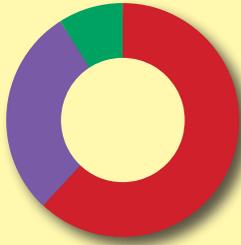




Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo 2019 CONSTITUENT SURVEY RESULTS

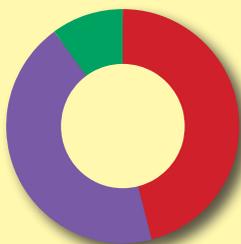
1. Do you support a ban on plastic bags in grocery stores, except for limited purposes?



YES: 61.7%
NO: 29.2 %
UNDECIDED: 8.4%

Recognizing the harmful effects they have on our environment, the 2019-20 state budget we passed implements a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags given out by grocery stores and other retailers. The proposal also authorizes counties and cities to impose a 5-cent fee on paper carryout bags, with 40 percent of the fee going back to the municipalities to help distribute reusable bags and 60 percent going toward the Environmental Protection Fund. Low-income New Yorkers who qualify for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) services will be exempt from the paper bag surcharge. Plastic bags would still be available for certain uses, such as to separate raw meat from other groceries and those that are used to deliver newspapers.

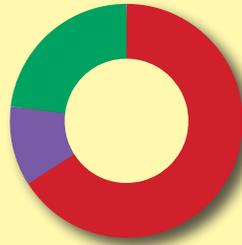
2. Do you support opening up primary elections to voters not registered with a political party?



YES: 45.9%
NO: 43.4 %
UNDECIDED: 10.1%

Currently, only voters registered with a party are able to cast ballots in that party's primary elections. There are two bills that would open primaries; one for state and congressional races, and another for presidential races. Under these bills, "undeclared" voters would be able to vote in any party's primary. However, voters that are registered with a specific party would still only be able to vote in that same party's primary and could not crossover to other primary elections. These bills have been around for several years now, but have not garnered enough support to advance from their initial committee.

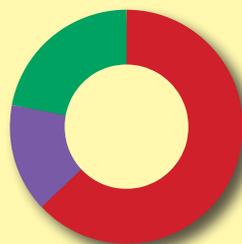
3. Do you support making the state's two percent property tax cap permanent?



YES: 64.7%
NO: 10.4%
UNDECIDED: 23.1%

Keeping taxes in check was the most common issue brought up by survey respondents this year. The final budget makes the two-percent property tax cap permanent, limiting the annual growth of local property taxes to 2% or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower. Implemented in 2012, the tax cap has saved New York property taxpayers \$24.4 billion statewide. Making it permanent will provide taxpayers with predictable tax bills from year to year and guard against skyrocketing double-digit hikes. The budget also continues the phase-in of middle class tax cuts, which, when fully implemented, will be the lowest tax rate in 70 years.

4. Do you support providing incentives to encourage the merger of Towns and Villages?



YES: 62.7%
NO: 14.4%
UNDECIDED: 21.9%

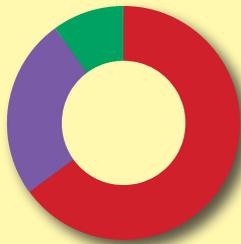
Part of the reason taxes are so high locally is due to the multiple layers of government, each with their own taxing jurisdiction. Consolidating some of these government entities has been a goal of the Governor in recent years. Many residents have been hesitant to accept mergers because of the potential loss of municipal services they rely on, or the concern that their taxes might actually go up. While there were no incentives in the recently passed budget, it's important for me to know that a wide majority of respondents want to move in this direction.



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2019 CONSTITUENT SURVEY RESULTS (continued)

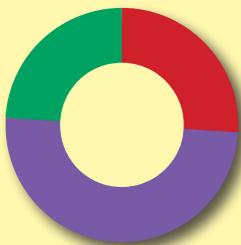
5. Do you support a requirement to check the social media history of anyone applying for a firearm license?



YES: 64.8%
NO: 24.5%
UNDECIDED: 9.8%

There is currently a bill in the State Senate that would require three years' worth of social media activity of anyone applying for a firearms license to be reviewed prior to the license being granted. Such a review would check for "excessive discriminatory content or content that is likely to incite or produce a violent action in or towards others." While it's important to keep firearms out of the hands of those who should not possess them, many concerns have been raised regarding First Amendment rights, due process protections, as well as the cost of implementing such a system. So far, the bill has received much more opposition than support in Albany. It's clear however from the poll response that there is interest in early identification and intervention to prevent gun violence.

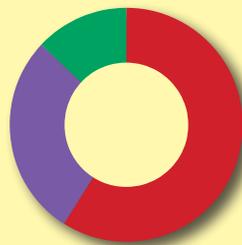
6. Do you support a public financing system for elections where small dollar private donations would be matched by a contribution from a state fund?



YES: 26.1%
NO: 49.6%
UNDECIDED: 22.8%

The influence of wealthy corporate donors has dominated elections in recent years, due in large part to independent expenditure committees that have no spending limits. As part of an ongoing effort to cut down on the influence of "big money" in politics, the final budget established a commission that will make recommendations about creating a public financing system. This optional system would only be used for statewide and state legislative candidates. By leveling the playing field, the goal is to see a wider variety of individuals seek public office.

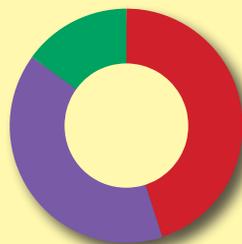
7. Do you support eliminating religious exemptions for childhood vaccinations?



YES: 58.3%
NO: 28.5%
UNDECIDED: 12.2%

The recent outbreak of measles in New York has brought this issue front and center in the State Legislature. There is currently a bill in both houses that would eliminate religious exemptions for vaccines and would only allow exemptions for certain medical reasons. Doctors, public health officials, and education groups have all come out in support of this legislation, but concerns about religious freedoms have also been raised. While no major religion has explicit rules against immunizations, these concerns should be addressed as the legislation is reviewed. It's important that we find a way to protect children without infringing on legitimate religious and medical concerns.

8. Should New York consider a universal health care model, such as Medicare for all?



YES: 45%
NO: 39.9%
UNDECIDED: 14.1%

Access to healthcare has been a common concern among residents across New York State. There is a bill in both the Assembly and Senate that would create a state-run, universal health care model, called the New York Health Plan. This type of healthcare delivery system would ensure coverage for all residents, but questions about the cost and implementation of such a program have slowed its progress in the Legislature. The Assembly and Senate Health Committees are planning a hearing on this bill at the end of the month. Hopefully the information gathered from the testimony provided will give us a clearer picture of the future of the New York Health Plan and if we can realistically implement it here.

9. What do you think should be the Legislature's top priority in 2019?

As in past years, continued economic recovery locally and working to ease the tax burden were frequent responses. Other common responses involved taking steps to protect the environment and combat climate change, improving infrastructure throughout the region, lowering the cost of healthcare, and supporting education. These issues continue to be priorities for me, but as the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, I'm also focused on policies that help grow our local food systems and agricultural industries in the State. Food and farming are a major component of our local and state economy; by supporting this industry we are seeing progress in finding new opportunities for farmers as well as creating new processing and manufacturing jobs.

