State Senator Beverly Gard

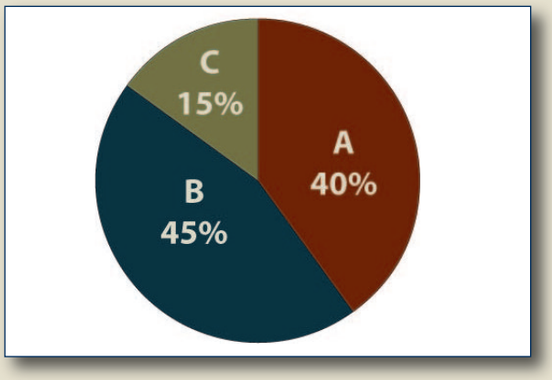
Legislative Update

200 W. Washington Street • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 • 1-800-382-9467

2009 Survey Results

1. Forecasts predict lower-than-normal revenue for Indiana state government. To maintain a truly balanced budget, nearly $1 billion of spending would have to be cut or other revenue sources would have to be tapped. Would you support or oppose a proposal to use part of Indiana's emergency "rainy day" funds for stop-gap funding?

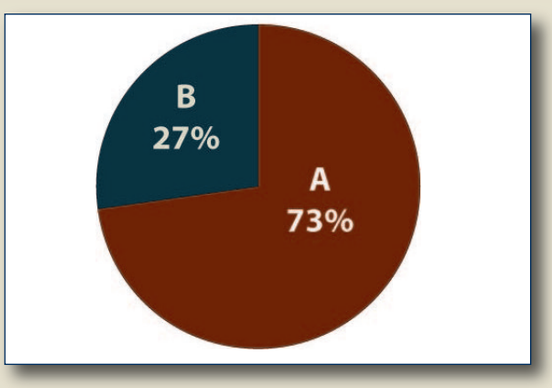
A. Support B. Oppose C. Don't know.



2. This year, legislators will have the option to again vote on the constitutional amendment permanently capping property taxes on homes, farms and businesses. This follow-up vote by a separately elected Indiana General Assembly is required before voters can directly vote on the constitutional change. (Please mark the one response that more closely reflects your opinion.)

A. An emergency exists for many regarding property taxes, vote on the amendment as soon as possible and allow voters to decide.

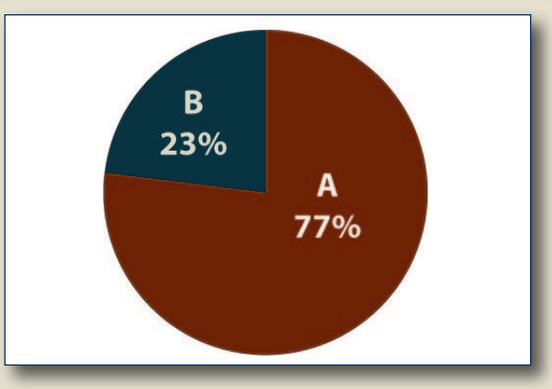
B. No emergency exists regarding property taxes, delay the vote to see how property tax caps might impact local units of government.



3. Many states facing fiscal crises are cutting K-college funding and programs. Would you support or oppose an Indiana state budget that protects education funding at or near current levels?

A. Support

B. Oppose



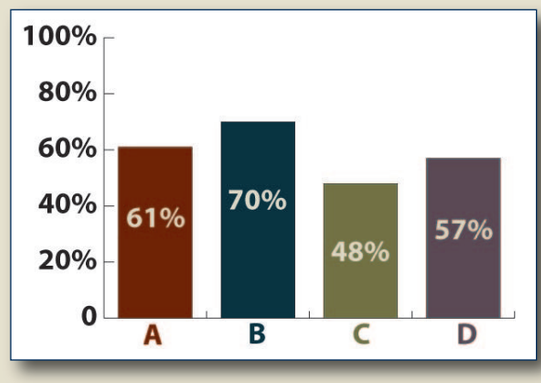
4. Indiana ranks first among Midwestern states on job creation and 12th nationwide for business climate. Given the national economy, which of the following efforts should Indiana continue to utilize to help promote job creation? (Mark all that apply.)

