



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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|--|-------------|--|----------------------|
| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: BEN TRAVLOS | | PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-1400 | |
| REPRESENTING: MISSOURI FARM BUREAU | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: 701 S. COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65109 |
| EMAIL: | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 12:00 AM | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: HELEN THERESA GELHOT | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: hgelhot1@gmail.com | | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 12:46 AM |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JAMES HARRIS | | PHONE NUMBER: 573-761-7875 | |
| REPRESENTING: OPPORTUNITY SOLUTIONS PROJECT | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: 122 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 200 | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65101 |
| EMAIL: | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 12:00 AM | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JOHN R. ASHCROFT | | PHONE NUMBER: 573-751-8731 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: OFFICE OF MISSOURI SECRETARY OF STATE | | TITLE: MISSOURI SECRETARY OF STATE | |
| ADDRESS: 600 WEST MAIN STREET | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65101 |
| EMAIL: | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 12:00 AM | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KIM SHEMWELL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: kimberbee@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 9:36 AM |
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Only Missourians should be responsible for Missouri law.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LISA JONES | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: ljonesfamily@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 6:28 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |
| I SUPPORT HB 703 INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITIONS | | |



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NADINE BALL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: 19ball.nadine58@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 7:48 AM |

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The State of Missouri has no business requesting my political party affiliation. Party affiliation is far less important than the merits a candidate brings to elected office and voter's freedom to select candidates rather than a straight party ticket should be a bedrock of voter protection. I strongly support the effort to overturn the requirement that we declare party affiliation.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NANCY JONES | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Nanjon777@hotmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 11:14 AM |
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Petition circulators should be citizens of U.S. & residents of Missouri & prohibited from being compensated based on the number of signatures collected. There is a need of preventing any extension of a legal challenge to the ballot title to be adjudicated less than 8 weeks or more before the date of the election. The need for no measure circulating claim to nullify or amend federal law should be set in writing.



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SHANNA GRATZER | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: swgratzer@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 4:09 PM |

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This bill seems to support tighter regulations on petitions and more transparency and is important for Missouri voters.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ADAM GANTNER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: adamgantner215@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 7:53 AM |
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Why are elected officials trying to make it harder for the peoples voice to be heard? This process should be easier. We the people should have an easy avenue to collect signatures and have a real chance at push back when elected officials do the bidding of dark money donor interests and not the interests of the people of MO.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: AMY VENTURELLA | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: amyventurella@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 10:34 PM |
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I oppose this bill. It excludes non-citizens from being able to engage others in important issues facing their communities. Thank you for your time.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 11:57 PM |

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Defeat this terrible Bill. Stop taking away Our Rights to Control Our Government! See my taped Testimony!



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 11:58 PM |
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I Overall am very Opposed to this Bill and taking the Rights, Stop-Gaps, Protections and Safeguards away from ALL Missourians! I Agree that Signature Pages shall be made available in "Electronic-Format." I am up in the air that a Initiative Petition can claim to Nullify or Amend Federal Law. I Disagree with only Residents of Missouri can Circulate Petitions, which Violates the First Amendment and the United States Supreme Court Buckley v. American Constitutional Law Foundation, Inc., 525 U.S. 182 (1999). I Disagree with all other facets and Requirements in this Proposed Bill. Defeat this Legislation that is very unfair to ALL Missourians.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ARTHUR NEWMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: JanusZeal11@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 11:08 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

First, I wouldn't recommend using a twelve point type Times New Roman as a font size definition. Use pixel measurements or a line height as a measurement. It will be more accurate, unless your also requiring Times New Roman as the only font accepted. Secondly, 116.050 Section 3 should only be allowed in if bills submitted through committee with in our legislature had have the same restrictions. If our people cannot change or amend federal law, or overthrow federal court rulings, that has to include all of our citizens, especially ones elected to represent us in our state legislature. Finally, 116.334 Section 2 allows opposition parties to grift initiatives and referendums by filing and delaying their legal challenge to be within a timeframe that would make it impossible to re-certify before the intended election. If the initiatives or referendums needs to be thrown out in its entirety, throw it out. If it needs to be changes, it needs to occur as early as possible then to allow for re-certification before the intended election. Without a deadline to challenge an initiatives and referendums in place, one or two can subvert the will of thousands who just want to propose a change to the people, if it has majority support or not.



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ASHTON KUEHNEL | | PHONE NUMBER: 618-946-9081 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SIERRA CLUB, MISSOURI CHAPTER | | TITLE: ORGANIZER | |
| ADDRESS: 3438 PESTALOZZI ST | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63118 |
| EMAIL: ashton.kuehnel@sierraclub.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 1:46 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

To the Missouri House Election and Elected Officials Committee: The Missouri Sierra Club opposes House Bill 703. The Missouri Sierra Club represents over 8,000 dues-paying members across the state who advocate for conservation, environmental, social justice, and democracy through grassroots efforts. We believe that every voter should have all the tools to exert their constitutional right to be involved in our democracy. Missouri's 115 year constitutional right to utilize the initiative petition to bring policy to the people of the state is a historic treasure and allows voters to participate in our democratic process. House Bill 703 creates unnecessary administrative changes in the initiative petition qualification process. Among other hurdles, the administrative changes require signature gatherers to be registered to vote in the state of Missouri. Even though someone may not be able to vote, they should still be afforded the opportunity to participate in the political process. Excluding non-voters from participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process infringes on free expression and association. In fact, a federal court recently found a 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators in North Dakota violated the first amendment free speech and expression and infringed on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech. The Sierra Club, Missouri Chapter has worked on numerous initiative petition campaigns over the past 50 years. This organization and our leadership understand how rigorous this process already is— you have to get hundreds of thousands of voters to sign on before a measure even gets considered for the ballot. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than censure the voice of the people. This is the people's tool to get things done. As Governor Ashcroft once said, "It is through the initiative process that those who have no influence with elective representatives may take their cause directly to the people. The General Assembly should be reluctant, therefore, to enact legislation which places any impediments on the initiative power which are inconsistent with the reservation found in the Constitution." The Missouri Sierra Club urges you to Vote NO on HB 703.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: BARBARA HOPPE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: yesforparks@hotmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 10:33 AM |

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This bill blatantly violates the fundamental first amendment right of every citizen to free speech, expression and association. It is an wrongful and misguided effort to suppress and silence citizens and make the right to petition more difficult and onerous.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: BARBARA ROSS | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: bsr6250@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 11:27 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Missourians, all citizens, need to have a route to having an effective say in how the affairs of their state are conducted and what laws are passed when the Mo. legislature fails to acknowledge and protect the will of a majority of citizens on issues vital to them. This is the role of the initiative petition process. You would be making it harder for Missourians to have a democratic voice with this legislation - this is not the democratic way. The Mo. legislature should not be amenable to minority vote rule. Anything over 50% plus 1 is minority rule. You don't want this in the legislature, you should not force it on Missourians. With measures such as this legislation, Missouri slips further into authoritarianism. The people of Mo. want democracy not authoritarianism.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: BETH NEWMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Bethemilynewman@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:04 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

This bill will immediately get challenged in court (see federal court ruling in North Dakota). Stop wasting precious time and power on making it more difficult for Missourians to exercise their 1A rights and more time on how you're going to spend our once-in-a-lifetime budget surplus.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY KIEFER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: brittany.kiefer@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:35 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose this bill and ask the committee to veto it because it takes power away from Missouri voters. This bill makes it more difficult for Missourians to engage in the initiative petition process and creates more unnecessary bureaucracy around getting measures on the ballot. These restrictions will gut the power of Missouri voters which is necessary to uphold against legislators that do not consider the will of the people.



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CAITLIN UNG | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-8748 | |
| REPRESENTING: ACLU MO | | TITLE: POLICY AND CAMPAIGNS ASSOCIATE | |
| ADDRESS: 906 OLIVE ST, SUITE 1130 | | | |
| CITY: ST. LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63101 |
| EMAIL: cung@aclu-mo.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 8:33 PM | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

The American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri submits this testimony in opposition to HB 703, which among other things, would impose a citizenship and residency requirement for petition circulators. We should not limit public participation as HB 703 proposes. The initiative petition process is amongst the purest forms of democratic participation. For more than a century, access to the citizen initiative process has allowed for voter engagement on a range of issues by Missouri voters across the political spectrum - conservative, progressive, and everything in between. Because HB 703 unduly limits core political speech, we urge you to vote NO on HB 703.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CARLY FERDMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: carlyferdman@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 10:17 AM |

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Requiring a residency requirement for petitioners is unconstitutional. Federal courts have already found this violates the first amendment of free speech and expression.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CAROL HUNT | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: chunt19@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 11:30 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am writing to express my strong oppose HB 703, HB 780, HJR 19 seeking to restrict access to Citizen Initiative Petitions in Missouri. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this important tool is critical to ensuring that all voices are heard and that everyone has the ability to take action on the issues that matter most to them. The greatest negative effect would be to deny citizens their voice and allowing them to take action on issues they care about. This is especially important for groups who may not be adequately represented in the traditional political process, as Citizen Initiative Petitions can help ensure that all perspectives are heard. Citizen Initiative Petitions allow citizens to directly address issues they feel are not being adequately addressed by the government; this tool can help ensure that public officials are responsive to the needs and concerns of their constituents. Is it this that you miss to impede? The elected officials of this House should NOT believe themselves "parents" to their constituents. Contrary to current practices, they do not have the right to ignore their wishes and concerns of those constituents as they would recalcitrant children who do not know what is good for them. Such actions cripple a democracy and can only ferment an ever increasing resentment between elected officials and the people they supposedly represent.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CAROLINE OTTE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: r_cycl@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 6:06 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

