed broadly and shall include any change making it more difficult for the citizens to reject by referendum acts of the legislature or making it more difficult for the citizens to propose or enact laws or constitutional amendments through the initiative. Examples of such changes include, but are not limited to, raising signature thresholds, shortening the time allowed for signature collection, narrowing allowable subject matter, imposing additional qualifications or procedural requirements on petitioners, or raising the vote percentage required to approve a measure at the ballot. In no case shall any such change be made by way of an act or amendment put forward by the legislature.
2. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, the legislature shall be prohibited from attempting to change any citizen-initiated law or citizen-initiated amendment, except in the event that eighty percent of the House and Senate approve the change.
  - (1) For the purposes of this subsection, a "citizen-initiated law" is defined to be a law that the people have proposed and enacted by the initiative at any time, whether before, on, or after the effective date of this section.
  - (2) For the purposes of this subsection, a "citizen-initiated amendment" is defined to be a portion of this Constitution that the people have proposed and enacted by the initiative as a constitutional amendment at any time, whether before, on, or after the effective date of this section.
  - (3) For the purposes of this subsection, "attempting to change" a citizen-initiated law or citizen-initiated amendment means proposing or passing any law or constitutional amendment which, if enacted, would modify, repeal, or supersede any part of a citizen-initiated law or citizen-initiated amendment, whether explicitly or by implication.
  - (4) This subsection shall not be construed to authorize the legislature to take any action prohibited by a provision of this Constitution outside this subsection. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the legislature to amend this Constitution without the direct consent of the voters as expressed at a referendum.
3. For the purposes of this section, "eighty percent of the House and Senate approve" means that at least eighty percent of the members of the House and at least eighty percent of the members of the Senate each separately approve.
4. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, any law or constitutional amendment put forward by the legislature which is proposed, passed, or enacted after the effective date of this section in violation of subsection 1 or 2 of this section is null and void, and any citizen may challenge it in court.
5. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, every ballot measure shall be decided at a general election, except in the event that eighty percent of the House and Senate approve a special election for the measure. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "every ballot measure" encompasses all measures put to a statewide vote of the people, whether changing the laws or changing this Constitution.
6. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, every ballot summary shall be clear, unbiased, fair, and accurate, and shall, when possible, use only language found in the ballot measure. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "every ballot summary" encompasses the ballot summaries of all measures put to a statewide vote of the people, whether changing the laws or changing this Constitution.
7. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, the people shall have the power to directly enact, by majority of votes cast thereon, laws and amendments proposed by initiative petition and relating to any of the subjects on which the legislature can propose laws and amendments, excluding any subject prohibited by this Constitution as of December 31, 2024, with signatures from five percent of the legal voters in each of two-thirds of Missouri's congressional districts sufficient to propose a law, and with signatures from eight percent of the legal voters in each of two-thirds of Missouri's congressional districts sufficient to propose an amendment, the number of signatures required calculated based on the total vote for governor at the general election last preceding the filing of any petition.
8. Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, the people shall have the power to order by petition a referendum on any act of the legislature (except as to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety, and laws making appropriations for the current expenses of the state government, for the maintenance of state institutions and for the support of public schools), with signatures from five percent of the legal voters in each of two-thirds of Missouri's congressional districts sufficient to order such a referendum, the number of signatures required calculated based on the total vote for governor at the general election last preceding the filing of any petition.
9. If any provision of subsections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 of this section or the application thereof to anyone or to any circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of those provisions and the application of such provisions to others or other circumstances shall not be affected thereby.