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SD Secretary of State

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

1302 East Highway 14, Suite 1 Pierre, South Dakota 57501-8501 Phone (605) 773-3215 Fax (605) 773-4106 <u>http://atg.sd.gov</u>

MARK A. VARGO ATTORNEY GENERAL CHARLES D. McGUIGAN CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 9, 2022

Honorable Steve Barnett Secretary of State 500 E. Capitol Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Attorney General's Statement (Initiated Constitutional Amendment: Sales Tax on Eating and Drinking)

Dear Secretary Barnett,

Enclosed is a copy of a proposed initiated Constitutional amendment, in final form, that the sponsor submitted to this Office. In accordance with state law, I hereby file the enclosed Attorney General's Statement for this initiated measure.

By copy of this letter, I am providing a copy of the Statement to the sponsors.

Very truly yours,

Mark A. Vargo ATTORNEY GENERAL

MAV/dd Enc.

Filed this

SECRETARY OF STATE

cc/encl: Richard P. Weiland Reed Holwegner – Legislative Research Council

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SD Secretary of State

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S STATEMENT

<u>Title</u>: An Initiated Amendment Prohibiting Taxes on Anything Sold for Eating or Drinking.

Explanation:

Currently, the state collects tax on the sale or use of certain foods or drinks. Many municipalities also collect tax on the sale or use of foods or drinks.

This initiated amendment overrides existing laws and prohibits the state, or municipalities, from collecting sales or use tax on anything sold for eating or drinking by humans. The amendment eliminates these sources of revenue.

The amendment does not prohibit the collection of sales or use tax on alcoholic beverages or prepared food. Prepared food is defined by law to include food that is sold heated or with utensils.

Judicial clarification of the amendment may be necessary. The Legislature cannot alter the provisions of a constitutional amendment.

Filed this day of

SECRETARY OF STATE