You can't take away our rights so you can continue on with your corrupt business. Thanks but no thanks, Missourians can decide for themselves. You do not get to decide for us.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CASYE DAVIDSON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: purelywanderlust@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 10:04 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Initiative petition allows the people to express their will to governing bodies and is an important part of the democratic process. To limit that and make it more difficult for citizens to engage with politics is diametrically opposed to what this country is meant to stand for. It's absolutely disgraceful to try and take that away, considering how simple majority and 2/3rds votes are acceptable for those within the institution. Stop silencing Missourians who want to take part in government!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CATHY FARR | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: planetfarr@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 12:46 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CHARLES DIXON | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: dixonkc@aol.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 6:29 PM | |
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I oppose changing the percent of voters required to pass Referendum. Please leave the 50 percent threshold as is.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CHERYL LYNN ADELSTEIN | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-442-3872 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL | | TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR | |
| ADDRESS: 12 MILLSTONE CAMPUS DRIVE | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63146 |
| EMAIL: cadelstein@jcrctl.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 3:55 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Opposition to HB 703, 780 and HJR 19The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse and social justice in St. Louis and beyond.The Sage Hillel taught "Al tifros min hatzibur," Do not separate yourself from the community (Pirke Avot 2:5). Moreover, it is our responsibility to play an active role in our community and in choosing its leaders.Rabbi Yitzhak taught that "A ruler is not to be appointed unless the community is first consulted" (Babylonian Talmud Berachot 55a). Rabbi Yitzhak further explained that in the Torah, Bezalel could be chosen to build the Tabernacle only with the community's approval. This deeply embedded ethic of political participation has guided Jews to enthusiastically participate in the American electoral process.These bills and resolutions make it difficult for our people and all people in our state to participate in the electoral process. Our state constitution gives us the right to initiate legislative action through the petition process. This already onerous and costly process, has helped our community achieve some of its policy objectives, including making health care available to more of our citizens.By making it more difficult to recruit petitioners, to certify a petition by increasing the number of signatures required, and by increasing the threshold for approval of the initiative from a simple majority of voters, it will make the ballot initiative process too expensive and burdensome for many grassroots efforts - effectively removing power from the people.As people of faith, we oppose any efforts that challenge our ability to participate in the electoral process and ask you to oppose the bills.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CLARISSE TEEPE-FRYREAR | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: twothewoods@hotmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 9:48 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Vote NO on this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CLINT CRABTREE | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: ctcrabtree@icloud.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 1:42 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The initiative petition process is an important tool of direct democracy that allows us to maintain our freedom to have a say on important issues. The Missouri legislatures' interest in making the initiative petition process more difficult is a power grab that evades the will of the people. For their personal gain, these elected officials and wealthy special interests seek to make it harder for citizens to place important issues on the ballot, more difficult to pass initiatives, and easier to overturn the public's vote. A majority is 50% plus 1. Since when does "majority rule" mean 60%? Changing the threshold just makes it harder for the public to make decisions. The process is already rigorous - you have to get hundreds of thousands of voters to sign on before a measure even gets considered for the ballot. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than censure the voice of the people. Voters from all sides of the political spectrum have used the ballot initiative process to advance their priorities. The ballot initiative process is the only recourse voters have when politicians fail to address the issues that matter to them. This tool has been used by conservatives, progressives, moderates, and independents.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: COLLEEN TEPEN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: colleentepen81@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 11:40 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The public petition process is one of the last ways that our voices can be heard in Missouri (which is why it is being targeted by MO republicans). Please don't take our voices away by passing this anti democratic bill. Please vote no on HB 573.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CONSTANCE DOTY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: constancedoty@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 8:59 PM |
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I am opposed to this bill as it makes it more difficult for people to participate our government.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CYNTHIA M. ERB | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: cynerb@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 5:27 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose all changes to the current initiative petition process, which is a cornerstone of democracy in Missouri and is available to all voters. I do not believe the question of whether circulators are citizens is relevant to the process. Please do not alter the current initiative petition process. It works and has proven beneficial to Missouri residents time and again.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CYNTHIA M. ERB | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: cynerb@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 5:36 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose all changes to the current initiative petition process, which is a cornerstone of democracy in Missouri and is available to all voters. I do not believe the question of whether circulators are citizens is relevant to the process. Please do not alter the current initiative petition process. It works and has proven beneficial to Missouri residents time and again.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CYNTHIA MCEVOY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: ccarms311@aol.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 4:05 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I find it reprehensible that there is an interest in making it harder for citizens to achieve their goals when their legislators are not following their wishes. A majority is 50 plus 1....not an arbitrary number concocted by backroom politicians and wealthy self-interested groups with MINORITY interests! DO NOT vote to handicap the will of the people!!!, personally and proudly, have worked to gather signatures - a time-consuming, costly, and rigorously observed process, and found that it helps people voice their opinions and helps them understand their own government. This bill "steps on the neck" of our citizens. Vote NO!!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DANA SANDWEISS | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: danasandweiss@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 9:12 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

I have gathered signatures across the state and worked on several initiative petition campaigns in Missouri and it is already very difficult, time consuming and expensive. By creating all these additional barriers to this process you are attacking Missourian's right to participate in direct democracy and discouraging them from engaging in our political process. Please spend your time and our tax dollars working to help Missourians, not discouraging them to participate in our political process.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DARCY KLONSKY | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: dgklonsky@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 6:05 AM | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DARLENE LOEB | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: darlene.loeb@accessus.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 5:15 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I, Darlene Loeb, would like to voice my opposition to HB 781 repealing this right of voluntarily declaring affiliation with a party through our voter record.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DAVID JAMES MITCHELL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: atrial1047@att.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 6:04 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

To Elections and Elected Officials Committee: In regards to HB703, I support most of the provisions in this bill, but question the following provision. In regards to holding a public hearing on certified petitions by the Secretary of State by the Joint Committee for Legislative Research, I do not see the benefit of repealing this process. What is the rationale for doing so? It seems to me the ability to provide public input would promote the democratic process, and the repeal of such a process would hinder it.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DEBRA P. COE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: debbiecoe@mac.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 12:34 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

This bill is so restrictive that it begs petitioners too jump through unnecessary hoops just to have a say in our state's democracy. This bill seems to be designed to discourage direct participation in the important issues that govern Missouri citizens' lives. This bill seems to be written by a politician that neither respects or appreciates the power of the people. This is a bill against our democratic process and I oppose this bill.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DEBRA PRICE COE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: debbiecoe@mac.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 1:30 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Missouri citizens need to have a say in what is important to us. We need to directly participate in the effort to hold onto democracy. This bill restricts our constitutional right to fully participate in decision making. I oppose this bill!



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DENISE LIEBERMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-780-1833 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION | | TITLE: DIRECTOR & GENERAL COUNSEL | |
| ADDRESS: 6047 WATERMAN BLVD | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63112 |
| EMAIL: denise@movpc.org | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 9:31 AM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Missouri Voter Protection Coalition The Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC) submits this testimony in opposition to HB 703, which among other things, would impose a citizenship and residency requirement for petition circulators. While those signing petitions for initiatives or referendums must be Missouri voters and therefore citizens and Missouri residents, limiting who can circulate such petitions for support and disseminate ideas infringes on the rights of free expression and bars circulators from engaging in political speech in violation of the U.S. and Missouri Constitutions. The right to free speech is universal. It applies to everyone. As such, a federal court recently struck a nearly identical requirement for petition circulators in South Dakota. The Missouri Voter Protection Coalition is Missouri’s statewide nonpartisan network of voter advocates who work to advance the right to vote in Missouri through policy advocacy, strategic litigation, voter education and coordination of the statewide nonpartisan Election Protection program. Through the collective experience of our 50+ partner organizations and nationally recognized expertise of our leaders and partners, over the last 15 years, we have provided this Committee with analysis and assessment of how legislation before the committee stands to impact access to the ballot for Missouri’s voters. Among other things - HB 703: requires petition circulators to be US Citizens; imposes a 30-day residency requirement on petition circulators, mandating that circulators must have been in Missouri for at least 30 days; prohibits circulators from being compensated based on number of signatures obtained; prevents legal challenges to ballot title to extend sooner than 8 weeks before election day; voids all signatures collected before any court ruling that substantially alters the language of the ballot title; repeals requirement that Committee on Legislative Research hold a public hearing on initiatives; requires referendum sample sheets to be submitted to the SOS 6 months before election day; prohibits citizen initiatives that would alter federal law; sets pagination page and font requirements for signature sheets, voiding otherwise valid signatures merely because signature sheets do not meet these requirements. A federal court recently permanently struck South Dakota SB 180 that included a nearly identical 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators among a number of other regulations. The permanent injunction followed a ruling by the Eighth Circuit finding that the South Dakota law likely violated the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and upholding preliminary injunction against the law. This case similarly resolved a specific challenge to SB 180’s 30-day residency requirement that the court found raised valid claims under the First Amendment. The U.S. Supreme Court and the Eighth Circuit have consistently held that initiative petition circulation is “core political speech” and the “First Amendment protection for such interaction . . . is ‘at its zenith.’” Buckley v. Am. Const. L. Found., Inc., 525 U.S. 182, 186 (1999) (quoting Meyer v. Grant, 486 U.S. 414, 422, 425 (1988)); see also Dakotans for Health v. Noem, 52 F.4th 381, 388 (8th Cir. 2022); SD Voice v. Noem, 987 F.3d 1186,

1191 (8th Cir. 2021). A critical step in the petition process is interacting with fellow citizens and engaging in political speech about the issues, putting First Amendment rights directly at issue. Restrictions on who can circulate ballot initiative petitions “significantly inhibit communication with voters about proposed political change,” and infringe on the free speech rights of those made ineligible. *Buckley*, 525 U.S. at 192. Further, by reducing the pool of potential circulators, these restrictions limit the speaker’s ability to spread the petition’s message. The Missouri Constitution likewise guarantees “[t]hat no law shall be passed impairing the freedom of speech, no matter by what means communicated: that every person shall be free to say, write or publish, or otherwise communicate whatever he will on any subject.” This provision is at least as expansive as the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution. See *Karney v. Dep’t of Lab. & Indus. Rels.*, 599 S.W.3d 157, 162–63 (Mo. banc 2020). A Missouri judge recently enjoined a similar requirement that voter registration solicitors be registered voters in Missouri, finding that the requirement “mutes speech and expressive activity” of the individuals not eligible to become voter registration solicitors, directly infringing on their free speech rights guaranteed under the Missouri Constitution. The Judge further determined that the restriction “will also remove from the pool of potential solicitors many voting-ineligible Missourians” and “thus restricts the number of voices” conveying core political speech and thereby “directly stifles speech.” Like the recently-struck registered voter requirement, HB 703’s residency and citizenship requirements bar a large swath of people from engaging in core political speech, and reduce the pool of individuals available to spread the petition’s message. HB 703 mutes ineligible circulators on important issues, in direct conflict with state and federal law. By preventing those who have not resided in Missouri for at least 30 days from engaging in petition circulation, HB 703’s residency requirement restricts who can circulate initiative petitions, thus limiting their ability to exercise political speech about measures they care about. “Such direct restraints on pure speech—and core political speech like encouraging political participation in particular—are antithetical to the core tenets of freedom of speech.” *Henry v. Halliburton*, 690 S.W.2d 775, 785 (Mo. banc 1985) (citing *Connick v. Myers*, 461 U.S. 138, 145 (1983)) (“The First Amendment ‘was fashioned to assure unfettered interchange of ideas for the bringing about of political and social changes desired by the people.’”)” We should not limit public participation as HB 703 proposes. The initiative petition process is amongst the purest forms of democratic participation. For more than a century, access to the citizen initiative process has allowed for a voter engagement on a range of issues by Missouri voters across the political spectrum - conservative, progressive and everything in between. Because HB 703 unduly limits core political speech, we urge you to vote NO on HB 703. Sincerely, Denise Lieberman, Director & General Counsel
MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION
6047 Waterman Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63112
denise@movpc.org (314) 780-1833
www.movpc.org



