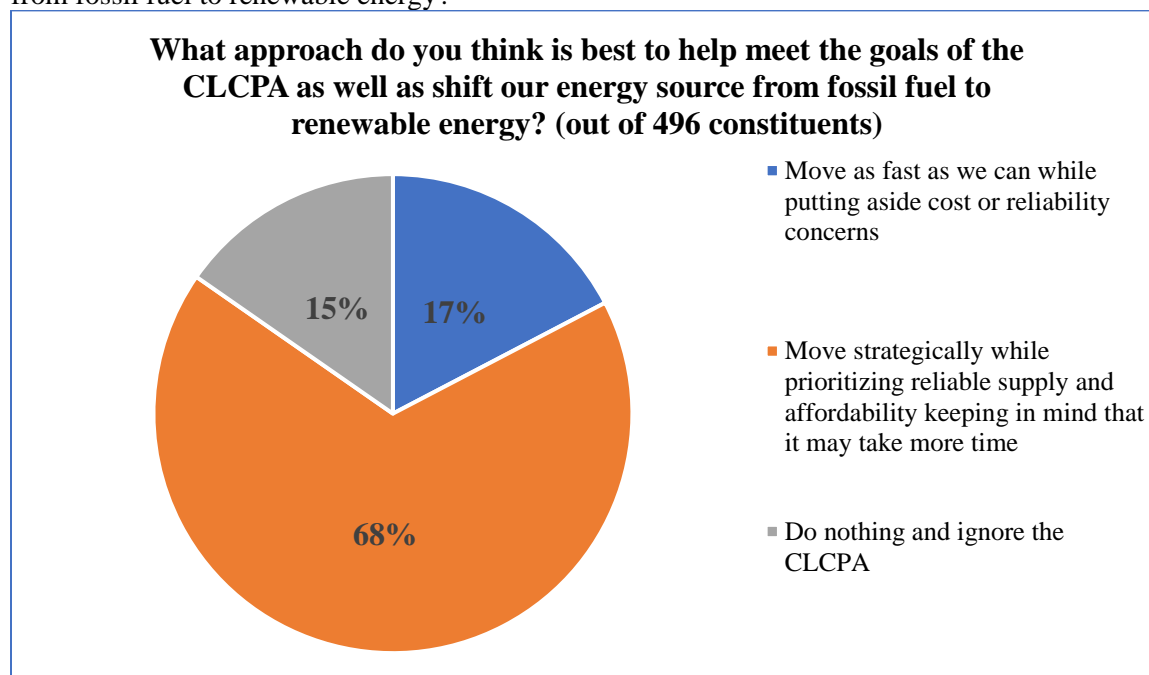


Question 1: As we continue to see the impacts of climate change, discussions have been ongoing as to what the next steps are beyond the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (“CLCPA”) that was enacted in to law in 2019 and how to fund the objectives of the law. There are multiple bills proposed that would implement a polluter fee structure for carbon and greenhouse gas emissions among other provisions. The fees would be split toward funding for community-based organizations located in or serving environmental justice communities, funding renewable energy projects, and funding energy rebates for low- and moderate-income New Yorkers. In addition, a percentage of funds are committed toward offsetting the loss of fossil fuel-related jobs and revenues.

Concerns have been raised by some as to whether costs will be passed down to consumers (the bills do not require nor specify this), questions around the rebates for low to moderate income ratepayers, and general questions as to how the legislation will be implemented in practice including labor provisions in the bill.

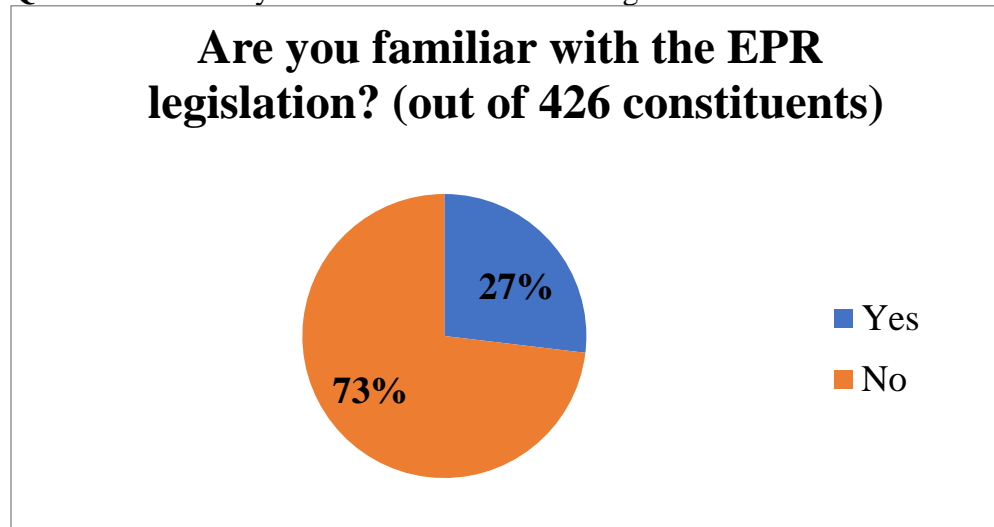
Understanding that it is not possible to explain the various components of complicated bills, what approach do you think is best to help meet the goals of the CLCPA as well as shift our energy source from fossil fuel to renewable energy?



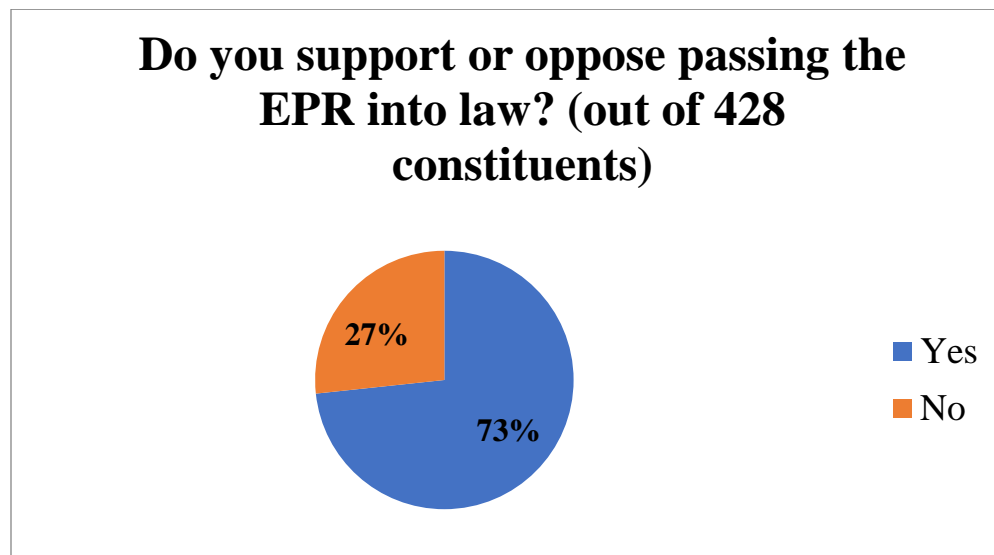
The most frequent concerns expressed about meeting the goals of CLCPA were: how costs will be passed down to consumers and reliability of existing infrastructure, such as our electric grid.

