



Montana Legislative Services Division

Office of the Executive Director

PO BOX 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
(406) 444-3064
FAX (406) 444-3036

April 19, 2024

Montana Secretary of State
Attn: Ray Dagnall, Program Specialist
State Capitol Building
Helena, MT 59601

RE: Legislative Committee Review of CI-128

Dear Secretary Jacobsen:

Section 13-27-228, MCA (enacted as section 13, [Chapter 647, Laws of 2023](#)), requires an "appropriate interim committee or legislative council" to review proposed initiatives that are referred to our office by the Secretary of State by conducting a public hearing, voting on whether to support or not support the placement of the proposed statewide initiative text on the ballot, and reporting the outcome of the vote to the Secretary of State no later than 14 days after receipt of the final text of the proposed statewide initiative and ballot statements. On April 5, 2024, our office received the final text of an initiative for an act entitled CI-128, which proposes to amend the Montana Constitution to expressly provide a right to make and carry out decisions about one's own pregnancy, including the right to abortion. The final text was received in response to a legislative subpoena dated April 2, 2024, with a response deadline of April 5, 2024.

On April 18, 2024, LJIC held a public hearing regarding CI-128 and conducted a vote regarding the initiative after receiving public comment and committee deliberation. LJIC did not support placement of the proposed text of this initiative on the ballot. There are 8 members of the Montana Legislature on the LJIC, and the outcome of the vote was 0 in favor of placing the measure on the ballot, with 6 members voting no on the motion, and 2 members being absent that did not cast a vote.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


Jerry Howe
Executive Director

cc: Initiative Sponsor Samuel Dickman via Graybill Law Firm, P.C.
Todd Everts, Jaret Coles, Julie Johnson