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DENISE LIEBERMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-780-1833 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION | | TITLE: DIRECTOR & GENERAL COUNSEL | |
| ADDRESS: 6047 WATERMAN BLVD | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63112 |
| EMAIL: denise@movpc.org | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 11:45 AM | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

The Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC) submits this testimony in opposition to HB 703, which among other things, would impose a citizenship and residency requirement for petition circulators. While those signing petitions for initiatives or referendums must be Missouri voters and therefore citizens and Missouri residents, limiting who can circulate such petitions for support and disseminate ideas infringes on the rights of free expression and bars circulators from engaging in political speech in violation of the U.S. and Missouri Constitutions. The right to free speech is universal. It applies to everyone. As such, a federal court recently struck a nearly identical requirement for petition circulators in South Dakota. The Missouri Voter Protection Coalition is Missouri’s statewide nonpartisan network of voter advocates who work to advance the right to vote in Missouri through policy advocacy, strategic litigation, voter education and coordination of the statewide nonpartisan Election Protection program. Through the collective experience of our 50+ partner organizations and nationally recognized expertise of our leaders and partners, over the last 15 years, we have provided this Committee with analysis and assessment of how legislation before the committee stands to impact access to the ballot for Missouri’s voters. Among other things - HB 703: -requires petition circulators to be US Citizens; -imposes a 30-day residency requirement on petition circulators, mandating that circulators must have been in Missouri for at least 30 days; -prohibits circulators from being compensated based on number of signatures obtained; -prevents legal challenges to ballot title to extend sooner than 8 weeks before election day; -voids all signatures collected before any court ruling that substantially alters the language of the ballot title; -repeals requirement that Committee on Legislative Research hold a public hearing on initiatives; -requires referendum sample sheets to be submitted to the SOS 6 months before election day; -prohibits citizen initiatives that would alter federal law; -sets pagination page and font requirements for signature sheets, voiding otherwise valid signatures merely because signature sheets do not meet these requirements. A federal court recently permanently struck South Dakota SB 180 that included a nearly identical 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators among a number of other regulations. The permanent injunction followed a ruling by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals finding that the South Dakota law likely violated the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and upholding preliminary injunction against the law. This case similarly resolved a specific challenge to SB 180’s 30-day residency requirement that the court found raised valid claims under the First Amendment. The U.S. Supreme Court and the Eighth Circuit have consistently held that initiative petition circulation is “core political speech” and the “First Amendment protection for such interaction . . . is ‘at its zenith.’” Buckley v. Am. Const. L. Found., Inc., 525 U.S. 182, 186 (1999) (quoting Meyer v. Grant, 486 U.S. 414, 422, 425 (1988)); see also Dakotans for Health v. Noem, 52 F.4th 381, 388 (8th Cir. 2022); SD Voice v. Noem, 987 F.3d 1186, 1191 (8th Cir. 2021). A critical

step in the petition process is interacting with fellow citizens and engaging in political speech about the issues, putting First Amendment rights directly at issue. Restrictions on who can circulate ballot initiative petitions “significantly inhibit communication with voters about proposed political change,” and infringe on the free speech rights of those made ineligible. *Buckley*, 525 U.S. at 192. Further, by reducing the pool of potential circulators, these restrictions limit the speaker’s ability to spread the petition’s message. The Missouri Constitution likewise guarantees “[t]hat no law shall be passed impairing the freedom of speech, no matter by what means communicated: that every person shall be free to say, write or publish, or otherwise communicate whatever he will on any subject.” This provision is at least as expansive as the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution. See *Karney v. Dep’t of Lab. & Indus. Rels.*, 599 S.W.3d 157, 162–63 (Mo. banc 2020). A Missouri judge recently enjoined a similar requirement that voter registration solicitors be registered voters in Missouri, finding that the requirement “mutes speech and expressive activity” of the individuals not eligible to become voter registration solicitors, directly infringing on their free speech rights guaranteed under the Missouri Constitution. The Judge further determined that the restriction “will also remove from the pool of potential solicitors many voting-ineligible Missourians” and “thus restricts the number of voices” conveying core political speech and thereby “directly stifles speech.” Like the recently-struck registered voter requirement, HB 703’s residency and citizenship requirements bar a large swath of people from engaging in core political speech, and reduce the pool of individuals available to spread the petition’s message. HB 703 mutes ineligible circulators on important issues, in direct conflict with state and federal law. By preventing those who have not resided in Missouri for at least 30 days from engaging in petition circulation, HB 703’s residency requirement restricts who can circulate initiative petitions, thus limiting their ability to exercise political speech about measures they care about. “Such direct restraints on pure speech—and core political speech like encouraging political participation in particular—are antithetical to the core tenets of freedom of speech.” *Henry v. Halliburton*, 690 S.W.2d 775, 785 (Mo. banc 1985) (citing *Connick v. Myers*, 461 U.S. 138, 145 (1983)) (“The First Amendment ‘was fashioned to assure unfettered interchange of ideas for the bringing about of political and social changes desired by the people.’”)”We should not limit public participation as HB 703 proposes. The initiative petition process is amongst the purest forms of democratic participation. For more than a century, access to the citizen initiative process has allowed for a voter engagement on a range of issues by Missouri voters across the political spectrum - conservative, progressive and everything in between. Because HB 703 unduly limits core political speech, we urge you to vote NO on HB 703.

Sincerely, Denise Lieberman, Director & General Counsel
MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION
COALITION
6047 Waterman Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63112 denise@movpc.org(314) 780-1833
www.movpc.org



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DIANE G YEAMANS | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: dyeamans98@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2023 5:05 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am opposed to any changes in the petition initiative as it now stands. As for HB703 I specifically object to the repeal of the hearing requirement within 30 days as delay tactics could be used so that the voters voice never is heard.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DIANE R HECKENKAMP | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: dianejp4u@outlook.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 5:26 AM |

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Measures passed by a majority - as is currently the case - reflect the will of the people. Making it more difficult - as these bills do - undermines the will of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DON CROZIER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: doncrozier@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 8:49 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose efforts to weaken the Initiative Petition process and resent efforts to weaken my voice as a voter. This bill violates first amendment free speech and expression and infringes on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DON GHIDONI | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: dghidoni46@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 11:35 AM |

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I oppose HB 703 in that it is in direct opposition to the long standing American Experiment Towards Democracy. The will and active participation of the people of Missouri must stand superior over partisan politics. Not only does HB 703 rage against both our State and Federal Constitutions, it's a sign of the rising fascism taking place in the United States. Far too many of our ancestors died in WWII to protect us from the horrific Fascism that was spreading across Europe for it to be condoned in any form within the United States of America. The politicians who have written and sponsored HB 703 are well aware of that, as many of their own family members died there as well. You are either pro-democracy or the enemies within.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH A FRANKLIN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: eafrank711@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 6:57 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

This is so complicated I have to wonder WHO ENFORCES all of these rules? It appears to be punitive for anyone trying to be involved which could make people reluctant to be involved. If that is your goal, this bill would accomplish it. Otherwise, I'd highly recommend reconsidering these draconian measures.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH A FRANKLIN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: eafrank711@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 7:24 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ELLE HOLLRAH | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: krhollrah@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 7:39 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

This bill attacks the initiative petition process and limits the power of Missouri voters. The initiative petition process is an important tool of democracy that allows us to maintain our freedom to have a say on important issues. This bill constitutes a power grab to evade the will of the people. Just in case it's been awhile since you've been in math class, I would like to remind you that a majority is simply 50% plus one. Politicians don't get to rewrite math rules just because you don't like that the public is able to advance legislation you don't like. The IP is already checked and balanced in that it is necessary to get hundreds of thousands of voters to sign on to a petition before a measure even gets considered for the ballot. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than silence the voice of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ELLEN WENTZ | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: gotakeahike2@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 10:31 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose HB 703. Most Missourians want Missouri to be a better place for its citizens to live and prosper and the initiative petition is the best avenue to accomplish this in our state. As someone who has collected over 700 signatures on at least one initiative petition, I can say first hand that the process is already too difficult. My question is why HB 703 beats around the bush and puts forth misleading language against the initiative petition process? If you don't want us to make Missouri a better place for its citizens to live and prosper, then treat our citizens like adults and simply replace this bill with one that doesn't allow the initiative petition process.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: EMILY HORNSTRA | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: emlife@att.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2023 7:19 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

I am opposed to this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: EMILY KUTTENKULER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: ekuttess@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 4:07 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This bill excludes non-voters from participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringing on their free expression and association. Also, a federal court recently found a 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators in North Dakota violated the first amendment free speech and expression and infringed on the right of petition circulators to engage in political speech.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: EVE SAMUEL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: evalani123@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:39 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Stop silencing the voice of the people. Stop this draconian effort to take away the one recourse Missouri citizens have to be heard above the deafening noise of your gerrymandered supermajority. We the people by definition will not always agree. We the people are who you are elected to serve.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: EVELYN MADDOX | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: emaddox64111@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:55 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I object to HB 703 because it burdens voters with increased requirements for successfully pursuing an initiative petition. Missouri's initiative petition rights are an important component of our democratic governance in Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: EVELYN MADDOX | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: emaddox64111@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 2:04 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose HB 703 which is too broad in application. I specifically oppose these measures in HB 703 because they suppress the effectiveness of voters to use initiative petition: prevents legal challenges to ballot title to extend sooner than 8 weeks before election day; if a ballot title challenge substantially alters the language of the ballot title, all signatures collected before the ruling are voided; repeals requirement that Legislative Research hold a public hearing; requires referendum sample sheets to be submitted to SOS 6 months before election day;