Question 2: The Extended Producer Responsibility Act (A.5322A) (“EPR”) is a proposed environmental bill that would require producers (person or companies that create the products) of consumer packaging and paper products to pay to recycle these materials. Producers are prohibited from selling or distributing any covered materials in New York unless they have an approved producer responsibility plan. The program will also create a funding mechanism to cover the costs of the program or cover the cost of a municipality for partaking in the program. The funding program will be structured in a way that includes incentives to reward producers for product design that reduce waste, increases the recyclability of the product, and removes toxics in packaging. Charges will also be adjusted based on the post-consumer recycled content rate of the covered material.

Question 2A: Are you familiar with the EPR legislation?



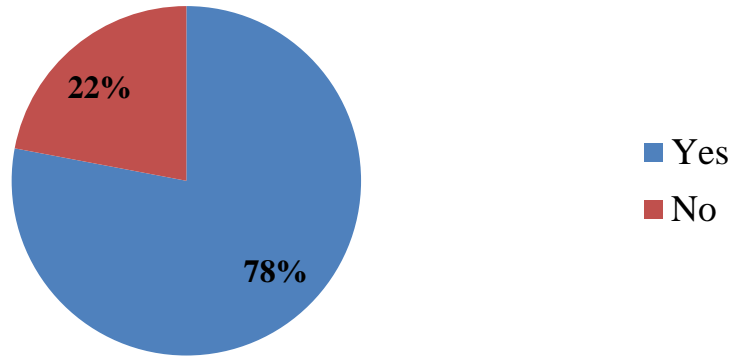
Question 2B: Do you support or oppose passing the EPR into law?



Many constituents think that the EPR legislation will reduce litter and pollution, but others have concerns about costs that will be passed down to consumers and small businesses.

Question 3: Expanded bottle bill. There is a proposal for a bill (A.6353) that would expand the type of beverages eligible for a deposit and redemption under the current Bottle Bill and raise the deposit refund value to ten cents. Do you support passing an expanded bottle bill into law?

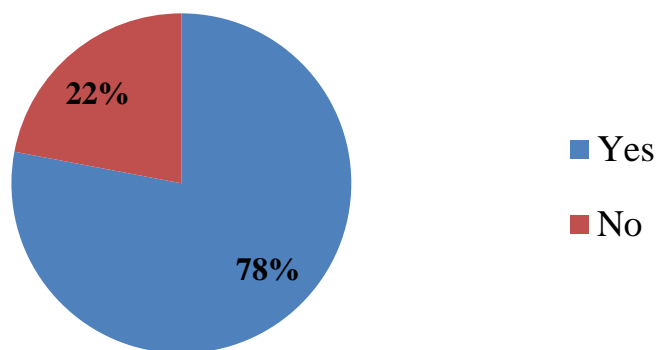
Do you support passing an expanded bottle bill into law? (out of 504 constituents)



Constituents who explained their answer to this question think that the expanded bottle bill will help to promote recycling and protect our environment. However, concerns were raised regarding where exactly the money collected by bottle redemption will be directed to and the limits on which types of containers are eligible for redemption.

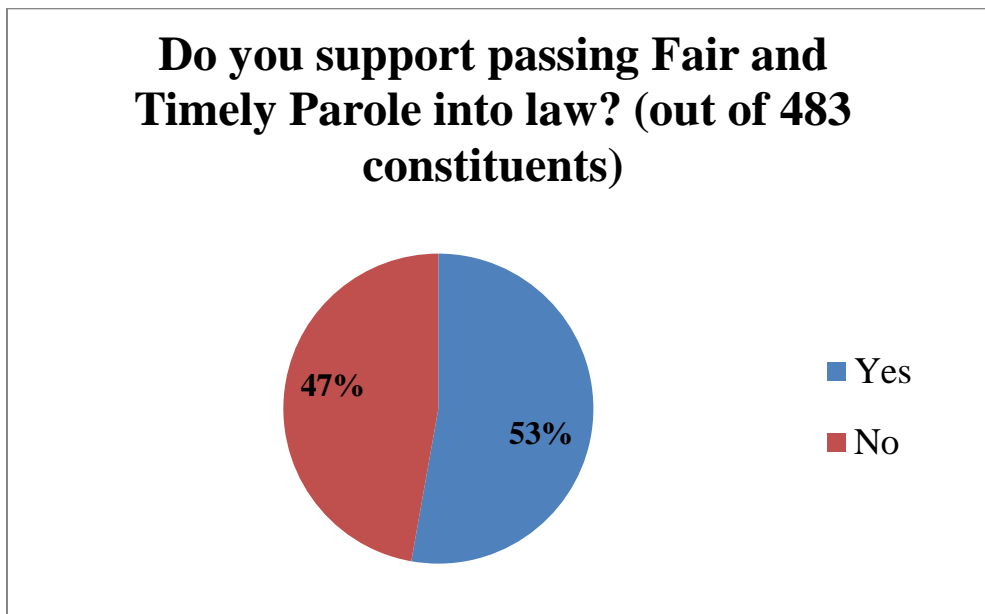
Question 4: The New York Medical Aid in Dying Act would allow a mentally competent, terminally ill patient to choose to self-administer medication to end his or her life with additional protective measures in place. Do you support passing the Medical Aid in Dying Act into law?

Do you support passing the Medical Aid in Dying Act into law? (out of 504 constituents)



Most constituents support passing the Medical Aid in Dying Act as it promotes bodily autonomy and ensures those with terminal illnesses have a peaceful, dignified passing. Nonetheless, some raise concerns about potential for abuse and/or have moral, ethical, or religious objections to medical aid in dying.

Question 5: There is a bill proposed that is referred to as “Fair and Timely Parole.” This bill A.162 (Weprin) would require the board to release people to community supervision when their minimum period of incarceration has been served unless there is a clearly articulated current public safety reason to keep them in prison. On subsequent board appearances, there would be a presumption of release unless the board determines by a preponderance of evidence that an inmate is unlikely to avoid violating the law and that his or her release poses an unreasonable public safety risk. Do you support passing Fair and Timely Parole into law?

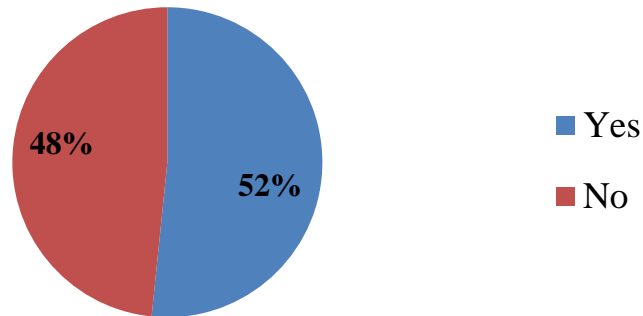


Comments that constituents have about Fair and Timely Parole are generally:

- *The impact on promoting public safety, especially for parolees who committed serious crimes.*
- *How the legislation will be written to monitor parolees on their release from prison.*
- *The legislation's benefits regarding rehabilitation programs and recidivism rates.*

Question 6: The Raise the Age (RTA) law changed the age that a child can be prosecuted as an adult to 18 years of age in criminal cases in New York State. Prior to RTA, New York was one of two remaining states to hold 16-year-olds criminally responsible. There are some who have called for changes to the RTA law due to some ambiguity and the shift in these cases to Family Courts which has led to youth cases being prosecuted in Family Court, where the individual is often released to their family instead of incarceration. In some instances, they are retained in a youth facility while awaiting court appointments. Do you support changing the Raise the Age law?

