

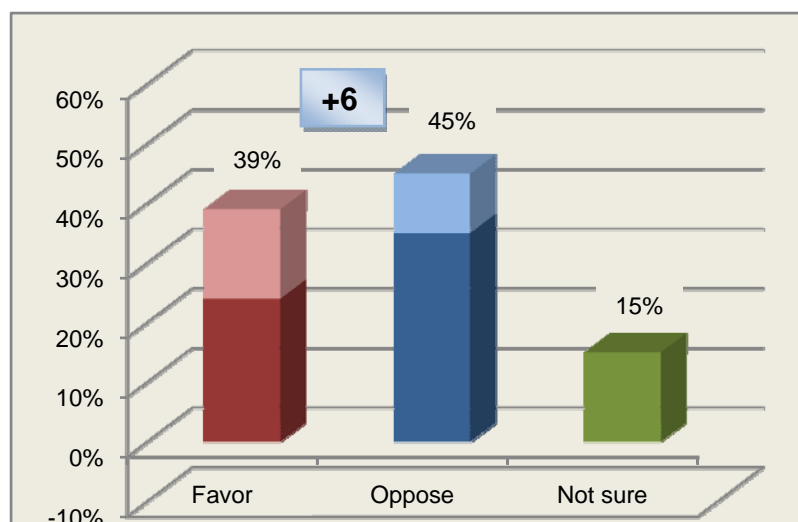


TO: David Rogers
FROM: Lisa Grove, Ben Patinkin and Melissa Chernaik
Grove Insight, Ltd.
RE: Findings from a Survey of Registered Oregon Voters
DATE: March 10, 2009

This analysis is based on 500 interviews among registered Oregon voters. The survey was conducted March 4-8, 2009. The margin of error is plus or minus 4.4 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.

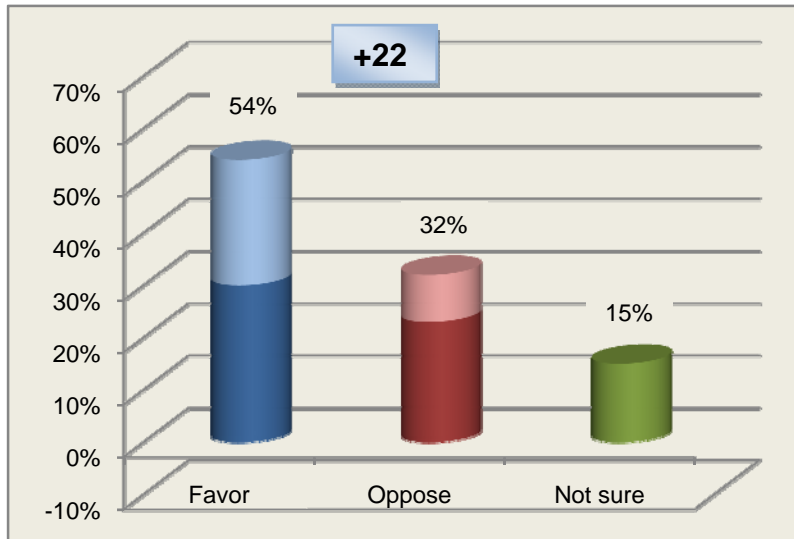
Throughout this report, we refer to "younger" and "older" voters. Younger voters are those age 49 and under and older voters are those age 50 and older.

Oregon Voters Prefer Delaying Implementation of Measure 57 in Order to Prevent Cuts Critical Services.



A slim plurality of voters do not believe that funding for Measure 57 should be a priority right now. By a six point margin, these voters are more likely to oppose prioritizing funding (45%) than favor it (39%). Even more telling, the intensity of feeling is more likely to be found on the no side (35% strongly oppose; 24% strongly favor). Exactly 15% are unsure of their position on this issue.

Last November, Oregon voters overwhelmingly passed Measure 57, which increased sentences for drug trafficking, crimes against the elderly and identity theft, and required increased access to addiction treatment. Lengthening these sentences will cost the state over \$100 million in the next two years for prison operation, and could force the state to borrow up to \$300 million to begin building more prisons. Do you favor or oppose making the funding of this measure a priority right now, or aren't you sure?



Confirming voters' concerns about the priority of Measure 57 funding, when asked whether they favor delaying or modifying the implementation of "the most costly parts of Measure 57," voters offer majority support. More than half (54%) support delaying Measure 57 funding, and less than one-third (32%) are opposed.

Given the severity of the projected state budget deficit, some have proposed delaying or modifying the implementation of the most costly parts of Measure 57 and, instead, would like to use that money to reduce the size of proposed cuts to community based addiction treatment, mental health services and other critical human services. Having heard this, do you favor or oppose the proposal to delay or modify implementation of Measure 57, or aren't you sure?

Not only do these voters favor delaying implementation of Measure 57, they are also more likely to support a candidate that

agrees with them on the issue. Over one-third (36%) say they are more likely to support a candidate who supports a delay in Measure 57 reforms. Only 14% say they would oppose such a candidate. A plurality (44%) say a candidate's position on the issue makes no difference to them either way. In other words, delaying implementation does not appear to be a dangerous move, given the current circumstances.

Let's say you agreed with a legislative candidate running in your district on most issues. Would you be more likely or less likely to support that candidate if they favored delaying the implementation of the most costly parts of Measure 57, which passed overwhelmingly in November 2008, or doesn't it make a difference to you either way – or aren't you sure?

Much more likely	14%	36%
Somewhat more likely	22%	
No difference	44%	
Somewhat less likely	6%	
Much less likely	8%	14%
Not sure	6%	

A Solid Majority of Voters Favor Treating 15, 16 and 17 Year Old Juvenile Offenders More Leniently.

Voters are supportive of allowing judges to reduce the sentences of 15, 16 and 17 year olds who have served out half of their sentence. Over six in 10 Oregonians (62%) favor this approach to juvenile offenders, while about one-quarter (24%) oppose it.

In addition, Oregonians are particularly supportive of a “second look” and more leniency in prison sentences for juveniles convicted of “less serious crimes, such as robbery and assault.” Two-thirds (66%) say they support such an approach, while only one-quarter (26%) are opposed.

Voters Favor More Leniency in Sentencing for Juvenile Offenders – Potentially Reducing the Sentence for Less Serious Crimes Is Particularly Popular

Currently, Oregon treats some 15, 16, and 17 year olds as adults in the criminal justice system. The legislature is currently considering a proposal to give youth that are convicted as adults for crimes that include serious and violent offenses, the ability to go back before a judge halfway through their sentence to get a second look. The judge would then decide, using a risk assessment correctional report, whether probation is most appropriate for the future rehabilitation of the young person, or whether the youth should be required to serve out the remainder of their sentence.

OR

Currently, Oregon treats some 15, 16, and 17 year olds as adults in the criminal justice system. The legislature is currently considering a proposal to give youth that are convicted as adults for less serious crimes, such as robbery and assault, the ability to go back before a judge halfway through their sentence to get a second look. The judge would then decide, using a risk assessment correctional report, whether probation is most appropriate for the future rehabilitation of the young person, or whether the youth should be required to serve out the remainder of their sentence.

	Serious crimes		Less serious crimes	
Support, strongly	36%	62%	40%	66%
Support, not strongly	26%		26%	
Oppose, not strongly	5%		8%	
Oppose, strongly	19%	24%	18%	26%
Not sure	14%		8%	