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: FRANK S. SACCONI | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: saccones@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 9:42 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am a Missouri constituent and I strongly oppose HB 703 and the changes it aims to make to our Missouri initiative petition process. The restrictions proposed in HB 703 will unjustly limit the ability of Missouri voters to have their voices heard on issues and policies that matter to them.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: GETTA R. HALL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: getta_hall@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2023 6:43 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Good Day, A fully-paid Golden Life member of both the NAACP and THE Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a public service sisterhood founded on Christian principles, I have visited the Missouri Capitol several times over the years. I traveled from Kansas City as part of our Social Action Committee's annual Delta Days at the Missouri State Capital. More recently, I was an advocate of Medicaid Expansion. Established in 1913 at Howard University in Washington, DC, Delta's first social action was marching down Pennsylvania Avenue for women's suffrage. Communities Creating Opportunities and other community and faith-based organizations sponsored several bus trips to the Missouri State Capital in Jefferson City in support of Medicaid Expansion for citizens caught in the Affordable Health Care gap. I was impressed with the historic art and accessibility to the legislative process. The hallowed halls contained pictures of public servants I respect such as Senator Yvonne Wilson and Representatives Mary Groves Bland, Bill Gray, Jackie McGee and others. Most legislators live up to their title, The Honorable. Years before, I wrote to The Honorable John Ashcroft, Missouri's 50th Governor (1984-1993) who went on to serve as US Senator (1995-2001) and 79th US Attorney General, aka Justice Dept CEO (2001-2005). I urged him to sign the bill on his desk passed by a progressive Missouri House and Senate to divest Missouri funds in an international response to apartheid in South Africa and then enforce the law he signed when the MOSERS (MO State Employees Retirement System) Board refused to comply 5 years later. I was surprised, both times, he did the honorable thing after I appealed to him citing Old Testament references in the name of Jesus. I supposed as a Republican, he would not sign the Democratic led divestment bill into law. Little did I know, he was the son of a Pentecostal preacher and was not Jewish as I assumed. I try to leave judging people to the Lord God Almighty now. Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Archbishop Desmond Tutu visited UMKC and praised Missouri's forward thinking in this important fight for human rights. Divestment did not cost the state any money as was predicted. In fact, funds increased. Nelson Mandela, another Nobel Peace Prize Winner, was subsequently released from prison after 27 years and went on to vote for the first time in a presidential election he won. GLORY TO GOD. I still do not understand how Medicaid Expansion could not pass the Missouri legislature. How could a reasonable group of state legislators refuse billion\$ and billion\$ of federal funding to comply with the spirit of federal law? This was in deference to public health! Many benefited from Affordable Health Care (aka, Obama Care) especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Missouri has profitted from the influx of federal funding as one of the 39 Medicaid Expansion states. Despite many challenges, "it is notable that almost 300,000 people have applied for the Medicaid expansion in one year and evidence suggests that many if not most of these individuals were uninsured before receiving the expansion coverage and may never have had insurance before." – Washington University – St. Louis Institute for Public Health. (November 29, 2022) THE PETITION INITIATIVE PROCESS MUST BE MAINTAINED AS IS. It is an important check to the partisan politics I saw evident in Medicaid Expansion which required Supreme Court intervention to be enacted. The

failure of a partisan Missouri legislature to act in the best interests of our citizenry was countered by this process to get the issue on the ballot and passed with the current percentage of signatures in the current number of Congressional Districts with the current simple majority. HJR-18, -24, -25, -30 and -43 and HB-703 and -780 are not in the best interests of our democratic process. The process which already exists requires a high thresh hold of signatures and has served us well. A two-thirds majority on any ballot decision or election is unrealistic. How many legislators could garner 2/3 of the vote from their constituencies to hold office? Amazed by His Grace, Sis. Getta R. Hall (pronounced "G" as in Glory - "Ta" - "Hall" as in Hallelujah) (816)-483-9759 - getta_hall@yahoo.com ACA Medicaid expansion in Missouri [Updated 2022 Guide]



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: HALLEY KIM | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 10:40 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

This bill is an overt power grab by the MO Legislature to override the will of the people. The initiative petition process is a vital part of our democracy, and an important component of checks and balances. You are not in charge here; the voters are. The IP process is already rigorous as is; it doesn't need to be harder for the voters to challenge their government! Stop interrupting the public's right to make their voices heard. We are a democracy, not an autocracy.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: HOLLY BERNSTEIN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: holly.e.bernstein@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 2:38 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am submitting this testimony against HB 703. This bill excludes non-voters such as immigrants from participating in participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringing on their free expression and association. In addition, a federal court recently found a 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators in South Dakota violated the first amendment free speech and expression and infringed on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech. Vote no on HB703



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: HOLLY BERNSTEIN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: holly.e.bernstein@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 8:00 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Excluding non-citizens from otherwise participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringes on their free expression and association. A federal court recently found a 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators in North Dakota violated the first amendment free speech and expression and infringed on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JACKIE BAILIFF | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jackiebailiff@outlook.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:10 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JACQUELINE FARR | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: farrduo@outlook.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 12:20 PM |
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Despite the partisan neutrality of ballot initiatives, this process is being attacked by legislators simply because the decisions made by a majority of the voters aren't liked. What's important is the freedom of the people to vote on the issues placed before them; that's why it is deeply troubling to watch the volume of attacks on this constitutional freedom for Missourians. These restrictive measures in the proposals take a variety of forms, but they all have the same function: to undermine the will of the people and diminish their decision-making power. Our will, our power and our freedom are at stake. It is more important than ever to protect our freedom to shape the laws that govern us, especially through ballot initiatives.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JACQUELYN FIBER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: rafiaron@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 4:58 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Changing the threshold just makes it harder for the public to make decisions. The process is already rigorous - you have to get hundreds of thousands of voters to sign on before a measure even gets considered for the ballot. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than censure the voice of the people. The initiative petition process is strict enough as it is now. Increasing the threshold for passing a measure would make it too difficult for citizens to pass an initiative. I am opposed to every part of this



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JAMES VOKAC | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jvvokac@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 9:46 PM | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

This bill is anti-democratic. Having initiatives and referendums engaging the electorate in our democracy. Having circulated petitions i know one needs to be dedicated to be willing to collect legitimate signatures. There is money coming from out of state to influence our voters, but most of that is spent to elect officials to support the interests of the contributor. If out of state money is a concern then pass a law to restrict donations to candidates and initiatives and referendums. When elected officials do not do follow our state's motto ("Let the good of the people be the supreme law.") the people need a reasonable wait to make corrections.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JEANETTE MOTT OXFORD | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-289-4303 | |
| REPRESENTING: PARAQUAD, INC. | | TITLE: PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY MANAGER | |
| ADDRESS: 5240 OAKLAND AVENUE | | | |
| CITY: ST. LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63110 |
| EMAIL: joxford@paraquad.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 9:51 AM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Paraquad is one of the oldest and largest independent living centers in the country. Centers for Independent Living are unique because more than 50% of our board and staff are people with disabilities. To carry out our mission, it is essential that the voices of personally impacted people be heard, and it is also essential that people with disabilities be heard and valued in local, state, and federal government proceedings. HB 703 would establish new rules for signature gathering that would make it nearly impossible to hire companies from other states to staff a petition initiative in Missouri. It would also make it impossible for a company, even one based in Missouri, to employ residents of other states to work as paid signature gatherers. Missouri does have eight states on its borders, and many people from Kansas City, Kansas, or Fairview Heights, Illinois, for example, do work in Missouri. To prevent hiring of these persons who live just a few miles away is an unfair impediment to employment (as well as a violation of freedom of expression and association). St. Louis, MO, is also home to the International Institute and a regional hub for refugee resettlement. When members of humanity are fleeing war, famine, ethnic violence, and other trauma, the United States has traditionally welcomed them. We are, of course, a nation of immigrants at our very core. Those on the way to securing citizenship should be able to be employed in a signature gathering effort. The initiative petition process is one of the only avenues open to people with disabilities when we bring concerns to the General Assembly repeatedly but see no action to solve the challenges we are experiencing. For years, we joined others in expressing concerns about lack of affordable health insurance and low wages and finally worked with our allies to secure needed changes by initiative petition. With other Missouri neighbors, for years we have been sounding the alarm about the lack of affordable, healthy, and accessible housing and public transportation. It would be an uphill climb to meet the criteria to put these issues on a ballot, so we ask that you not to make it even harder. We ask that you vote no on HB 703.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JEFF BRIGGS | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Jeffbriggs63@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:14 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Let the people vote, and please don't make it harder!!



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JEFF HOLZEM | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jeff2002h@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 5:55 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My wife and our friends volunteered for a year and a half to gather signatures for a ballot initiative petition to make our legislative district elections competitive. The legislature quickly passed a law to get a ballot measure to undo it. When our elected officials do not follow the will of the people such as with medicaid expansion. our only recourse is with an initiative petition. Officials complain that there are too many amendments. Four of the last five on the ballot were from the legislature. If you want to make it harder start there.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JEN BERNSTEIN | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-277-9080 |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ST. LOUIS | | TITLE: ADVOCACY MANAGER |
| ADDRESS: 295 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD. | | |
| CITY: ST. LOUIS | | STATE: MO |
| | | ZIP: 63141 |
| EMAIL: jbernstein@ncjwstl.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 11:17 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Madam Chair and members of the committee, my name is Jen Bernstein, and I am submitting this testimony in opposition of HB 703 on behalf of the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis (NCJWSTL). NCJWSTL is a non-profit organization in metropolitan St. Louis, representing over 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state. We focus our work on community service, advocacy, education and philanthropy to improve the quality of life for women, children and families while supporting individual and civil rights, and have been doing so since 1895. We oppose this bill because it excludes non-voters from participating in participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringing on their free expression and association. In addition, a federal court recently found a 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators in North Dakota violated the first amendment free speech and expression and infringed on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech. Lawmakers should reject efforts to make direct democracy more difficult. NCJWSTL encourages you to vote no on HB 703.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JEN BERNSTEIN | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-277-9080 |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ST. LOUIS | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: 295 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD. | | |
| CITY: CHESTERFIELD | | STATE: MO |
| | | ZIP: 63141 |
| EMAIL: jbernstein@ncjwstl.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:36 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Madam Chair and members of the committee, my name is Jen Bernstein, and I am submitting this testimony in opposition of HB 703 on behalf of the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis (NCJWSTL). NCJWSTL is a non-profit organization in metropolitan St. Louis, representing over 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state. We focus our work on community service, advocacy, education and philanthropy to improve the quality of life for women, children and families while supporting individual and civil rights, and have been doing so since 1895. We oppose this bill because it excludes non-voters from participating in participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringing on their free expression and association. In addition, a federal court recently found a 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators in North Dakota violated the first amendment free speech and expression and infringed on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech. Lawmakers should reject efforts to make direct democracy more difficult. NCJWSTL encourages you to vote no on HB 703.