**Do you support changing the Raise
the Age law?
(out of 463 constituents)**

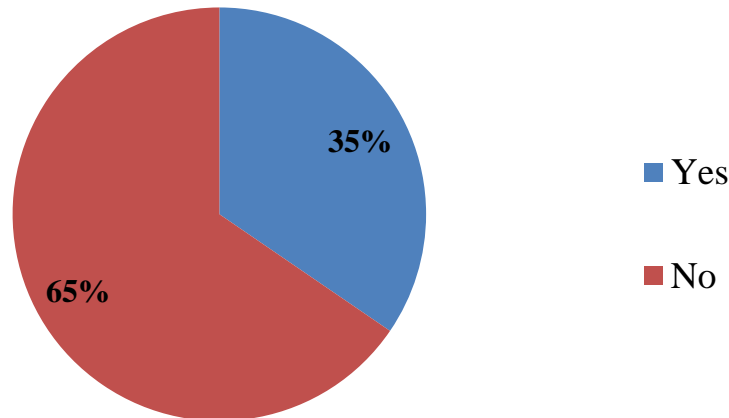


The top 3 most common reasons why constituents think that RTA should be changed are:

- *Younger individuals should face the consequences of their actions, especially if the crime is violent in nature.*
- *The current approach threatens public safety and poses risks to communities across the district, especially if young people who committed violent crimes are released.*
- *The ineffectiveness of the Family Court system in handling youth criminal cases, particularly if the case is complex and/or violent in nature.*

Question 7: There are groups who are advocating for and legislation that would allow early release of all elderly New York inmates, irrespective of the nature of the crime that they were convicted of, who are 55 years of age and older out of prisons and onto early parole. Do you support allowing the parole board to evaluate all inmates who are 55 years old and older for early release from prisons? Note: the proposed bill does not mandate release but allows the Board of Parole to make the evaluations and the discretion to make the decisions.

Do you support allowing the parole board to evaluate all inmates who are 55 years old and older for early release from prisons? (out of 495 constituents)

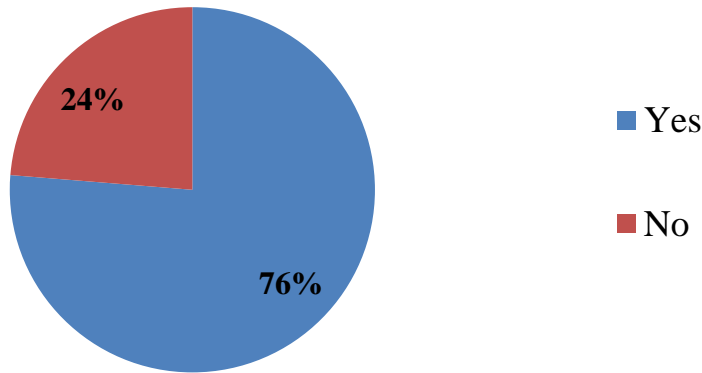


The top 3 most common concerns about Elder Parole are:

- *If elder parole is enacted, the nature of the crime should be considered when incarcerated individuals go before the parole board. Most, if not all, argue those who have committed violent crimes (e.g., rape, murder) should not be eligible for elder parole.*
- *The age of evaluation should be raised, as they believe many who are 55 still have the mental and physical capabilities to commit violent crimes.*
- *Elder parole is a public safety issue and the feelings of victims that have been affected by crimes and/or the chance of recidivism might be affected by its implementation.*

Question 8: Migrants and asylum seekers are currently unable to seek expedited work authorizations from the federal government. An asylum seeker is someone who is seeking protection from danger in his or her home country. Asylum seekers cannot apply for protection until they arrive in the United States. Crossing an international border for asylum is not illegal and the asylum process can take years to complete. Allowing expedited work permits would allow asylum seekers to address some of the workforce challenges that businesses in NYS are facing, move them out of migrant shelters, and they would pay NYS taxes. There is a bill in NYS that proposes a temporary state work permit system, even though the authority to grant the permits is considered a federal authority. Do you support NYS legislation to allow asylum seekers to work in New York State?

Do you support NYS legislation to allow asylum seekers to work in New York State? (out of 506 constituents)



The top 3 most common reasons why constituents support legislation for asylum seeker expedited work permits are:

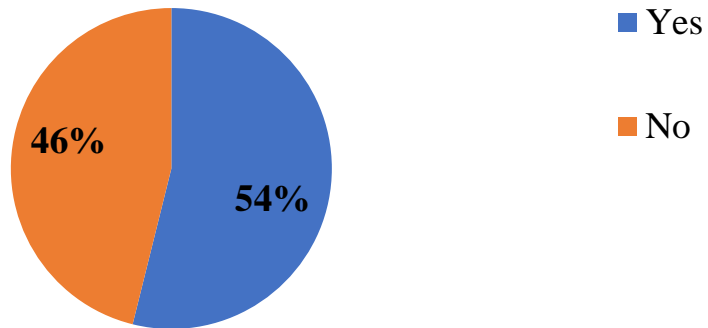
- *Shortages of workers in certain industries*
- *Support asylum seekers' contributions to our communities and state.*
- *Economic benefits at the local and state level such as increased tax revenue.*

The top 3 most common reasons why constituents oppose this legislation are:

- *Decreased job opportunities or lower wages for permanent residents or U.S. citizens.*
- *It is necessary to prioritize the needs of U.S. citizens over asylum seekers/migrants.*
- *Strain on resources like housing and social services.*

Question 9: Five states plus Washington D.C. provide health coverage to income-eligible adults regardless of immigration status as of July 2023. Do you think that asylum seekers in New York should be eligible for health benefits?

