HAND DELIVERED

May 27, 2015

Hon. Shantel Krebs
Secretary of State
500 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Attorney General's Statement for initiated measure (maximum finance charge)

Dear Secretary Krebs,

This Office received an initiated measure regarding maximum finance charges for certain money lenders. Enclosed is a copy of the initiated measure, in final form, that was submitted to this Office. In accordance with SDCL 12-13-25.1, I hereby submit the Attorney General's Statement with respect to this measure. It is my understanding that the Legislative Research Council has prepared a fiscal impact statement pursuant to SDCL 2-1-19 and has or will file it directly with you.

By copy of this letter, I am providing a copy of the Attorney General's Statement to the sponsor of the initiated measure pursuant to SDCL 12-13-25.1.

Very truly yours,

Marty J. Jackley
ATTORNEY GENERAL

MJJ/PA/lde
Enc.

cc/enc.: Steve Hickey
Jason Hancock, Director of LRC

Filed this 27th day of May, 2015

SECRETARY OF STATE
INITIATED MEASURE

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S STATEMENT

Title: An initiated measure to set a maximum finance charge for certain licensed money lenders

Explanation:

The initiated measure prohibits certain State-licensed money lenders from making a loan that imposes total interest, fees and charges at an annual percentage rate greater than 36%. The measure also prohibits these money lenders from evading this rate limitation by indirect means. A violation of this measure is a misdemeanor crime. In addition, a loan made in violation of this measure is void, and any principal, fee, interest, or charge is uncollectable.

The measure's prohibitions apply to all money lenders licensed under South Dakota Codified Laws chapter 54-4. These licensed lenders make commercial and personal loans, including installment, automobile, short-term consumer, payday, and title loans. The measure does not apply to state and national banks, bank holding companies, other federally insured financial institutions, and state chartered trust companies. The measure also does not apply to businesses that provide financing for goods and services they sell.