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JENNA ROBERSON | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jroberson1181@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2023 5:23 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JENNA ROBERSON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jroberson1181@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 9:05 PM |

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Eliminating pay for signature collectors puts an economic barrier between the voice of the people and its ability to be heard. Whether they are paid or not, the people will still have their final say across the state via the ballot question.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JESSICA WITTE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jess@jessicawitte.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 11:26 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Ballot initiatives give the actual people of Missouri a way to ensure their priorities are on the ballot. Restrictions on these take power from the citizen and hand it over to lobbyists and political donors.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JOAN GENTRY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: joangentry2012@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 1:03 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

January 30, 2023 Chairman McGaugh and Members of the House Elections and Elected Officials Committee, I am writing in opposition to the following bills: HB703, HB 780 and HJR 19. Each of these bills is a direct affront to the rights of voters to participate in the direct democracy process of the citizen initiated petition, whether statutory or constitutional. The intent of each of these bills is to make it harder, if not impossible, to collect the requisite number of signatures to place a petition on the ballot and/or to be able to garner enough votes for passage of a petition. The initiative process makes it possible for citizens to do what you can't or prefer not to do and that is to place an issue before Missouri voters and let them decide by voting for or against the issue. The process, as it exists, is difficult enough. Don't make it any harder. Please vote no on these three bills. Joan Gentry Springfield



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JOAN HAVEN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: haven1@mindspring.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:34 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am extremely opposed to any changes made to initiative petitions in Missouri, especially when they aim to be more restrictive. These rules have been in place for over 100 years and they have served the people of Missouri well. I believe this is an effort to restrict the freedom of the people in this state to pass laws that their lawmakers won't approve. Let the people be heard.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JOHN BOWMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-322-4441 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NAACP ST LOUIS COUNTY BRANCH | | TITLE: PRESIDENT | |
| ADDRESS: P O BOX 210464 | | | |
| CITY: NORMANDY | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63121 |
| EMAIL: jbowman@naacpstlouiscounty.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:13 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Citizens initiative petitions are important to democracy because they allow citizens to propose and vote on legislation directly, bypassing the traditional legislative process. This gives citizens a greater say in the laws that govern them and allows for new ideas and perspectives into the political process.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JOHN POWELL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: john90195@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2023 3:03 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I want to retain my power as a law abiding citizen to stand up and say no to others who would go against the will of the people of missouri leave my rights to the petition process alone!!!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JUDITH CAMPBELL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jacampbell314@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 11:06 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose this bill that wants to modify the Initiative Process for petitions as it makes it more difficult for the residents of Missouri to vote on specific issues per our MO Constitution. A true democracy does not submit HB such as this. You should be ashamed of yourself. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KARI CRAUN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jkraun@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 7:16 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The initiative petition process is an important tool of direct democracy that allows us to maintain our freedom to have a say on important issues. The Missouri legislatures' interest in making the initiative petition process more difficult is a power grab that subverts the will of the people. For their personal gain, these elected officials and wealthy special interests seek to make it harder for citizens to place important issues on the ballot, more difficult to pass initiatives, and easier to overturn the public's vote. A majority is 50% plus 1. Changing the threshold just makes it harder for the public to make decisions. The process is already rigorous - you have to get hundreds of thousands of voters to sign on before a measure even gets considered for the ballot. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than censure the voice of the people. Voters from all sides of the political spectrum have used the ballot initiative process to advance their priorities. The ballot initiative process is the only recourse voters have when politicians fail to address the issues that matter to them. This tool has been used by conservatives, progressives, moderates, and independents.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KATHLEEN DOLSON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: kdolson1@aol.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:09 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The initiative petition process doesn't need to be changed, it needs to be accessible to all. Vote "no" on HB 703. When our elected officials don't take action on the issues that matter most to us and allow us to make laws that reflect the will of Missouri voters, the legislature should follow the people's will instead of attempting to grab power by limiting our ability to make decisions for ourselves. Leave the initiative petition process alone! Respect the people's will and protect our freedom to have a say on the issues that impact our families!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KATHRYN SINCLAIR KARASH | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: kay.karash@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 5:15 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Please don't remove this important First Amendment right to petition the government for redress of grievance. With 52 percent of Missourians living in 7 urban counties, it is the only vestige of democracy left to the silenced majority of Missourians not represented by the gerrymandered super-majority districts. Enacting reforms through petitions is vital to keeping Missouri an attractive place to move to, or remain in.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KEVIN PRANGE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: kevprange@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 8:27 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am writing in opposition to HB 703 because it drastically limits participation. Every individual has the right to advocate for policies that would directly impact their lives. This is fundamental to our First Amendment rights. This is once again a cynical ploy to create an "us vs. them" environment in our state, falsely creating a climate of fear. Stifling participation in a democracy stifles democracy itself.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KRISTINE FIELDS | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: kmfields2012@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 9:40 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

This bill broadly attacks the initiative petition process and limits the power of Missouri voters. The barriers it creates for grassroots involvement will make it more difficult for the voter's voices to be heard.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LARRY MARKS | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lemilm1@att.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 11:17 AM | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

I strongly oppose any changes to current initiative and referendum petitions. The current process is appropriate means to allow citizens of Missouri a voice in the laws they are to be governed by.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LAURA BURKHARDT | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: aplomb-grove0n@icloud.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 10:05 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LAURA GUTIERREZ PEREZ | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lauragutierrezperez@gmail.com | | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 7:17 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

I am against voter supression.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LAURA HANEY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: pollyannadanna@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 10:40 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose this bill



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LINDA | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: grnthumb@windstream.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 5:58 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Very concerned that this will curtail public involvement in the initiative process which must be open and accessible to all.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LINDA REZNY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lrezny@hotmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 7:46 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Concerning Section 116.190 page 10, lines 33-40 and Section 116.334, page 11-12 lines 12-18A Statute or Amendment or Referendum for the ballot can be brought by the Initiative Petition process. An Amendment can be brought by the General Assembly. To make it simple, I will call them all Proposals. Once the Proposal has been submitted, no one can change the actual text of the Proposal. They can only change the Ballot TITLE which REPRESENTS the Proposal's TEXT. If the Title changes, it does not change what the people are actually voting on. On Election Day the Title is crucial since it is the only thing in front of the voter. Until shortly before Election day, the Title is less important as few people with actually read it. Coming close to the election they will read the Title on the Sample Ballot or maybe on the Voters Guide. But when the Proposal is being discussed in the long period before the election, they will call it Amendment X or the XYZ Bill or use a popular name for the Proposal. They will discuss different features contained in the Text. Even if they sign a petition to put the Proposal on the Ballot, few will read read the entire Title printed at the top of the petition .Believe me, I have collected signatures for various Proposals I wanted passed for decades. I approach people with my clip board and ask if they would be interested in signing a petition on ABC, some short descriptive name. If they do not immediately walk away I list the different parts of the Proposal. If they like what I SAID, they sign the petition. Some say, I'm not sure, I'll go home and think about it. A few actually read the entire Title and then sign.It is crucial that the Title be set in time for the Ballot, Sample Ballots, Voter's Guides etc be prepared. It is not necessary for the Title to be set long before the election. If there is a dispute about the Title the media, always looking for a fight, will covered it, keeping the issue in front of the public. It is not necessary to require the Title be set 8 weeks before Election Day. **AFTER HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF MISSOURI CITIZENS HAVE SIGNED A PETITION, THERE WIL BE A BACKLASH if a Title dispute to runs overtime or if petition signers intentions are ignored over a change in the Title wording.**Our democracy and the Rule of Law is based on trust. Respect the voters.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LINDA REZNY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lrezny@hotmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 8:11 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I have hear members of this committee lament that the voters make uninformed decisions. In that case it would be foolish to delete Section 116.153, the section about a comment period, with a summary of the comments posted on the SoS website. The voters deserve this information. Please retain this section.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LYN ELLIOT | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lynelliot6@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 7:58 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

As a citizen of Missouri who has gathered signatures for number of ballot initiative petitions, I do NOT support making this process more difficult. It is already quite challenging to gather signatures under the current rules, and it should NOT be any harder for Missouri's citizens of all political stripes to place important issues on the ballot. The ballot initiative process is an important part of our state's Constitution, enabling a direct democratic voice for the people of Missouri. Please leave it as it is!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE EDMONDSON | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-368-1137 | |
| REPRESENTING: PRO CHOICE MISSOURI | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: 1210 S VANDEVENTER AVE | | | |
| CITY: ST. LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63118 |
| EMAIL: maggie@prochoicemissouri.org | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:23 AM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Chairwoman McGaugh, Vice-Chair Stacy, members of the committee; thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today in opposition to HB 703, 780, & HJR 19 which would prevent the initiative petition (IP) process from working for the people of Missouri. Pro-Choice Missouri works to protect and expand every Missourians' right to bodily autonomy, to access essential reproductive healthcare, to access accurate information to make the best decisions for ourselves and our families, and to parent our children in safety and dignity. Moreover, we work to ensure reproductive justice for all Missourians, which involves advocating to reduce disparities based on race, income level, insurance coverage status, and other factors. Over the last 3+ years Pro-Choice Missouri has been heavily invested in several ballot initiatives including Medicaid Expansion, Raise up Missouri, and Clean Missouri. We had a team of 7 people who collected more than 5,500 signatures to help get Medicaid Expansion on the ballot. This number is only a fraction of the total 120,000 signatures that were collected by the larger campaign. Everyday our employees got up in the sun, the wind, the snow, and the rain, to speak to strangers on street corners all across the First and Second Congressional Districts. They waited on metro platforms for hours on freezing days being rejected by strangers, hoping for a few good conversations— from the most densely populated neighborhoods in St Louis to the most lonely country roads. Under current law, initiative petitions proposing constitutional amendments must be signed by 8% of the legal voters who voted in the last gubernatorial election in each of two-thirds of the congressional districts. The proposed changes in HB 703, 780, & HJR 19, if approved by the voters, would make the IP process increasingly more difficult by mandating approval by a majority of the votes cast statewide and a majority of votes cast thereon in each of more than half of the state senate districts, and over burdening signature collectors with unnecessary cumbersome regulations. Our small non-profit organization puts considerable effort into supporting these ballot initiatives, and makes up only a small fraction of the signatures already required. This amendment would require over 100,000 more signatures and would make it so only well financed groups could access the ballot. This change denies the people their voice in the process and preferences large monied organizations. HB 703, 780, & HJR 19 would make the ballot initiative process prohibitively difficult, because the task is already a monumental one. The measure is retaliatory to the millions of voters who voted in favor of medical marijuana, ethics reform, medicaid expansion, and so much more. Further, the increased attacks in this 2023 legislative session are a direct response to the overwhelming number of voters across five states who voted to protect and expand access to abortion in the 2022 Midterm election. Abortion access wins at the ballot. The majority of Missourians, 7 in 10, do NOT support political interference in abortion access. Missourians deserve MORE than power hungry politicians utilizing their positions of power to undo the will of the people they purport to represent. These measures will have lasting negative impacts in Missouri. Pro-Choice Missouri, representing more than 60,000