A. Workforce education.

B. Low taxes.

C. Avoid government regulations.

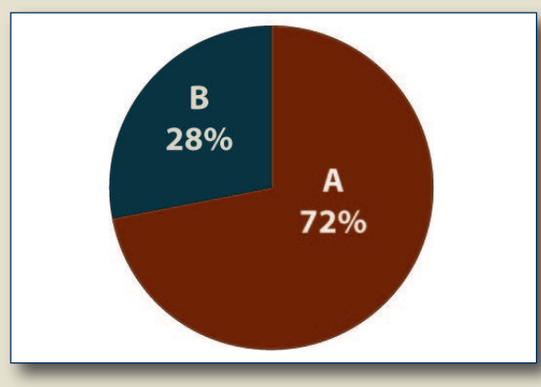
D. Incentives for expansions.



5. Would you support or oppose legislation combining units and duties of local government in an effort to streamline government (example: combining township offices with county offices).

A. Support

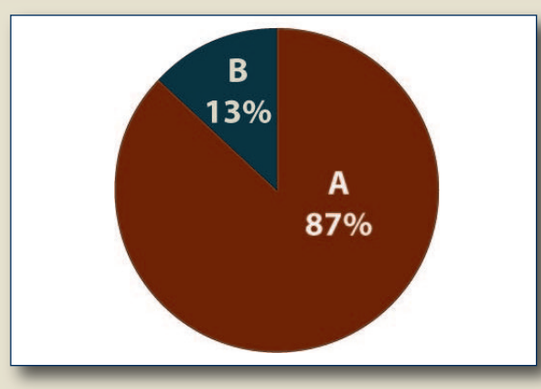
B. Oppose



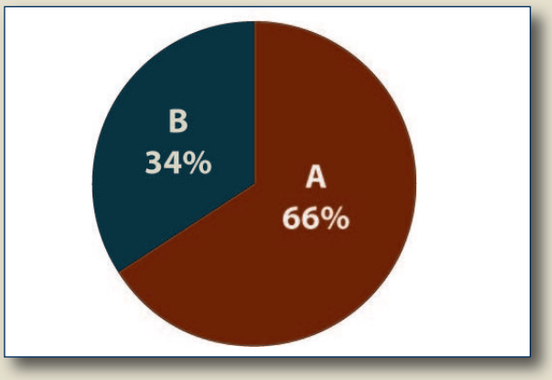
6. Would you support or oppose legislation that would expand state authority to investigate, detain and prosecute illegal immigrants?

A. Support

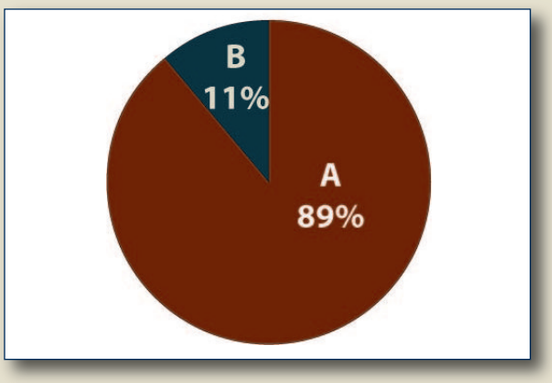
B. Oppose



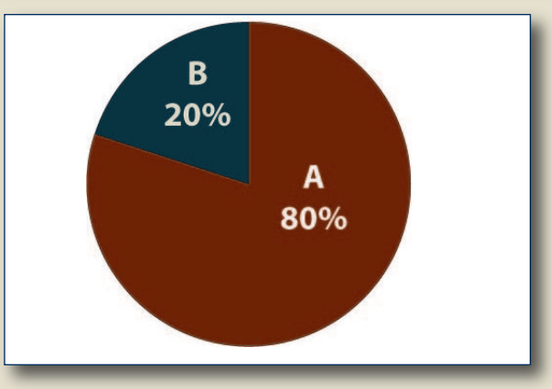
7. Would you support or oppose implementing a statewide smoking ban in public places?
A. Support B. Oppose