**Do you think that asylum seekers in New York should be eligible for health benefits?
(out of 477 constituents)**

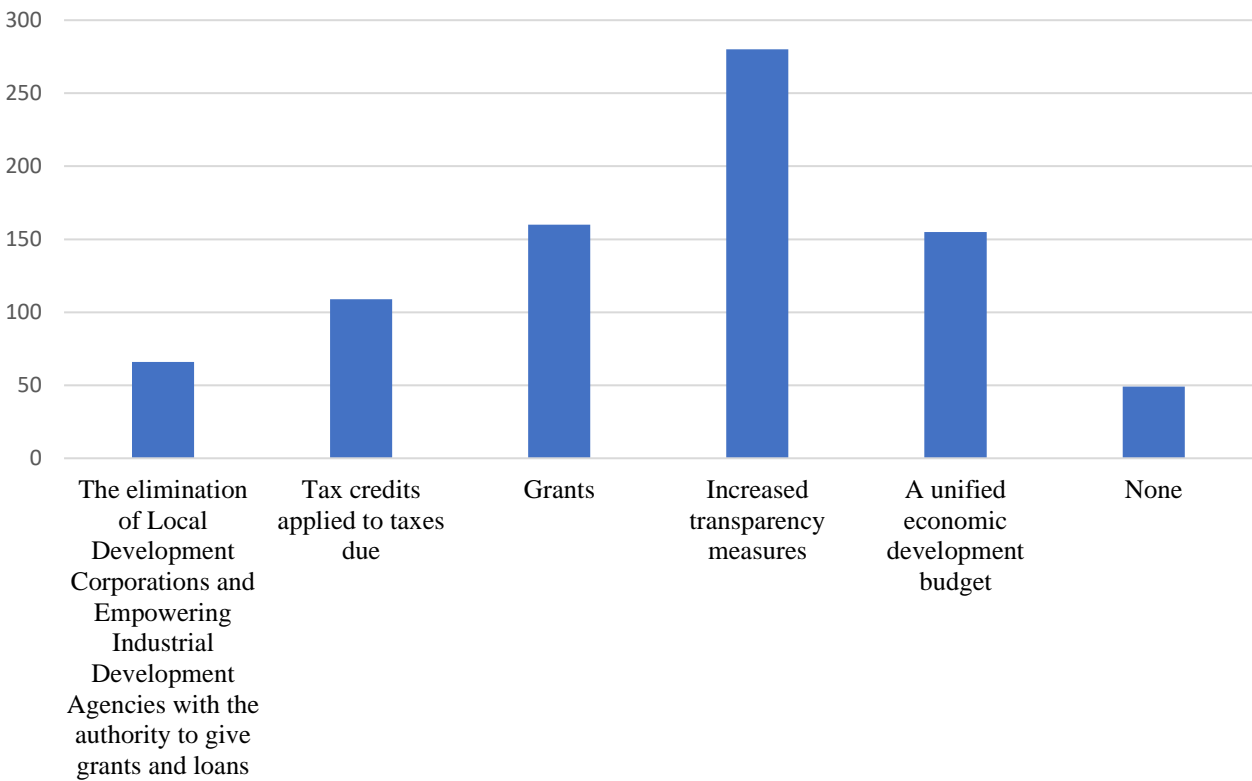


For those that answered “why” to this question, the most common reasons that constituents are opposed to health benefits granted to asylum seekers are:

- Already high taxes and healthcare costs in NYS, so they will naturally become higher if asylum seekers are eligible for health benefits.*
- Health benefits should be eligible only for legal citizens, particularly those who are homeless and/or veterans.*
- Asylum seekers should be able to receive health benefits from their employer like most U.S. citizens.*

Question 10: There has been discussion around economic development spending and how we can improve how the state invests in funding projects and targeting incentives. Which of the following proposals, if any, do you support as economic development spending reforms?

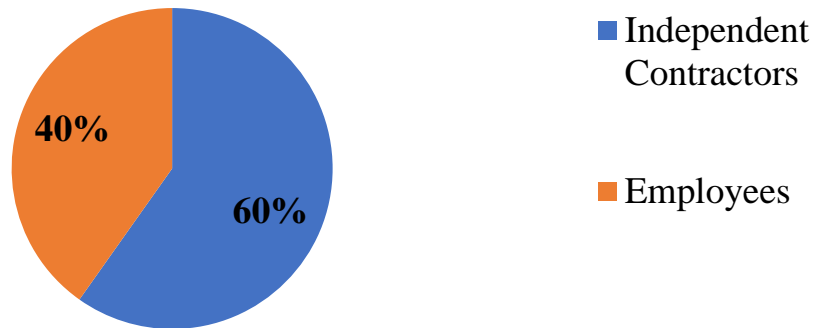
Which of the following proposals, if any, do you support as economic development spending reforms?



The overwhelming majority of constituents that did not select any of the above economic development spending reforms stated that they did not know enough about this topic. However, there were a few suggestions to increase transparency in economic development spending and/or overall skepticism in economic development spending in general.

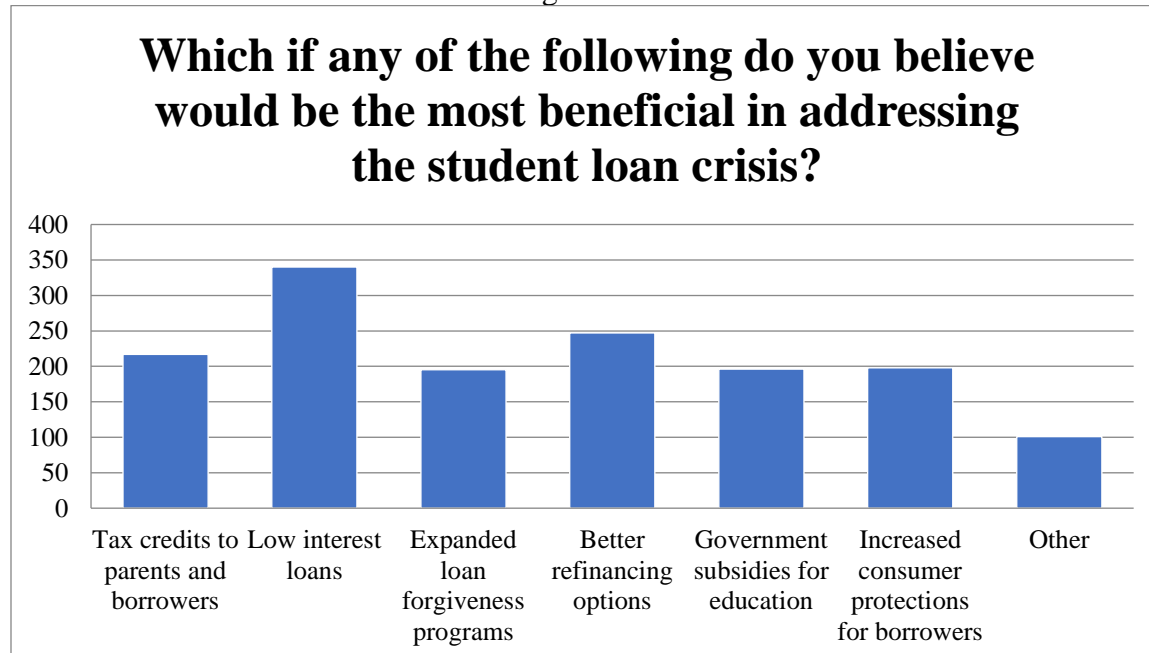
Question 11: Gig economy workers are generally treated as independent contractors because of the nature of the work and services provided. Should gig employees be classified as independent contractors or as employees?