**members across the state, opposes the advancement of these resolutions, and urges you to vote NO.
Thank you.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARGARET ROWE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: rowemb45@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 3:03 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose HB703 as one more effort on the part of the MO Legislature to curtail the voices of the citizens of MO in favor of elected officials, who were elected to carry out the wishes of the people, not their own wishes. I especially don't like the idea in this bill that if the ballot title changes the language of the bill, all signatures collected will be considered void. That opens the way for those opposed to work to change the wording as a way to stop the voice of the people. I also oppose the 30 day residency requirement for petition circulators. It violates the first amendment of free speech and expression.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARGO FARNSWORTH | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Margo@screendoorconsulting.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 12:30 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am writing to express my strong opposition to bills HB 703, HB 780, HJR 19 seeking to restrict access to Citizen Initiative Petitions in Missouri. As a concerned citizen, I believe that this important tool is critical to ensuring that all voices are heard and that everyone has the ability to take action on the issues that matter most to them. The greatest negative effect would be to deny citizens their voice and allowing them to take action on issues they care about. This is especially important for groups who may not be adequately represented in the traditional political process, as Citizen Initiative Petitions can help ensure that all perspectives are heard. Citizen Initiative Petitions allow citizens to directly address issues they feel are not being adequately addressed by the government; this tool can help ensure that public officials are responsive to the needs and concerns of their constituents. Is it this that you wish to impede? The elected officials of this House should NOT believe themselves “parents” to their constituents. Contrary to current practices, they do not have the right to ignore their wishes and concerns of those constituents as they would children who do not know what is good for them. Such actions cripple a democracy and can only foment an ever increasing resentment between elected officials and the people they supposedly represent. Sincerely, Margo Farnsworth



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARILYN MCLEOD | | PHONE NUMBER: 573-239-3708 |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI | | TITLE: PRESIDENT |
| ADDRESS: 3109 GREENRIDGE RD. | | |
| CITY: COLUMBIA | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65202 |
| EMAIL: marilyn_mcleod@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 9:53 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The League of Women Voters of Missouri opposes HB703. HB703 places unnecessary restrictions on petition carriers, including that they be U.S citizens and have resided in the state for 30 days, excluding non-citizens from being able to engage others in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process and infringes on their free expression and association. A federal court recently found a 30-day residency requirement for petition circulators in North Dakota violated the First Amendment free speech and expression and infringed on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech. Other concerns are that this bill would shorten the time frame for legal challenges to the ballot title; repeals the requirement that Legislative Research hold a public hearing; and requires referendum sample sheets to be submitted to the Secretary of State six months before election day.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARLA MARANTZ | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mjmarantz@aol.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 9:34 AM |
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I oppose HB 703 because it imposes restrictions on our freedom of speech. And, the issues with the ballot language begs the question of the ballot language being distorted for partisan reasons.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARSHA LERENBERG | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: malpol2017@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 11:34 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I strongly oppose HB 703. There is no legitimate need for these changes to the initiative petition process as it is already extremely difficult. HB 703 will only make it harder for Missourians to make their voices heard. HB703 excludes non-voters from participation in the initiative petition process for important issues affecting their communities, infringing on their right to free expression and association. A similar North Dakota law was struck down by a federal court recently for violating free speech and expression and infringing on the rights of petition circulators to engage in political speech. Changes to the initiative petition process in HB 703 should be rejected. Let the peoples voices be heard!



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARY ANN WYNKOOP | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: wynkoopm@umkc.edu | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 5:03 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose legislation that makes the petition initiative process more onerous for ordinary citizens to have their voices heard. Requiring circulators to be registered voters inhibits the right of free political speech. Requiring voters to declare a political party excludes voters who consider themselves independent restricts the number of voters who can take part in the election and thus give a true reflection of the people's will. Direct democracy should not be made more difficult.



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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARY CLEMONS | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mary.dale.clemons@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 11:06 AM |
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I oppose any change in the initiative and referendum petition process. Ballot titles are frequently misleading and challenges to the title must be allowed. In addition,



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARY GROSS | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: marygva@icloud.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 1:54 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

This bill appears to create barriers for volunteer petition circulators and grassroots organizations i thus making qualification even more difficult. The IP process is citizen's method to participate in the legislative process. The requirements are already so lofty, many petitions never make it to the ballot. Making it harder is an attack on Missouri citizens. I am part of a group of Republican and Democrat citizens who do not want this. I am opposed to this bill.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARY K. LINDSAY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mary.lindsaymsw@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 11:57 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose HB 703. The Initiative Petition has been enshrined in the Missouri for over 100 years. It is the most direct voice of the citizens of Missouri because it takes hundreds of thousands of signatures of registered voters for such a petition to appear on the ballot for a statewide vote. As it currently stands, it takes an immense effort with thousands of volunteers gathering signatures in order for an Initiative Petition to make it to the statewide ballot. Once on the ballot, the measure must win a majority of votes across the state. As Governor Ashcroft once said, "It is through the initiative process that those who have no influence with elective representatives may take their cause directly to the people." I urge you to Vote NO on HB 703.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MAXINE CLARK | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: maxineclarkceb@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 10:11 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

MO has a great ballot initiative system-- it is for the people to have a voice. No change is needed. It works. It allows our legislators to better represent the people through their votes. Many things in MO are broken but this system works. Please do not waste your time on changing it-- spend time and money on other issues that can make our state great like Early childhood education!



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MELANIE D BUSSE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: melbusselwvkc@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 9:12 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

To the members of the Elections and Elected Officials Committee: I am writing in opposition to HB 703 that aims to restrict a Missouri voter's ability to directly amend our state's constitution. HB 703 would modify the requirements and procedures for initiative petition circulators, that will render the passage of a Citizens Initiative Petition unobtainable. The 30 day residency requirement for petition circulators violates the First Amendment right of free speech, and also restricts the rights of a person who may have recently moved to the state of Missouri the opportunity to engage in political speech. It puts severe restraints on legal challenges, submission of referendum sample sheets, and in a drastic move, could render ballot signatures collected before a ruling on a ballot title challenge null and void. The Statement "Make Your Voice Heard" is on the front page of the MO Secretary of State's Website regarding the Initiative Petition Process. The website also goes on to explain that the initiative petition process "Gives MO citizens the opportunity to directly participate in our democracy." The question is why are republicans wanting to make it more difficult for citizens to participate in our democracy. Two arguments emerge: one, the claim that the process is too easy and secondly, keeping big money out of Missouri. Regarding the 1st argument. The current threshold is already difficult. It isn't easy getting a citizen's initiative proposal to the ballot. Getting signatures is hard. It's not "easy" to collect the mandatory signatures (by hand, not online) to get a proposal on the ballot. It's not "easy" to mount a grassroots campaign to educate voters about an initiative. Quite the opposite of what it takes to get a legislative amendment on the ballot: a simple majority of both house and senate, and a simple majority of voters. Regarding the second argument to "keep the big money interests" out of Missouri when it comes to the initiative process. A hard concept to accept when "big money" is being spent in many other ways around the state. And, making the process harder will only mean the process is more expensive for citizens that would result in more money being spent to get a petition on the ballot. I also want to remind the committee that the initiative petition is also nonpartisan. It is not a Republican versus Democrat issue. The evidence indicates that prior amendments that have passed reflected the will of the people, not a political party. Since it is not a nonpartisan issue, it is a control issue. Republicans simply want to take control away from the rights of its citizens. When elected officials don't want to govern for the "will of the people", but for themselves, the ballot initiative process is the only recourse voters have when politicians fail to address the issues that matter to them.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mdreyer93@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2023 2:42 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose the proposed changes in this bill, which would make it more difficult for initiative petitions to gather enough signatures to make it onto the ballot. It is already very hard to get an issue on the ballot and Missourians have not abused this process. If anything, we should make it easier to gather signatures for initiative petitions, such as allowing for electronic signatures and counting. We should not be making it more difficult. Please oppose this bill.



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL SHRYOCK | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mshryock850@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2023 2:14 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

I am 100% against this bill. As a citizen of Missouri We as citizens, have the right and obligation to petition any legislative body to redress our grievances. This bill is just another attempt to make addressing our grievances as voters that much harder. The current law is restrictive enough, but the Republican legislature seem to want to make the voices of the voters of Missouri much less effective and demand that we accept your decisions as unassailable.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MICHELE STEINBERG | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-432-8071 |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: WOMEN'S VOICES RAISED FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE | | TITLE: MEMBERSHIP CHAIR |
| ADDRESS: 11233 LADUE RD | | |
| CITY: CREVE COEUR | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63141 |
| EMAIL: membership@womensvoicesraised.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 7:00 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice is submitting this testimony in opposition of HB 703. The initiative process in Missouri has a long and storied history. For a century, it has allowed citizens across the political spectrum to get their ideas before Missouri voters. The proposed changes to the administrative rules of the Initiative Petition process creates barriers for volunteer petition circulators and grassroots organizations' involvement, thus making qualification even more difficult. The Missouri legislature's interest in making the initiative petition process more difficult is a power grab that evades the will of the people. Elected officials are seeking to make it harder for citizens to place important issues on the ballot, more difficult to pass initiatives, and easier for the legislature to overturn the public's vote. The citizen petition process is one of the purest forms of democratic participation. It promotes civic engagement as well as accountability between the government and the governed. Please do not make democracy more difficult.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MINDY SUE MCINTOSH | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: msmomac@charter.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 2:55 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The current initiative petition process is difficult as is, but it is the only safety valve for those who wish to educate and bring issues to the voters. In a state that is just about evenly divided between the two major parties, yet one party controls both Houses in the State Legislature, the initiative petition is the only way to introduce legislation to Missouri voters. This is an extreme measure, and we do not need any more extreme actions in the state



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MONICA M HUDDLESTON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mc4466@swbell.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 9:32 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The current requirements and processes are stringent enough. We, the people, should not have to do the equivalent of climbing Mt. Everest to place initiatives on the ballot. The democratic process guarantees us as citizens the right to be heard and the right vote on issues we feel warrant the scrutiny of Missouri voters. Issues brought to the ballot from certain areas that reflect the focus of those areas should not be blocked from the ballot by making it more difficult. Please, drop this oppressive effort to trample on our rights as citizens.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NANCY DESLOGE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: nancy.desloge@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:17 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The Missouri legislatures' interest in making the initiative petition process more difficult is a power grab evading the will of the people. The ballot initiative process is the only recourse voters have when politicians refuse to address issues that matter to them. It directly impacts citizens on all ends of the political spectrum. This measure would create barriers for volunteer petition circulators and grassroots organizations' involvement, making qualification more difficult to pass. It lies in the face of democracy.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NANCY J BATES | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: nancyjbates@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 11:15 AM |

