

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1355

## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PIETZMAN.

3188H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 116.180, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to ballot language.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 116.180, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 116.180, to read as follows:

116.180. **1.** Within three days after receiving the official summary statement the approved fiscal note summary and the fiscal note relating to any statewide ballot measure, the secretary of state shall certify the official ballot title in separate paragraphs with the fiscal note summary immediately following the summary statement of the measure and shall deliver a copy of the official ballot title and the fiscal note to the speaker of the house or the president pro tem of the legislative chamber that originated the measure or, in the case of initiative or referendum petitions, to the person whose name and address are designated under section 116.332. Persons circulating the petition shall affix the official ballot title to each page of the petition prior to circulation and signatures shall not be counted if the official ballot title is not affixed to the page containing such signatures.

**2. The official ballot title shall be written in plain language. In addition to the ballot question, the title shall also include examples that illustrate the effects of a yes or no vote on the ballot question. The examples shall take substantially the following form:**

**"A "yes" vote on this ballot question would result in the following (insert example). A "no" vote on this ballot question would result in the following (insert example)."**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 The ballot example shall be limited to no more than fifty words, excluding articles. The  
19 fifty words for the ballot example shall be in addition to the fifty words allowed for ballot  
20 language under section 116.160. The secretary of state or the general assembly may  
21 propose official ballot titles, including examples. The secretary of state shall not certify a  
22 petition with a proposed ballot title that does not satisfy the requirements of this section.  
23 The sufficiency and fairness of ballot examples shall be subject to challenge in the same  
24 manner as ballot title, as provided in this chapter.

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