**Should gig employees be classified as independent contractors or as employees?
(out of 403 constituents)**



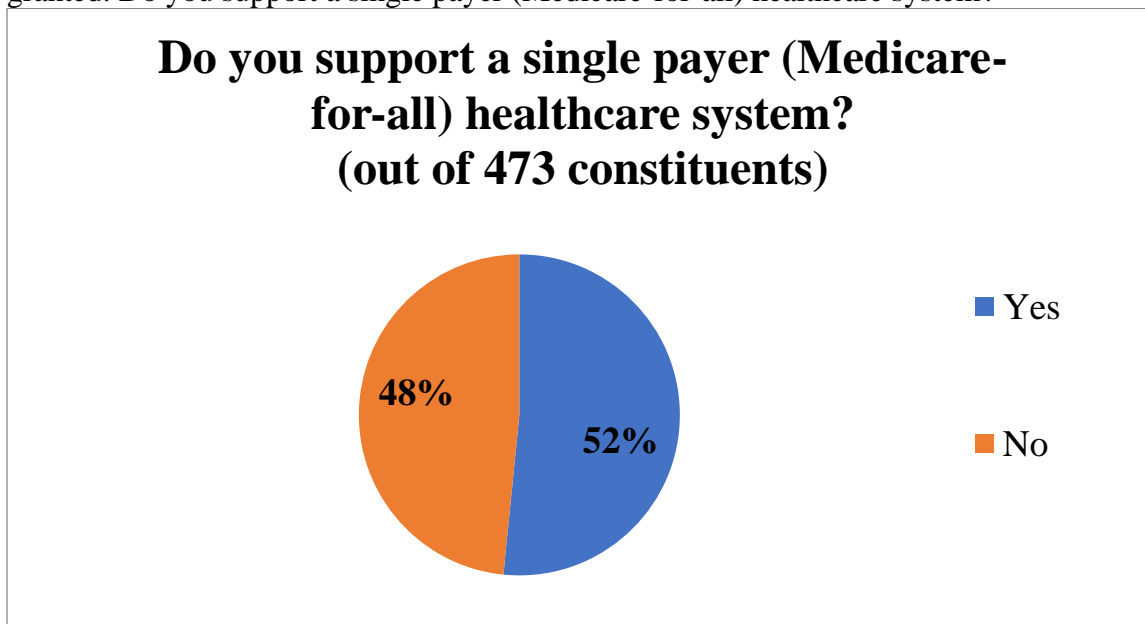
Among our “why” responses, those who thought that gig employees should be classified as independent contractors commonly mentioned that being an independent contractor allows for more flexibility and control of work schedules/hours and eligibility for tax benefits. On the other hand, those that choose employees argued that independent contractors are more likely to get exploited by companies and employees are subject to benefits, protections, and fair compensation.

Question 12: The burden of student loan debt has a profound impact on the economy and not only impacts the financial decisions of the student borrowers but also the parents and guardians who may assist in financing higher education. Which if any of the following do you believe would be the most beneficial in addressing the student loan crisis?



A few additional suggestions that constituents had in addressing the student loan crisis include better education about the borrowing and repayment process to college students, debt forgiveness programs for certain high-demand industries (e.g., healthcare and education), or free tuition for public education.

Question 13: A current bill (A.7897 Paulin) proposing a single payer healthcare system in New York is pending in the NYS Legislature. The legislation proposes to pay for the program through a progressive payroll tax for individuals and businesses. There would also be a graduated tax on income: Those with taxable incomes of \$50,000 or less would be exempt if enrolled in Medicare, those with taxable incomes of \$25,000 or less would be exempt overall. Taxes would be scaled up as enrollment grows. The federal government would need to grant a waiver to use federal funds for a single payer plan as well which makes a program contingent on the waiver being granted. Do you support a single payer (Medicare-for-all) healthcare system?



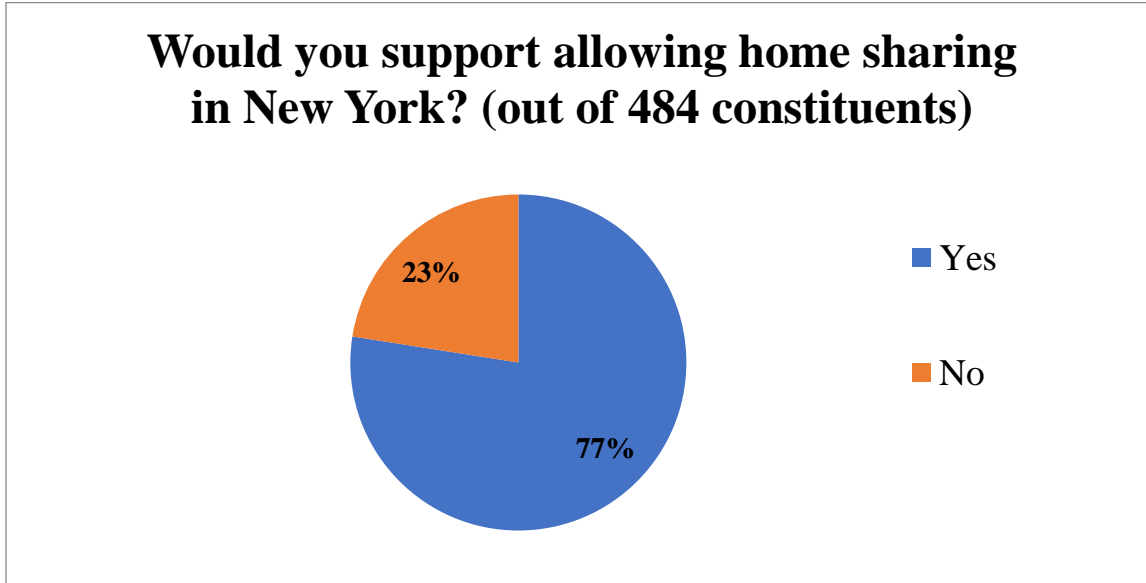
Amongst our “why” responses, most who support a single-payer healthcare system in NYS believe that healthcare is a human right (and therefore it should be accessible to all) and/or find private health insurance to be confusing, difficult to navigate, and costly. On the other hand, most who oppose single-payer contend that government intervention in the healthcare marketplace will do more bad than good and worry about the immense cost that single-payer will have on already overburdened taxpayers.

Question 14: Many families struggle to find affordable and reliable childcare and childcare centers struggle to retain staff due to salary constraints. What do you think would be helpful to address the current childcare crisis? Please see below for the top 5 topics that came up the most often.

