



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC-HONEST-ABE DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BEN TRAVLOS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-1400
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI FARM BUREAU		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 701 SOUTH COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 12:00 AM
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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 5:25 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

To Elections and Elected Officials Committee: Just a short note to express support for the resolution that petition circulators be registered voters in Missouri. This provides a minimal guardrail against out of state political organizations having undue influence on the Missouri petition process. Respectfully Submitted Dave Mitchell Kansas City, Mo.



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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 12:47 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: 2/2/2023 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
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. 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 6:31 AM
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I support HB 780 re Petition circulators



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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 11:18 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
Our initiative & referendum petitions need to be registered individual voters of the State of Missouri.



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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 3:46 PM
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Petition circulators should only be registered voters in Missouri as this cuts down on paid outside influencers with an agenda that is not in the best interest of transparency in laws for and affecting Missouri constituents!!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: WAYNE & JENNEL HOUTS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: wjhouts@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 9:05 PM
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This is basic common sense and prevents nonMissourians from working to influence our state and laws. Please support this bill.



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

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 is unconstitutional and restricts people from participating in democracy. Thank you for your time.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 12:00 AM	
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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 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)



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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 780. 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. HB 780 creates additional barriers for volunteers and paid petition signature gatherers to participate in the qualification period of the initiative petition process by requiring them to register with the state. This would allow the exclusion of non-voters (such as out of state college students, those on probation or parole, or new Americans who cannot vote yet) from the initiative petition process. HB 780 will be infringing on their free expression and association as the Cole County Circuit Court has already found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution (LWV MO & Missouri NAACP v Missouri, Nov 4, 2022). 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 780.



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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
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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: BARRY SANDWEISS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: barrysandweiss@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 8:54 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

There is absolutely no reason to limit who is involved in circulating this information. From young adults to new residents, we need more people engaged in this process. This is political gamesmanship that must be ended! Focus on issues that are important to MO - and will drive more people to want to live here!



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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 9:06 AM
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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			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CARLY FERDMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: carlyferdman@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 10:17 AM
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Requiring a person to be a registered voter in order to circulate a petition is also unconstitutional. Courts in Missouri have found this infringes on 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.



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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

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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.



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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
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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
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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.



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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
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Vote NO on this bill.



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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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
Opposed to this change in the petition system regarding ballot initiatives.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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 do not support any changes to the current Missouri initiative petition process. It is a tool of democracy in the state, is available to all voters, and has the potential to benefit all state residents. I do not believe a change needs to be made such that only registered voters may circulate petitions. Such a change if unnecessary and hinders a process that works fine as it is.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: CYNTHIA MCEVOY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ccarms311@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 4:10 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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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 and worked on several initiative petition campaigns in Missouri and it is already very difficult, time consuming and expensive. By creating further barriers you are attacking Missourian's right to participate in direct democracy. Excluding non voters from participating in this process infringing on their free expression and association and discouraging. 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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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: 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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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.



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: 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.