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• The initiative petition process is an important tool of direct democracy that allows us to maintain our freedom to have a say on important issues. The Missouri legislatures' interest in making the initiative petition process more difficult is a power grab that evades the will of the people. For their personal gain, these elected officials and wealthy special interests seek to make it harder for citizens to place important issues on the ballot, more difficult to pass initiatives, and easier to overturn the public's vote. • A majority is 50% plus 1. Since when does "majority rule" mean 60%? Changing the threshold just makes it harder for the public to make decisions. The process is already rigorous - you have to get hundreds of thousands of voters to sign on before a measure even gets considered for the ballot. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than censure the voice of the people. • Voters from all sides of the political spectrum have used the ballot initiative process to advance their priorities. The ballot initiative process is the only recourse voters have when politicians fail to address the issues that matter to them. This tool has been used by conservatives, progressives, moderates, and independents.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NANCY PRICE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: NPRICE07@GMAIL.COM | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 9:33 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am opposed to this bill and other attempts to make the Ballot Initiative process more difficult. I do not see any need to curtail it. The Ballot Initiative is true democracy which enables the will of the majority to be heard, voted on by all voters, and if a majority so chooses, to have it enacted into law. Any of the various proposed changes to increase the difficulty of the Ballot Initiative serve only to restrict the people's right to this democratic process. The proposed bills can only be coming from a desire to limit the people's ability to address issues they see as the priorities but which, unfortunately, are not being addressed by their elected representatives. The collection of signatures is simply a screening process so that frivolous petitions do not make it to the ballot. It is not necessary to collect signatures from all Congressional Districts just to get something on the ballot which ALL voters subsequently have an equal opportunity to vote for or against, as they choose. Currently, the vast majority of ballot initiatives do not make it to the ballot, which shows the current procedures effectively eliminate most initiatives, primarily those without broad support. The number of signatures now required is sufficiently large to keep unpopular initiatives off the ballot. Increasing the required percentage of votes cast for an initiative to "pass" is another way to block what voters want. Amendment 3 in 2020, which undid many of the reforms in the previous ballot initiative sometimes called "Clean MO", only received 51% of the vote. That was passed by a majority as small as can be, yet there was no uproar from the legislature about enacting that initiative into law. Requiring passage by a majority (or more) of registered voters for an initiative to pass is just a blatant attempt to effectively eliminate the Ballot Initiative. What is the logic to such a requirement? As we all know, total voter turnout over 50 percent is an extremely rare event, and to have anywhere near 50 of registered voters all vote the same way is not going to ever happen in the real world.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NANCY SACCONI | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: nlsaccone@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 9:31 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am a Missouri constituent and voter and I strongly oppose HB 703. HB703 would damage Missouri's initiative petition process, which is a crucial aspect of our democracy. I have volunteered as an initiative petition circulator, even though I am already very busy with a demanding full-time job plus personal responsibilities. I know from personal experience that the initiative process is already rigorous and difficult. Everyday people like me end up devoting many hours towards canvassing. HB 703 attempts to callously restrict who can circulate petitions in a way that is harmful because (1) it increases the burden on people like me, many of whom can ill afford to volunteer more time, and (2) it denies worthy people of their right to be allies with Missouri voters and to be involved in our democracy in a crucial way. HB 703 also raises other significant barriers that will result in harm to Missouri voters and their ability to have their voices heard. I oppose HB 703's planned restriction on paying petition circulators: I have donated money in addition to time to certain initiative petition campaigns, and I believe it is my right as a Missourian to have my donations used to support these campaigns including through paid canvassers. Note that I cannot give my testimony in person due to my work obligations. But please consider me present in spirit and please give my testimony the same weight as testimony given in person; this issue is extremely important and I urge you to oppose HB 703.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: PAUL T. LEHMANN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lehmannpault49@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 10:32 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I was a petitioner to get the Green Party on the 2022 General Election ballot. We did not get enough valid signatures (10,000) to make it on the ballot. It was a challenge to do our petition work properly. HB 703 adds further barriers to an already difficult process and is going the wrong way. The House should make it easier for citizens to get issues important to them in front of public for their involvement in the decision making process not covered by the State legislature. To allow only "registered voters" to petition instead of "citizens" is a grave mistake as it infringes on the fundamental right of a citizen to petition our government and creates a class society and is a tyranny against the majority of citizens in the State of Missouri. As to the prohibition of petitioning on federal matters, Missouri should not shirk its responsibilities as a responsible state in the republic to act on matters that affect us by the federal system. More unnecessary restrictions on the rights of the citizens of Missouri to assist the State Legislature in fulfilling the needs of the citizens of Missouri.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RAYMOND L. JAMES | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: raymondjames552@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 2:07 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I think the current process is sufficient. I do not think that the process should be made harder or more expensive. I gathered signatures for Medicaid Expansion, Clean Missouri , Right to work , Medical cannabis and recreational cannabis. The current process to gather signatures consumed hundreds of hours and a couple sets of tires . Once placed on the ballot these issues all received enough votes to pass. I feel that raising the number of signatures, shortening the time period to gather the signatures , increasing a majority to 60 or increasing cost are simply unreasonable requirements. Why make it harder for citizens to participate in the process? We have fewer and fewer participating in the process. At most 40 percent of the registered voters even bothering to show up at the polls. O



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RENEE BOEHM | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: renee_boehm@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 10:27 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

As a life long citizen and voter I am growing more and more concerned at the flagrant disregard for my voice. If this initiative passes it is just another step to my voice being insignificant, being silenced. You are elected officials. Elected to listen to my concerns, to be my voice. What has happened to our great state, our democracy. People over party!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: REV DR MICHAEL D DOWDY BENIVAMONDE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: maverick771@outlook.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:22 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I , Michael D Dowdy-Benivamonde am firmly 100% opposed to HB703, HB780, HB781, and HJR19 & so is my spouse Jessie Benivamonde & 28 yr old Son Sean Benivamonde, we are registered voters of Rolla, Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: REV. DR. WENDY BRUNER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: wendypbruner@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/6/2023 1:54 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Dear Representative Haffner, I am writing today in opposition to HB 703. The bill unduly restricts the petition process. One example of this restrictive process is that it sets page and font requirements for signature sheets. Perhaps more serious is the restrictions proposed for people actually collecting signatures. The Initiative petition process acts as voice for the people. Please do not restrict this voice. Sincerely Rev. Dr. Wendy Bruner



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RICHARD EGAN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: egan.egan@att.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 1:58 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose making changes to the Initiative Petition process. Since 1907, Missouri's constitution has guaranteed, "The people reserve power to propose and enact or reject laws and amendments to the constitution by the initiative, independent of the general assembly." The initiative petition process is an important tool of direct democracy that allows us to maintain our freedom to have a say on important issues. The Missouri legislatures' interest in making the initiative petition process more difficult is a power grab that evades the will of the people. For their personal gain, these elected officials and wealthy special interests seek to make it harder for citizens to place important issues on the ballot, more difficult to pass initiatives, and easier to overturn the public's vote. A majority is 50% plus 1. Since when does "majority rule" mean 60%? Changing the threshold just makes it harder for the public to make decisions. The process is already rigorous - you have to get hundreds of thousands of voters to sign on before a measure even gets considered for the ballot. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than censure the voice of the people. Voters from all sides of the political spectrum have used the ballot initiative process to advance their priorities. The ballot initiative process is the only recourse voters have when politicians fail to address the issues that matter to them. This tool has been used by conservatives, progressives, moderates, and independents. Please do not pass this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RIVA CAPELLARI | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: rivacapellari@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2023 5:32 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The citizen initiative process provides direct participation for Missouri citizens of all parties. It promotes accountability and engagement between the government and the governed. Creating prerequisites too high for all but the wealthiest and paid supporters, hinders the will of Missouri's voters to have a voice in their government. It increases the threshold from a simple majority to 2/3 - a supermajority. Singled out for this high passage percentage.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ROBERT CULVERHOUSE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: rcchouse@swbell.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 11:27 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a Missouri voter who strongly opposes HB 703 / HB 780. Missouri's initiative petition process is a crucial way for your constituents to participate in the democratic process, allowing voters to highlight issues which are important to them and allow the voters of Missouri express their will. This is a crucial aspect of our democracy. The initiative process is already rigorous and difficult. Everyday people like me end up devoting many hours towards canvassing, despite busy professional and private lives. This bill callously restricts who can circulate petitions in a way that denies worthy people of their right to be allies with Missouri voters and to be involved in our democracy in a crucial way and it increases the burden on people like me who can ill afford to volunteer more time. The barriers that HB 703 / HB 780 create would certainly harm the ability of Missouri voters to have their voices heard. Although I cannot give my testimony in person due to my work obligations, i hope you will consider me present in spirit. Please give my testimony the same weight as testimony given in person; this issue is extremely important and I urge you to oppose HB 703 / HB 780.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RON BERRY | | PHONE NUMBER: 660-537-2239 |
| REPRESENTING: JOBS WITH JUSTICE VOTER ACTION | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: PO BOX 722 | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | STATE: MO |
| | | ZIP: 65102 |
| EMAIL: | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 12:00 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RONALD E. HUETTENMUELLER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: huetjill@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 8:38 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The Initiative Process was one of the basis of the Progressive Movement. It gave voice to the common citizen for laws they desired that their elected representation refused to give them. The first Progressive President to support this issue was Theodore Roosevelt. As a true Republican, he would not support this unreasonable backward proposal. Nor, do I and many other Missouri voters.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RUSSELLA LEVIN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: rubescentdesign@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 1:25 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I am opposed to altering the existing Citizen Initiative Petition Process in any way. It's a century old law that has produced many, many other good laws that Missourian's truly wanted made into law, and they worked hard to have them placed on the ballot. Recently, we passed medical Marijuana laws, and they have been a great help to folks who need help with pain. I am 70, and recently had serious surgery that I had to use opioids for, and I was able to wean off the opioids quickly with the help of my MM. It was a godsend to have legal dispensary's open and close by. NONE of this would be possible without the CIP we have in place. Keep your hands off the things that help Missourian's...we want our CIP laws to stay intact. Because the MO-Leg doesn't do much to help out the people, we have to take care of ourselves in spite of the obstacles you throw at us. THE CIP is our last resort to make changes in MO.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SAMUEL G. LICKLIDER | | PHONE NUMBER: 573-418-5069 | |
| REPRESENTING: MISSOURI REALTORS | | TITLE: CHIEF LOBBYIST | |
| ADDRESS: 100 EAST HIGH | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CTY | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65102 |
| EMAIL: sglgov@aol.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 7:34 PM | |

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Missouri REALTORS supports the current initiative petition process. We believe that any changes that limit the ability of the citizens of this state to be directly involved in their government must be both measured and minimal. We will carefully monitor the progress of any proposals before the General Assembly and take such action as is necessary to protect this important right



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SANDRA MIKULICH | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: smikulich@prodigy.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 10:39 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Placing exclusions to who may circulate petitions based on being citizens or registered voters in Missouri has been found to violate the 1st Amendment rights in North Dakota. It is yet another way to diminish the ability to have the people of Missouri able to vote on issues.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SARAH SWISHER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: salswisher@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 11:46 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

There is no reason that a person should have to be a citizen to circulate a petition. Any member of the community has an interest in how we are governed. If someone wants to use their time to participate in government - more power to them.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SCOTT MCKELLAR | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mck9@swbell.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 6:32 AM |

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This bill is yet another measure to exclude the public from their own governance -- another step on the road to one-party rule. Just stop it.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SETH HOFSTETTER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: sethfsttr@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:24 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Do not curtail your constituents ability to get their ideas to the ballot!