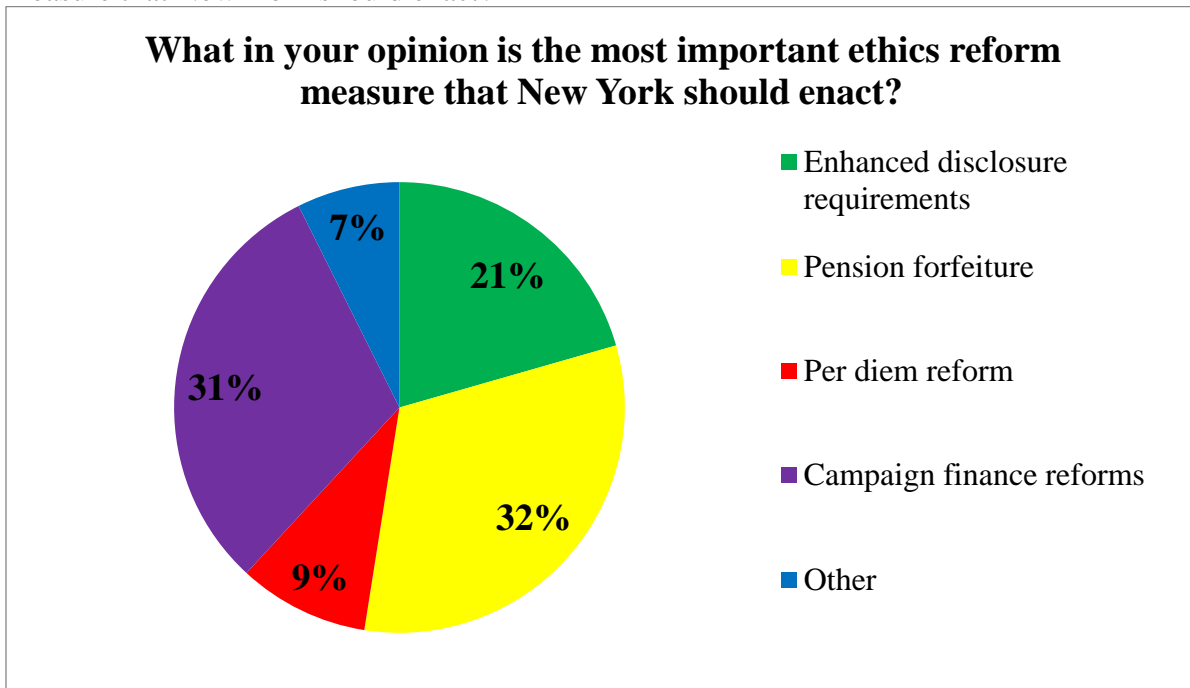
1. Government subsidies and implementation of tax credits to childcare centers, especially those that are small businesses and/or locally owned.
2. Employer-sponsored childcare
3. Increased child tax credits for families who have young children and/or children in childcare.

4. Increased pay for childcare workers.
5. Financially plan for children and childcare in advance.

Question 15: Vacation rental websites, such as Airbnb, HomeAway, and VRBO, are online marketplaces that enable home-sharing. Provided that they are required to pay all related taxes and are compliant with current building codes, would you support these types of businesses in New York?

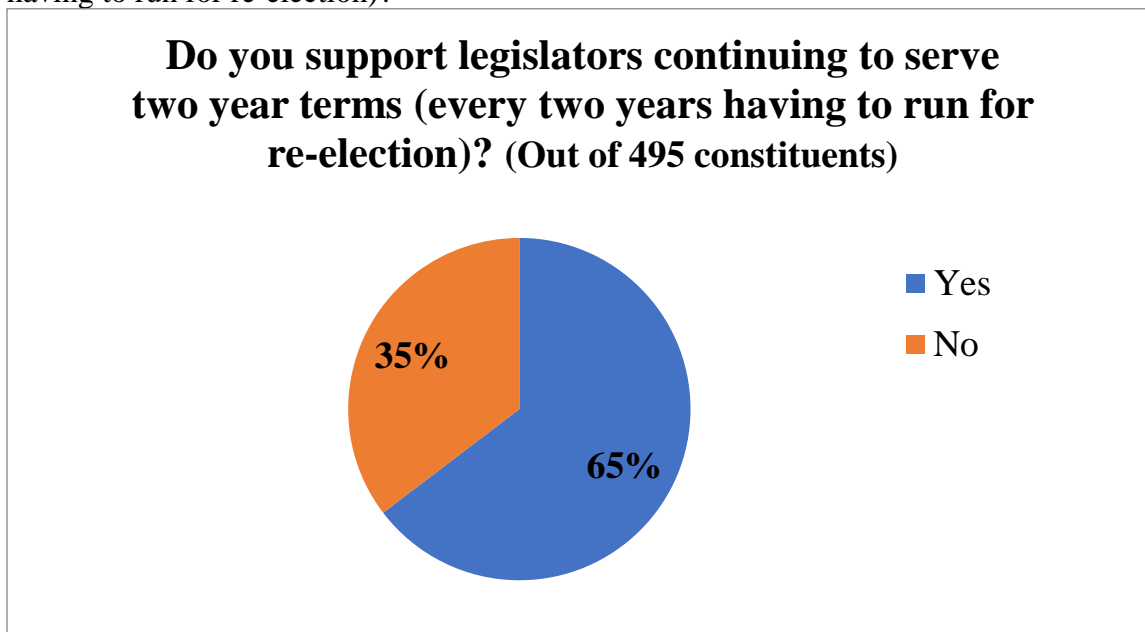


Question 16: Despite additional charges of corruption in politics there has been little progress in the way of meaningful ethics reform. What in your opinion is the most important ethics reform measure that New York should enact?



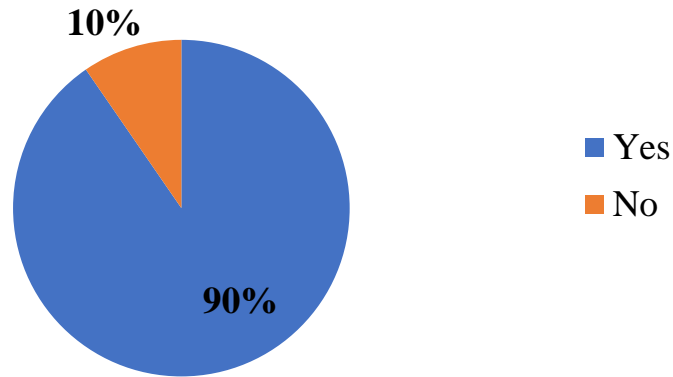
Question 17: Term Length - Currently, New York State legislators are elected to a two-year term.

Question 17A: Do you support legislators continuing to serve two-year terms (every two years having to run for re-election)?



Question 17B: If you answered no to (a), would you support a constitutional amendment that would increase the length of a term to four years?

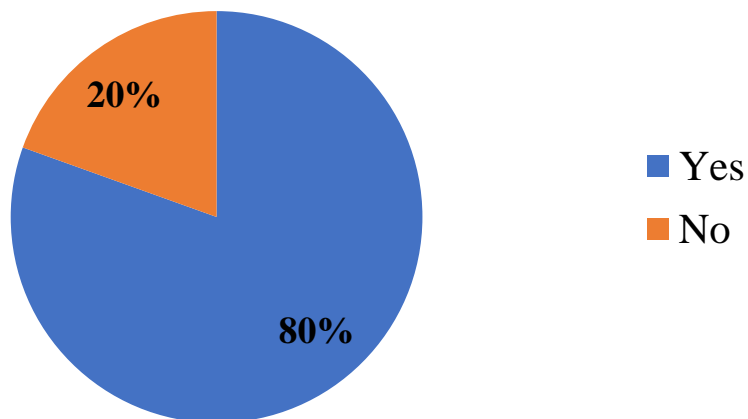
If you answered no to (a), would you support a constitutional amendment that would increase in the length of a term to four years? (Out of 179 constituents)



Question 18: Term Limits – Currently New York State legislators are not subject to term limits, which means they can run for an unlimited number of two-year terms.

