

Attacks on Direct Democracy

[SB 149](#) - [Sen. Onder](#) (R-2, Lake Saint Louis)

[SJR 2](#) - [Sen. Onder](#) (R-2, Lake Saint Louis)

[HB 333](#) - [Rep. Simmons](#) (R-109, Washington)

[HJR 20](#) - [Rep. Henderson](#) (R-117, Bonne Terre)

These anti-democratic bills could effectively shut down the ballot initiative process for Missourians.

Missouri's initiative petition process is a constitutional right that has worked for over a century.

- This form of direct democracy is sacred; groups and citizens all across the political spectrum have used this to make change when our leaders failed to act.

We, the people, petitioned our fellow Missourians to raise the minimum wage, expand Medicaid, protect stem cell research, and more when our leaders failed to act.

- Because certain politicians are afraid of the power of the people, they are trying to destroy this right.

Senate Bill 149, Senate Joint Resolution 2, House Bill 333 and House Joint Resolution 20 contain multiple attacks on our initiative petition process, including:

- Charging you a \$500 fee just to start the process
- Shortening the period of time in which you can gather signatures
- Increasing the required number of signatures by *hundreds of thousands*
- Requiring a $\frac{2}{3}$ supermajority vote to become law, instead of a simple majority

All of the proposals to change the process is to make it harder — if not impossible — for us as Missourians to petition our government.

- Gathering enough signatures to qualify a measure for the ballot isn't easy. It takes hundreds of thousands of conversations with voters across the state.

There is no good reason to push these anti-democratic bills. These attacks only serve to weaken the power of the people by silencing our voices.

- Politicians should be focused on serving Missourians, not weakening our power by attacking the initiative petition process.
- The politicians pushing these bills are trying to insulate themselves from the power of Missourians who come together to engage in direct democracy.