The petition process is an advantage in a democratic society. As a classroom teacher, I have used the power of this process to teach students to stand up for what they believe in, to communicate and share with their peers, parents and community the importance of their beliefs and commitments. Students learn to argue, persuade and reason in a civilized manner with the opposition. This bill is an affront to our democratic process. This bill would overturn the will of Missouri citizens whenever politicians are faced with issues that they don't care to deal with. I am opposed to 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		
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!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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 780, which would require individuals circulating initiative or referendum petitions be registered voters in the state of Missouri. While those signing petitions for initiatives or referendums must be Missouri voters, limiting who can circulate such petitions and disseminate ideas infringes on the rights of free expression and denies categories of Missourians from engaging in political speech in violation of the U.S. and Missouri Constitutions. The U.S. Supreme Court has found a registered voter requirement for petition circulators is an unconstitutional violation of free speech. *Buckley v. Am. Const. L. Found., Inc.*, 525 U.S. 182 (1999). As the U.S. Supreme Court reasoned in *Buckley*, “[t]he requirement that [solicitors] be . . . registered voters . . . decreases the pool of potential solicitors . . .” *Id.* at 194. Under proposed HB 780, some 300,000 voting-eligible Missourians who are not registered to vote will be removed from the pool of people who can engage in constitutionally protected speech by circulating initiative petitions and encouraging their fellow registered voters to participate. Based on this reasoning, a Missouri court recently enjoined a similar requirement passed last year requiring all individuals soliciting voter registration to themselves be registered voters, finding that the requirement “mutes speech and expressive activity” and likely violates the Missouri Constitution. Article I, Section 8 of the Missouri Constitution 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. 2020). By “prevent[ing] anyone but registered Missouri voters from entreating others” to sign on to a petition to put a measure on the ballot, HB 780 restricts who can circulate initiative petitions, thereby 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.’”)” As Judge Beetem found in the LWV case, “a Registered Voter Requirement will also remove from the pool of potential solicitors many voting-eligible Missourians, including Missouri residents who are noncitizens, who are under the age of eighteen, those on probation or parole following a felony conviction, and who are registered to vote in another state,” and “thus restricts the number of voices” conveying the solicitors’ messages and “directly stifles speech by individuals who are ineligible to become registered voters in Missouri.” *Id.* 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. 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. The citizen initiative process provides a manner for direct participation. It promotes civic engagement and encourages citizens to discuss issues with one another. It promotes accountability between the government and the governed. But for this potential to be realized, it must be ensured — by not erecting undue barriers to participation or creating a confusing passage threshold that fails to effectuate the will of Missouri's voters. Because a registered voter requirement for petition circulators likely violates constitutional protections for free speech, we urge you to vote NO on HB 780. 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 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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 AND COUNSEL	
ADDRESS: 6047 WATERMAN			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63112
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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: DIANE G YEAMANS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dyeamans98@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2023 12:46 PM

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

Please do not change the citizens initiative process. The people of Missouri deserve every chance for their desires to be heard and to direct the state in which they want to live.



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: 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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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: DON CROZIER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: doncrozier@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 8:51 PM

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

HB 870 is unconstitutional under both state and federal constitutions. I oppose efforts to weaken the Initiative Petition process and resent efforts to weaken my voice as a voter.



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: ELIZABETH A FRANKLIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: eafrank711@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2023 4:58 PM

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

My name is Elizabeth Franklin, Plattsburg MO and I am submitting the following regarding House Bill 780. I do not support this House Bill and am respectfully submitting testimony in opposition. I am appalled at the absence of sensitivity, inclusiveness and judgment demonstrated by the sponsor of this bill. This bill requires individuals circulating initiative and referendum petitions to be registered voters of the State of Missouri. This bill tells military service members, spouses, and children living in our state that WHILE serving our country we DO NOT want them to participate in this most basic form of citizen involvement in our State? Communities where they become engaged, support local entities, and make life-long friends becomes a HOME while serving. How ironic they have taken the oath to protect and defend the U.S. Constitution yet MO refuses to allow them participation in our State's democratic process -- think about that. As a veteran of the U.S. Army and having served at numerous military locations, I can assure you the local community becomes 'home'. I maintained my permanent residence in Missouri while serving yet I contributed in many ways to the community where I was stationed. Service members and their families SERVE ~ that's what we do. It happens all over the world. This slap in the face to reject any service members contribution is mean-spirited and petty. This committee should be ashamed to even consider such legislation. I'm embarrassed for the sponsor of this bill and for the chairman who decided to give it a hearing. Reject this bill immediately.



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: 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
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: 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: ekuttes@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 - such as out of state college students, those on probation or parole, or new Americans who cannot yet vote - from otherwise participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringing on their free expression and association. Also, a Missouri court has already found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution. That is why I oppose 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: 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. This bill is an effort to silence any opposition and that is not at all what democracy is.



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: 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 780 and the restrictions it places on who can circulate petitions for our Missouri initiative petition process. The restrictions proposed in HB 780 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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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: 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 6:49 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

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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 voter, such as out of state college students, those on probation or parole, or new Americans who cannot yet vote, from otherwise participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process infringes on their free expression and association. This measure is unconstitutional under both state and federal constitutions: The US Supreme Court previously found that a voter registration requirement for petition circulators was unconstitutional. In November, a Missouri court found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution and infringes on the freedom of speech and expression.