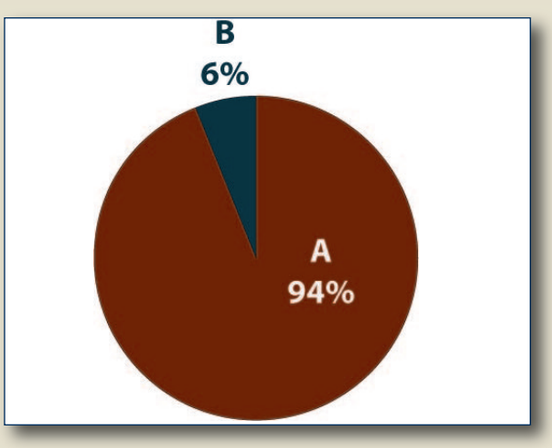
8. Would you support or oppose legislation that would have legislators who leave office wait one year before being eligible to become a lobbyist?
A. Support B. Oppose



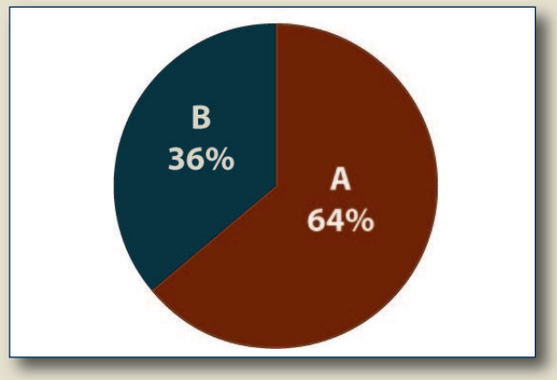
9. Would you support or oppose the state continuing to assist Hoosiers in purchasing affordable health insurance similar to the Healthy Indiana Plan?
A. Support B. Oppose



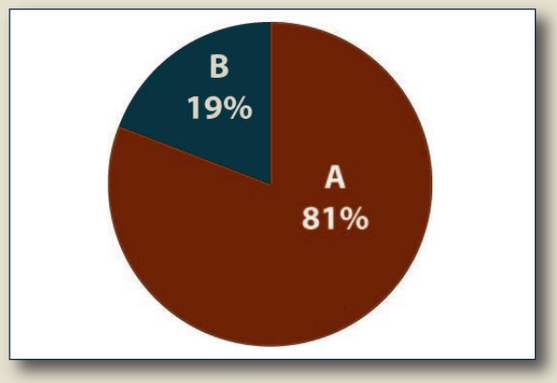
10. To save the expense of a separate election, would you support or oppose having the election of city and town officials during the general election of non-presidential years?
A. Support B. Oppose



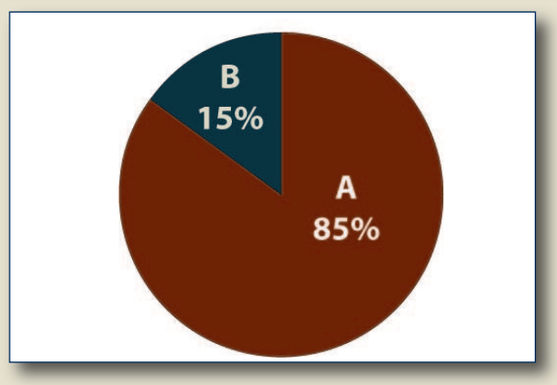
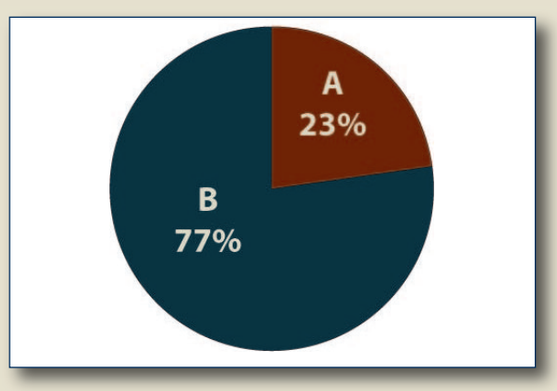
11. Would you support a change in the law so that local government employees may not run for an office in the governmental unit that employs them?
A. Support B. Oppose



12. Would you support increasing restrictions for new, teenage drivers, such as limiting night driving, further limiting the number of passengers under 18 and prohibiting cell phone use?
A. Support B. Oppose



13. Would you support conducting all school board elections during the November general election in even numbered years instead of in the May primaries?
A. Support B. Oppose



14. Some are proposing monies from Major Moves be taken from the state's transportation building plan and given to legislators to designate for local projects in their districts. Would you support or oppose this proposal?
A. Support B. Oppose