## PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI'S 116 YEAR TRADITION OPPOSE INITIATIVE PETITION ATTACKS



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SJR 74, 48, 59, 61 & 83 is the bill closest to approval in the Senate.

#### **SUMMARY OF BILLS**

For over 115 years, Missourians from across the political spectrum have used the Initiative Petition (IP) process to bring policy solutions to the people of the state. If made law, these bills would limit voters' power. The 25+ proposed changes to the initiative petition process will not bring about positive reform, but instead silence voters.

#### **UNNECESSARY CHANGES**

Missourians do **NOT** want politicians to interfere with the people's IP process. According to research released by the Missouri Scout, 77% Missourians from all sides of the political spectrum think the IP process needs to become easier or remain the same.

Resolutions would make qualifying petitions nearly impossible by increasing the number of signatures needed in more congressional districts.

Additionally, these resolution would require greater than either 60% or 66% of voters to approve petitions. This opens the door minority rule and is direct threat to our state's democracy.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

The Sierra Club has worked several initiative petition campaigns and knows how difficult it is to gather signatures statewide under the present standard. Additionally, the Sierra Club depends on the initiative petition process to advocate for environmental policy when our legislators did not. Examples include: Construction Work in Progress (1976), Parks and Soil Tax (1996), and Renewable Energy Standard (2008).