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: 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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

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
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: 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
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: 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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BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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			
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 11:28 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

HB 780 requires that individuals circulating initiative and referendum petitions be registered voters of the State of Missouri. This would make it impossible for a company, even one based in Missouri, to employ residents of other states to work as paid signature gatherers. That may be an appealing idea at first glance but consider this: Missouri does have a border with eight surrounding states. Many people from Kansas City, KS, Sauget, IL, and Blytheville, AR, for example, live regional lives, shopping, worshipping, attending recreational events, and/or working 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, where Paraquad is based 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. It is already difficult to pull together all the resources needed to successfully put a measure on the ballot by petition initiative. Let's not make it harder. We ask that you vote no on HB 780. About Paraquad, Inc.: 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.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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
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Let the people vote, and please don't make it harder!!



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: 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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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: 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 780 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 - such as out of state college students, those on probation or parole, or new Americans who cannot yet vote - from otherwise participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringing on their free expression and association. In addition, a Missouri court has already found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution. Lawmakers should reject efforts to make direct democracy more difficult. NCJWSTL encourages you to vote no on HB 780.



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: 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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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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BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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: 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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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: 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	

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Citizen initiatives can be used to hold elected officials accountable by giving citizens the ability to put issues on the ballot if their representatives fail to act.



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: 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.		

Vote no



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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 as it makes it more difficult for Petitioner Circulators to do their job by informing voters of issues. This is part of the democratic process that should not be tampered with by the legislature. Thank you.



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: KARI CRAUN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jkraun@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 7:17 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.



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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 4:15 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. Protect the IP process and vote "no" on HB 780. 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. Just 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!



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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		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHRYN GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876
REPRESENTING: HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1865		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: katie@molobby.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 4:53 PM

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

The Health Forward Foundation is opposed to HB 780 in its current form because it would add unnecessary barriers to the democratic process.



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: 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 volunteer petition circulators are unnecessary and make it harder for the will of voters to be heard.



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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: 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
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BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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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: 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
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I am against voter suppression.



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: 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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BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: LYN ELLIOT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lynelliot6@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 8:00 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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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			
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
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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
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: 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
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose HB 780 because it is thwarting the civic participation of those who cannot vote because they are not yet 18, are college students from another state, or newer Americans. We should not be silencing these voices, we should be encouraging participation and inclusion in our democracy.



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: MARSHA LERENBERG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: malpol2017@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 12:28 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I strongly oppose the changes to the initiative petition process in HB 780. It is already an extremely difficult process and we should not be making it more difficult. HB 780 seeks to exclude non voters from otherwise exercising their free expression and association by participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process. Non-voters could include out of state college students, Missourians on probation or parole, or new American citizens not yet eligible to vote. A Missouri court has already found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution. Reject HB 780 and let the peoples voices be heard.



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: 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.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose any change in the petition circulation process. Everyone who lives in Missouri , no matter their citizenship or voting status, should be entitled to participate in the process. Changes in our constitution affects all of us, even those who for whatever reason can not vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: MARY GROSS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marygva@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 1:58 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This is redundant. Only registered Mo voters can legally sign initiative petitions. This implies that non-voters are signing them, which is gaslighting.



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: MARY GROSS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marygva@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 9:54 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The requirement already exists that petitions are signed only by registered voters. This is redundant and give the impression that petitions are, at this time, signed by citizens who are not registered to vote. I am opposed



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: 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 780The efforts to chop away at any aspect of the Initiative Petition are tiresome. Here is just one example of why requiring signature gatherers to be registered voters in Missouri. Many college students from other states participate in politics in Missouri because of an appropriate wish to be politically involved in the issues of the day. Many students maintain their parents' address as their permanent address while they are in college. If those students are disallowed to gather signatures for an Initiative Petition, their political education may be stunted as well as their maturation into adulthood.I oppose HB 870.



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: 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!