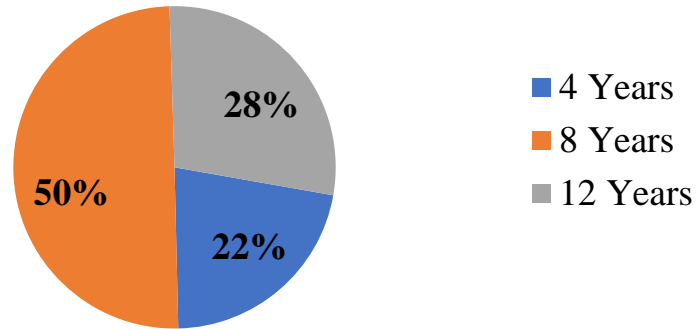
Question 18A: Should legislators be subject to term limits?

**Should legislators be subject to term limits?
(Out of 497 constituents)**



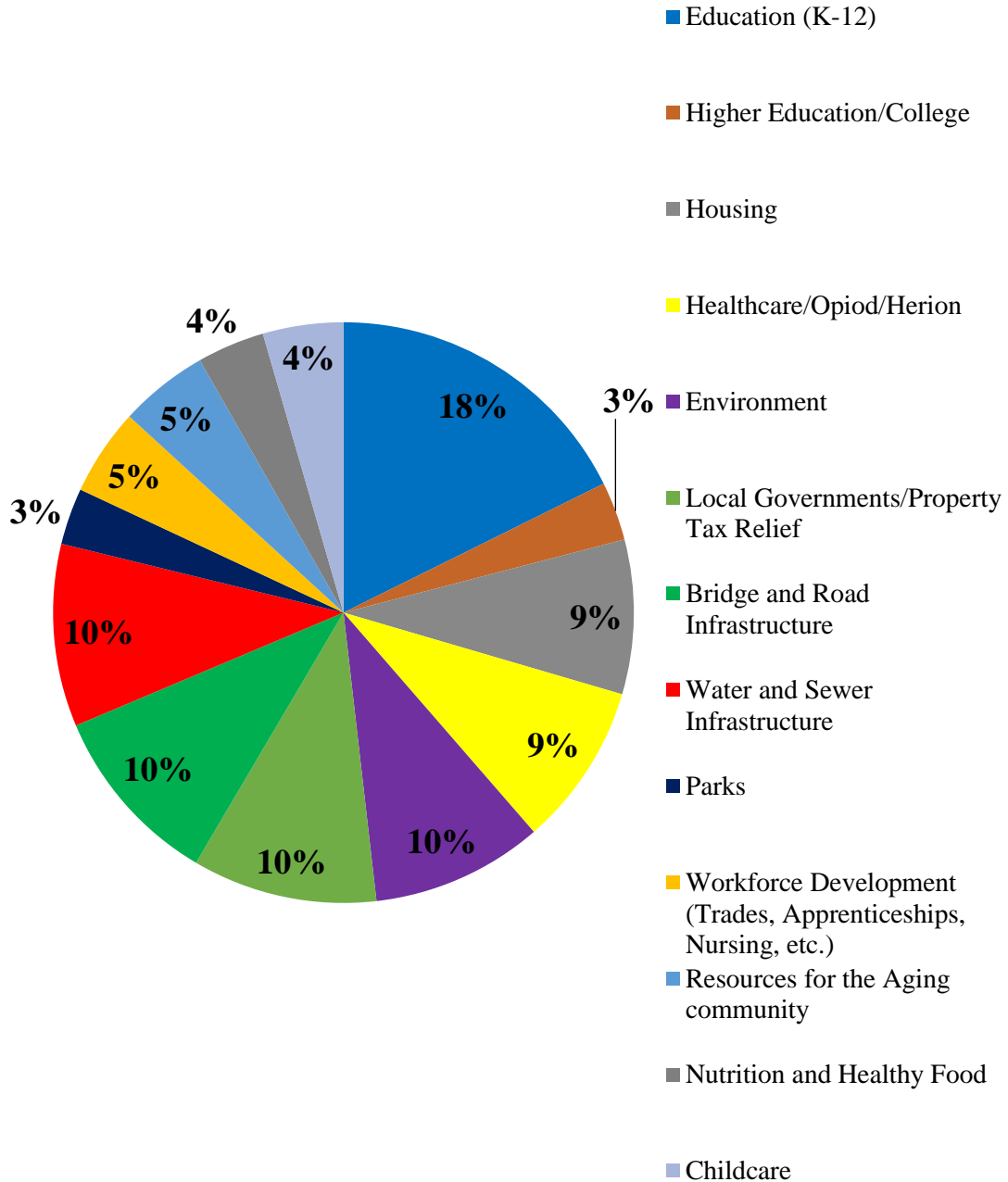
Question 18B: If you answered yes to (a), how many total years of service should a legislator be limited to?

If you answered yes to (a) , how many total years of service should a legislator be limited to? (Out of 389 constituents)

