



BRYAN D. SCHEIDERER
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October 24, 2012

Re: The Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan

Dear Editor:

On the November 6 ballot, you will notice proposed Amendment 3 to the Missouri Constitution. Amendment 3 would inject an unnecessary level of politics into the selection of our Supreme Court and Court of Appeals judges. For that reason, **I urge you to seriously consider voting against Amendment 3.**

Missouri was the first state in the union to adopt a non-partisan system for appointing appellate judges. Our plan for appointing judges has been a model for the nation, and 33 other states have adopted this plan in some fashion. Under the current Non-Partisan Court Plan, the governor has substantial input, but not control. A judicial commission selects three nominees for an open court position, and the governor makes the final selection. If Amendment 3 were passed, the sitting governor would be able to appoint a majority of the commission members within one four-year term. Neither the Democratic or Republican candidate for governor supports this amendment. For more information about the Court Plan, please go to www.MoFairCourts.com.

Missouri has been a model for the nation on how to select judges in the least political way for the past 72 years. I encourage you to carefully consider this matter and if you agree with my analysis, please vote "no" on Amendment 3.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan D. Scheiderer".

Bryan D. Scheiderer
*Chariton County Prosecuting Attorney
and President, Ninth Circuit Bar Association*