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: MELANIE D BUSSE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: melbusselwvkc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 9:21 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 780 that aims to restrict a Missouri voter's ability to directly amend our state's constitution by making it harder for petition circulators. HB 780 would modify the requirements and procedures for initiative petition circulators that would result in the passage of a Citizens Initiative Petition being unobtainable. HB 780 would exclude non voters - such as out of state college students, those on probation or parole, or new Americans - who cannot vote - from otherwise participating in important issues facing their communities through the initiative process, infringing on their free expression and association. The US Supreme Court has already found that a registered voter requirement for petition circulators is unconstitutional. In addition, a Missouri court has already found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution.



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: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-581-0561
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: POLICY DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVE., STE. 100 ST. LOUIS, MO		
CITY: ST. LOUIS	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 4:50 PM

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

January 23, 2023 Chairman Peggy McGaugh Elections and Elected Officials Committee MO House of Representatives 201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 402 Jefferson City, MO 65101 Dear Chairman McGaugh and Members of the Committee, The Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Bill No. 780 seeks to change the initiative petition process of Missouri. This bill requires that initiative petition circulators be registered voters. This modifies the current requirement that petition circulators don't have to be registered voters, which creates an added limitation. This will make the initiative process more difficult for Missourians to pass amendments that can meaningfully improve their lives. Without petition circulators being registered to vote, they won't be allowed to get signatures until they are registered. We have our initiative petition structure to protect our democracy and create a balance between Missourians and their respective elected officials. Voters have confidence in this process because everyone gets an equal chance to vote and make a change. It empowers Missourians to collaborate and speak to issues that directly impact them and their communities. For these reasons, we are coming together to oppose any change to the initiative petition process. Once again, Missouri Coalition for the Environment respectfully urges you to vote "NO" on HB 780 in order to protect Missouri's initiative petition process. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Melissa Vatterott
 Melissa Vatterott, JD Policy Director Missouri Coalition for the Environment
 mvatterott@moenvironment.org
 (314) 727-0600, ext. 111



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: 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. Recently, voters have been wrongly purged from voter roles and I can see that being weaponized to remove people from being able to gather signatures. Also, activists could be targeted and arrested, making them ineligible to vote and collect signatures. Please oppose 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		
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 7:04 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 780. Requiring individuals circulating initiative and referendum petitions to be registered voters of the State of Missouri will exclude a variety of non-voters from participating in the process, infringing on their free expression and freedom of association. Out-of-state college students, those on probation or parole, new Americans who cannot yet vote, and military service members, spouses, and children living in our state that WHILE serving our country will all be excluded from the process. A Missouri court has already found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution. By design, HB 780 will make it more difficult to recruit individuals to help collect signatures for petitions. Adding additional barriers does nothing more than censure the voice of the people.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MINDY MCINTOSH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: msmomac@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 2:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

he 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: MITCH WRENN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mitchwrenn@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 12:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Peggy McGaugh, Republican Missouri State Rep. Dist 7 which represents Linn, Livingston, Carroll and Ray counties and the Chairwoman of the House Elections Committee. Another blatant attempt to silence the citizens of Missouri making it even harder to pass legislation via the Initiative Petition process. It is evident that republican state lawmakers do NOT ! listen to the People of Missouri. They DO ! listen to special interest groups, maga donors, and the American Legislative Exchange Council. Therefore, I call on all Republican law makers to abandon this obstruction and let Democracy work. Mitch Wrenn Public Relations Officer - Linn County Democrats Club Member of Linn County Central Committee 64658 State House Dist. 7



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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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.			

This measure limits the ability of students who are in school at Missouri institutions of higher learning from participating in the initiative petition process, They should be encouraged to get involved with our democracy, not penalized from caring enough to want to be involved.



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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
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.



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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 9:53 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

High school students, who are often not quite old enough to vote, should be able to collect signatures. Being involved in the process helps them become future voters by helping them learn how democracy works. There is no reason to exclude them by having the unnecessary restrictions.



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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 780. HB780 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 hours towards canvassing. HB 703 attempts to callously restrict who can circulate petitions. It is already true that only registered MO voters can *sign* petitions, as it should be. However HB 780 wants to restrict *circulators* to only registered MO voters. This proposed restriction is bad because (1) it increases the burden on people like me who can ill afford to volunteer more time, and (2) it denies worthy people – for example, military family members stationed in Missouri and other people with family and personal ties to Missouri who might be registered in another state - the right to support Missouri voters and be involved in our democracy in a crucial way. HB 780 would create barriers that harm Missouri voters and their ability to have their voices heard. 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 780.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: PATRICIA O'ROARK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: poroark@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 3:25 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

HB 780I submit this written testimony in opposition to HB 780, introduced by Representative Peggy McGaugh which would require individuals circulating initiative and referendum petitions to be registered voters of the state of Missouri. If enacted, the law would exclude non-voters, such as out of state college students, those on probation or parole or new Americans who cannot yet vote, or those who may have been purged from voting rolls due to no fault of their own from otherwise participating in important issues facing their communities through the imitative process, infringing on their free expression and association. In addition, a Missouri court has already found that requiring voter registration solicitors to be Missouri registered voters likely violates the state constitution. The initiative petition process is a valuable tool available to Missouri citizens by our constitution. The constitution does not require that to participate in direct democracy, such as by collecting signatures on an initiative petition or referendum, a person must be a registered voter. There is no legitimate state need to impose such a requirement. I therefore urge the Missouri House Elections Committee to reject HB 780. Patricia O'RoarkCarl Junction



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: PAUL T. LEHMANN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lehmannpault49@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/30/2023 10:35 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.



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: 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.



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: RENEE BOEHM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: renee_boehm@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 10:29 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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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: 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 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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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: 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
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: ROBERT CULVERHOUSE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rcchouse@swbell.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2023 11:33 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. NOTE: I have also submitted this testimony for HB 703.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023	
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			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RON BERRY		PHONE NUMBER: 660-537-2239	
REPRESENTING: JOBS WITH JUSTICE VOTER ACTION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 722			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2023 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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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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: 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	

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

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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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: 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 Missouri voters has been found to violate the Missouri Constitution. It is yet another way to diminish the ability to have the people of Missouri able to vote on issues.



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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: SARAH SWISHER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: salswisher@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 11:52 AM

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

There are many community members who aren't registered voters [out-of-state college students, people waiting for registration to take effect, paroles, etc.]. There is no reason they should be barred from participating in community decisions by using their time to collect signatures. AND, by the way, the Constitution of Missouri protects them - as this bill is very probably un-Constitutional.



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: 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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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: 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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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: 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. Since all Missourians ultimately vote on these proposed laws why does it matter who collects signatures. Is this designed simply to place more restrictions on this important process?



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: 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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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: 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.



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: 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.		



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: 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 HB 780- McGaugh is yet another attempt to silence the voices in Missouri. So now this state's government is opposed to non-voters collecting signatures??? So my 17 year old can't participate in his government before he can vote? STUPID, STUPID, STUPID piece of legislation. Who wrote this for you? Get the dark money out of our government. How do you look your constituents in the eyes?



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 780 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 gathered 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 yeas such as the creation of the Missouri Conservation Commission, and a sales tax to support it's 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
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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: 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.		

As long as signatures on petitions can be verified, submitted petitions should be considered, regardless of who circulated them. Sometimes we need help from those not in our jurisdiction to make sure everybody gets a chance to be involved.



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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
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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

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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.		

This is a blatant power grab by the legislature. The process is already rigorous — we 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.



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 LAMMERT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: susanlammert@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2023 12:02 PM
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Any attempt to make it more difficult to gather signatures for initiative petitions is harmful to democracy. The public deserves the right to petition for issues that are important to them. It is already expensive and time intensive to get enough signatures.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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

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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		
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: 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

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I oppose any attempt to change the initiative and referendum petition process. I am a lifelong Missourian who is disabled with a chronic illness. Initiative petitions (IP) have worked for both conservative and liberal causes. This is how Missourians fought together for Medicaid Expansion and the legalization of medical marijuana. 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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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: 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
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It is unconstitutional. Thwarts business and employment possibilities. It is an insult to students that pay higher tuitions and need employment. 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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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: 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
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I believe in voters' rights



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
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: 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

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This takes away the people's voice.



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			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TORI SCHAFFER		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	
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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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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: 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
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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 HJR19. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
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
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 780		DATE: 2/2/2023
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
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 do not support nor object to HB 780.