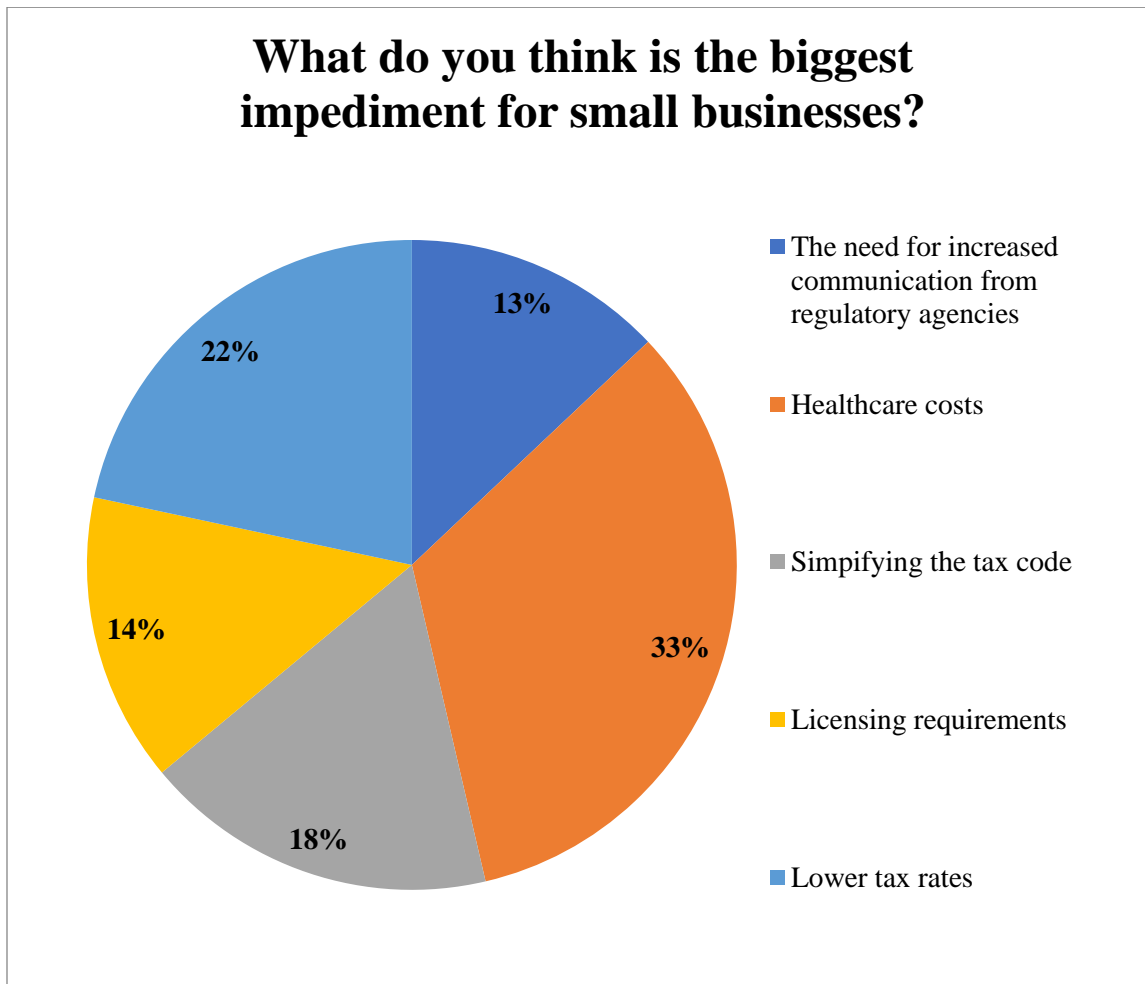


Question 19: When considering how to allocate the State's financial resources, which categories are your highest priorities?

When considering how to allocate the State's financial resources, which categories are your highest priorities?



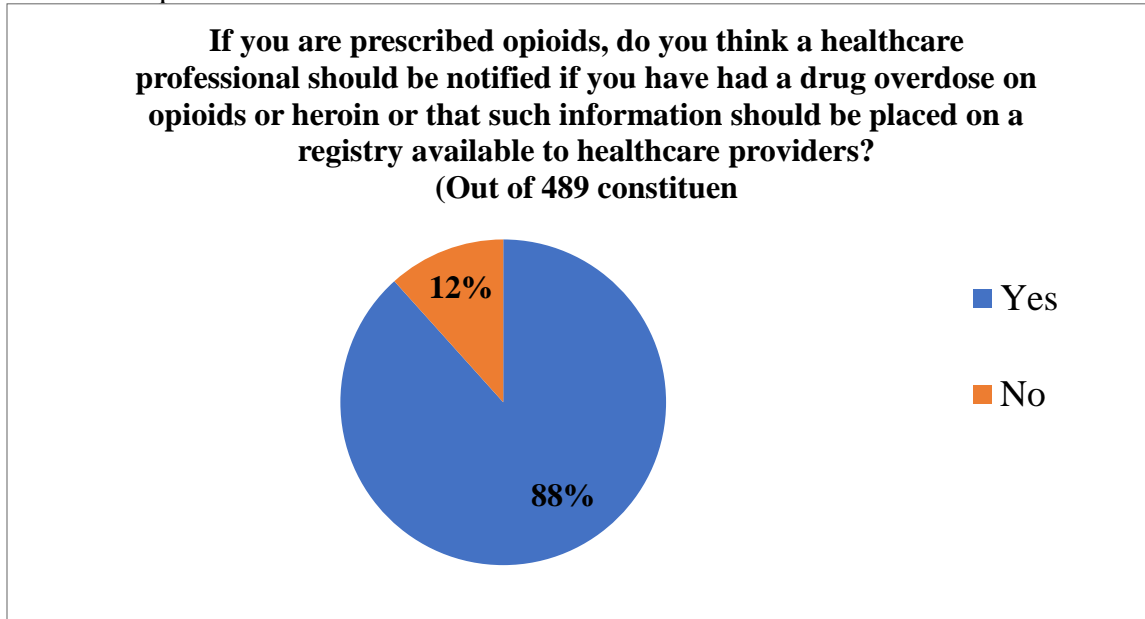
Question 20: Supporting small businesses is a priority of mine and I frequently hear about the need for regulatory reforms to remove onerous burdens on small businesses to allow them to grow and succeed. What do you think is the biggest impediment for small businesses?



Question 21: The unfortunate reality of the heroin epidemic is that many of us have been touched by it in some shape or form. What obstacles do you see in prevention, treatment, and recovery? What if any thoughts do you have on how we can be more effective in battling this growing problem? Please see below for the top 5 topics that came up the most often.

1. Education by parents, schools, and communities about the negative consequences of drug use, particularly for elementary and middle school students.
2. Harsher penalties for drug dealers as well as federal, state, and local law enforcement assistance in identifying, capturing, and prosecuting dealers.
3. Expansion of treatment programs and facilities, affordable housing, and increased availability of Narcan.
4. Increased border security.
5. Increased mental health treatment opportunities.

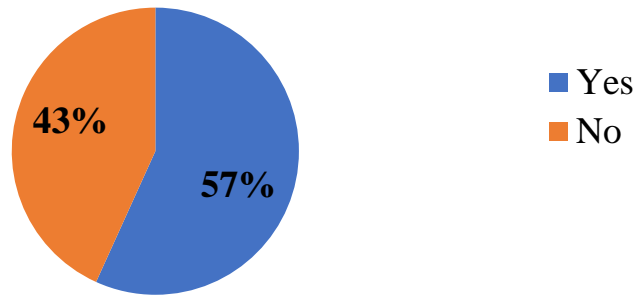
Question 22: Just over 90 % of patients continued to receive prescription opioids after an overdose. More than half receive the prescription from the same doctor who prescribed the drugs that led to the overdose. If you are prescribed opioids, do you think a healthcare professional should be notified if you have had a drug overdose on opioids or heroin or that such information should be placed on a registry available to healthcare providers before she/he prescribes additional opioids?



In the why portion of this question, most constituents approve of a registry because it saves lives and promotes accountability for healthcare professionals.

Question 23: Overdose Prevention Centers (OPCs) have been proposed as a method of preventing deaths from overdoses. The sites provide a clean and safe environment and prevent overdoses by having immediate access to life-saving resources. Individuals can use pre-obtained drugs under the supervision of medical professionals. Staff members of these programs will provide sterile injection supplies, collect used hypodermic needles and syringes, and teach patients about safe consumption practices. Patients will also be able to access referrals to treatment, job training, and other social services. Would you support safe injection sites that allow supervised drug use?

**Would you support safe injection sites that
allow supervised drug use?
(Out of 465 constituents)**



Constituents' concerns about safe injection sites that allow supervised drug use is that they enable addiction, address symptoms of addiction instead of the root causes, and normalize drug use among all sects of the population. However, some constituents support safe injection sites as they lessen the stigma of drug addiction and focus on harm reduction.

We received many responses to the open comment section and appreciate your responses. Please see below for the top 5 topics that came up the most often.

1. Lowering property taxes, better management of government spending, and addressing the high cost of living in NYS.
2. Education, specifically expanding school choice, addressing low teacher salaries, and addressing concerns about public school performance.
3. Concerns about crime, specifically bail reform, as well as stronger support for law enforcement and tougher penalties for offenders.
4. Better state management of the asylum seeker/migrant crisis.
5. Improve water, sewer, and road infrastructure.