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SHARON K DEWITT | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Kwizmom@aol.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 12:00 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose this bill!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SHARON SCHNEEBERGER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: sharon@schneeberger.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 3:46 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The Initiative and Referendum Petitions are important to the citizens of Missouri. This process is non-partisan and provides all Missourians an opportunity to express their priorities to legislators in Jefferson City. We know from past history, few topics are placed on the ballot via this Process and fewer ultimately pass. Why, would you want to make the process more restrictive?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SHELLEY SWOYER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: sswoyer2002@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 6:11 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I have been involved with a number of initiative petition campaigns. I was not paid or compensated in any way. I stood outside in all kinds of weather because I believed in stopping predatory lending, raising the minimum wage, and expanding Medicaid. I resent the comment I often hear that people don't know what they are signing. I've had hundreds of conversations with people and provided ways they could get further information. Gathering signatures is not easy. These bills seek to add many unnecessary barriers to the process. I'm also disturbed that they want to require 2/3 of the vote to pass. This, as you well know, will make passage nearly impossible. How many legislatively proposed amendments do you believe would ever pass with that margin? Probably none. The initiative petition process has been enshrined in Missouri for decades. It is the way for people to speak when legislators willfully ignore the will of the people. Please don't destroy this basic right of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SHERRY L BUCHANAN | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: sherrybuchanan66@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 11:27 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

Please do not pass this bill out of committee. The multiple attacks on Missourians' right to petition are a serious threat to our constitutional rights to participate directly in state government.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SHIRLEY A. SEABAUGH | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: sasrph@embarqmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 10:09 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The initiative petition process has been used as a nonpartisan way to effect change in Missouri for 115 years. The barriers to placing a petition on the ballot are a sufficient deterrent to overuse. I urge you to vote no.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SLOAN SHEFFIELD COWELL | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: sloansheffield13@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:46 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: STEPHANIE WIEGERS | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: spwiegers@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:17 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

OPPOSE, OPPOSE, OPPOSE! STOP trying to suppress the voices of the citizens in this state by attacking the Citizen's Initiative Process. We see right through these pathetic attempts to silence MISSOURIANS- I oppose HB 703-Haffner. Who wrote this bill for you? It was written to benefit people that don't have the best interest of our state in mind. I would like to see a TRANSPARENT donor list of Rep. Haffner.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: STEPHEN MANN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mokandigital@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 8:29 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

February 2, 2023 Representative McGaugh and committee members. I stand in opposition to HB 703 and all other bills which seek to silence the voice of the People of Missouri by making it harder to put forth ballot measures. As someone who has worked on ballot initiatives I know how difficult it is to gather signatures. Missouri has a 116 year proud history of citizen engagement in legislation through the Initiative and Referendum process. We owe much to the bold proposals that the People have enacted over the years such as the creation of the Missouri Conservation Commission, and a sales tax to support its good works. The "Missouri Plan" for judicial selection, the "Hancock Amendment" which limited state and local taxes, term limits, campaign finance reform, riverboat gambling, medical marijuana and Medicaid Expansion were all approved by the voters through this democratic process. Best regards Stephen Mann Kansas City, Missouri



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUE TOUCHON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: touchon@sbcglobal.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:40 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

The initiative petition works just as it was meant to. The amount of signatures needed is enough of a hurdle to cull the petitions added. If a majority of the people are for an amendment the amendment should pass. The initiative process works for the citizens of Missouri



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN DEAN DEE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: susandeandee@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 7:50 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Missourians deserve to be allowed to initiate laws by means of petitions. Even though our legislature has often disregarded the expressed will of the people as shown by passed referendums and submitted petitions, their voices must not be limited. Electing representatives does not terminate our right to be heard directly and/or to vote directly on proposals from our fellow citizens.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN FAIR | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: susanleefair@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 7:25 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Do not change the Initiative Petition. We the people, your constituents, want you to leave this option for us to participate in democracy alone. These bills are unwelcome power grabs.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2023 10:35 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 6:02 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose this antiAmerican power grab by the legislature.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2023 11:59 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I oppose this AntiAmerican power grab by the legislature.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN LAMMERT | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: susanlammert@att.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 11:57 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

The current law should not be changed. Making it more difficult to collect signatures for initiative petitions is an attempt to deny the public a right to bring issues of importance to them to a statewide vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN LAMMERT | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: susanlammert@att.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:46 PM |

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Initiative petitions are the only way citizens can participate in state government. It is wrong to let legislators pass petitions with ease and to deny the public a realistic access. What happened to democracy?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN SHUMWAY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: revsue4u@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2023 12:52 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Vote NO on any changes to the Initiative Petition Process. I do not support attacking Missourians' right to direct democracy, to check the power of their elected officials when those officials refuse to pass popular legislation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: TARA ANURA | | PHONE NUMBER: 573-612-4107 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SD16 DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE; LD143 DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE; PHELPS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE | | TITLE: VICE-CHAIR PHELPS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE, SEC | |
| ADDRESS: 2007 MADISON PL APT D | | | |
| CITY: ROLLA | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65401 |
| EMAIL: tara.anura@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 7:50 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I oppose any attempt to change the initiative and referendum petition process. Initiative petitions (IP) have worked for both conservative and liberal causes. They are an important option for Missourians when they feel their voices aren't being heard in Jefferson City. Current initiative petition bills filed would make it harder to get an issue on the ballot and increase the threshold for an initiated measure to pass once on the ballot.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: TARA CHILDRESS LOPEZ HALLMARK | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: bellcoem@hotmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 7:29 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Penalizes all new residents and every military personnel, military family, veterans and veteran families returning home. The state law time tables for residency and costs associated with establishing a home are taxed; this bill purposely takes money from mandated military personnel and families while implementing a legal venue to prevent representing the most dedicated individuals to our country. This impacts veteran and their families that are returning home. The bill purposely subjugates costly disabled veteran household to be silenced after life altering sacrifices to the United States of America.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: TERESA JOHNSON | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: teresa.merlo@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 3:27 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I believe in voters' rights



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: TOM FERRI | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: thomas.m.ferri@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 1:17 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

This takes away the people's voice.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| BILL NUMBER: HB 703 | | DATE: 2/7/2023 |
| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: TONY SMITH | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: tpssmithster@protonmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 9:29 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

I submit this testimony in opposition to HB 703. The initiative petition is a core right of citizens in a democratic society. It is assured in the Missouri Constitution but this bill proposes changes that would weaken citizens ability to speak in opposition or confirmation of their elected officials. Wording concerning a citizenship test introduces a slippery slope to a right of citizens they already have to engage in the Initiative Petition process. The IP process is already difficult in MO. Additional restrictions seem to have no purpose but to limit my rights as a citizen to speak out to you and enact laws that are in my interest. The pagination and legal challenges part of this bill are gimmicks to further reduce my voice. I am most decidedly against this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials | | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: TORI SCHAFER | | PHONE NUMBER: 314-652-3111 | |
| REPRESENTING: ACLU OF MISSOURI | | TITLE: DD FOR POLICY AND CAMPAIGNS | |
| ADDRESS: 906 OLIVE ST | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63101 |
| EMAIL: tschafer@aclu-mo.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 10:35 AM | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |

The ACLU of Missouri is strongly opposed to changes that interfere with Missourians access to the ballot initiative process.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: VALERIE LARM | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: vrlarm@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2023 7:43 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

It is important to me that we, the Missouri citizens, continue to have a say in government. Do not destroy our right to have initiative petitions! We voted down the Right to Work that would have destroyed our unions and the ability for our workers to have a say in their working conditions and pay. This was done by initiative petition. Another important issue was allowing Missourians to access Medicare. Allowing Medicare for needy people will help the Missouri economy and allow low income persons to receive the medical help they will need. Having the right to use initiative petitions allows us to be people with choice. We don't need to have more than a 51% total on the vote to achieve this right.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: VANESSA WELLBERY | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| REPRESENTING: ADVOCATES OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE ST. LOUIS REGION & SOUTHWEST MISSOURI | | TITLE: VICE PRESIDENT OF POLICY & ADVOCACY |
| ADDRESS: 4251 FOREST PARK AVE | | |
| CITY: ST. LOUIS | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63108 |
| EMAIL: vanessa.wellbery@ppslr.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 11:54 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri opposes House Joint Resolution 19 and House Bill 703 because they impose additional, unnecessary burdens on Missourians' right to directly petition one another and thwart the will of the people. Missourians have had the right to directly petition one another for changes to our laws and constitution for nearly 150 years. This measure is an attack on our history and constitution. Missourians of all political persuasions have come together and put measures on the ballot to make their voices heard and overcome legislative roadblocks. The current process to qualify a measure for the ballot through initiative petition is already extremely difficult, requiring hundreds of volunteers to devote thousands of hours to gather the signatures of 200,000 to 350,000 Missourians — one of the highest signature requirements in the nation — while the Legislature can put items on the ballot with a simple majority vote of politicians. To become law, a ballot measure must receive a majority vote. Imposing additional requirements makes it more difficult for Missourians to make their voices heard and undermines the will of the people. Whether by adding additional bureaucracy or imposing additional barriers for passage, both of these proposals make it more difficult — in some cases, impossible — for Missourians to engage in direct democracy through the initiative petition process. It's plain to see that these measures are about silencing, not empowering, Missouri voters. Lawmakers should focus on making voting more accessible for Missourians rather than pursuing unnecessary, expensive and unconstitutional burdens on the right to vote in our state.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: VICTORIA W SINGER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: vwsinger82@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 6:36 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

My name is Victoria Weinberg Singer. I am a resident of St. Louis County and a long time lay leader in the Jewish community. Voters from all sides of the political spectrum have used the ballot initiative process to advance their priorities. The ballot initiative process is the only recourse voters have when politicians fail to address the issues that matter to them. This tool has been used by conservatives, progressives, moderates, and independents. I urge you to oppose HB703. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: WHITNEY FOX | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: WLF785@GMAIL.COM | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:20 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Please don't take away the people's voice and ability to change legislation. It is important that we have clear and easy access to the laws that directly impact our lives.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DENNIS VANDYKE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: dennismarceline@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 9:59 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

Thank you for this opportunity to address this committee. I encourage you think carefully before making changes to Missouri's initiative petition process. Missouri's law is one of 18 states with this great ability to truly govern by we the people, by the people and for the people. Envy of the rest of the country. Please do not make this process or voting harder, wouldn't it be great to see voter turnout hitting above 75 %. Also, please do something about election worker pay, \$100. Per 14 hour day is not reasonable.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RON CALZONE | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: | ATTENDANCE: | | SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2023 12:00 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | |