

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSOURI

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON ATTORNEY GENERAL Jefferson City 65102

P. O. Box 899 (314) 751-3321

May 18, 1995

OPINION LETTER NO. 154-95

The Honorable Rebecca McDowell Cook Missouri Secretary of State State Capitol Building Jefferson City, MO 65101 154-95

Dear Secretary Cook:

This opinion letter is in response to your request for our review under Sections 116.332 and 116.334, RSMo 1994, for sufficiency as to form of an initiative petition relating to a proposed law requiring a trust fund as a condition of issuing any permit, renewing any permit or granting any variance or modification pursuant to Chapter 643, RSMo, to a person for the thermal destruction of materials once contaminated with nerve gas agents or biological agents. A copy of the initiative petition and the proposed law which you submitted to this office on May 15, 1995, is attached for reference.

We approve the petition as to form. However, since the Secretary of State has been given final approval or rejection authority under Section 116.332, our approval of the form of the petition does not preclude you from rejecting the petition.

Inasmuch as our review is simply for the purpose of determining sufficiency as to form, the fact that we do not reject the petition is not to be construed as a determination that the petition is sufficient as to substance. Likewise, since our review is mandated by statute, no action we take with respect to such review should be construed as an endorsement of the petition or as the expression of any view respecting the adequacy or inadequacy of the petition generally or of the objectives of its proponents.

Very truly yours

JEREMIAN W. (JAY) NIXON Attorney General

Enclosure