

--State Rep. Cheryl Youakim--
 2016 Online Legislative Survey Results Summary

Dear Neighbors,

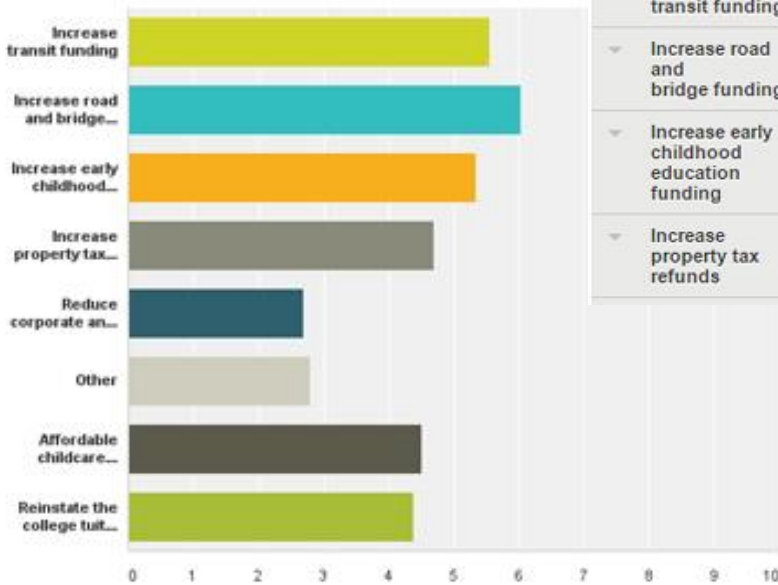
Earlier this spring, and several times throughout the past several months, I encouraged residents of our district to take my online legislative survey so I could hear directly from you about your priorities. It was helpful to go into session with these priorities in mind. I thought you would like to see a general summary of those survey results. I also received many comments and helpful background information from many of you which are too lengthy to share here, but I appreciate hearing from you and I always welcome community input by email at rep.cheryl.youakim@house.mn or phone at 651-296-9889.

Thank you,
 Cheryl Youakim
 State Representative

Overall, respondents noted their top three priorities for using the surplus were increasing transit funding, road and bridge funding, and increasing access to early childhood education, followed closely by increasing property tax refunds. You can see weighted averages below of how respondents ranked their choices and a spreadsheet with the top four selections.

Q3 Last year's legislature left \$1 billion on the bottom line to pay for a Transportation Bill and a Tax bill. Sound state budgeting and a growing economy have added to that to produce a \$1.2 billion surplus. Which uses of the surplus do you support? (Please rank 1 most important and 8 least important. If no "other", rank it last or note your "other" in the comment section at the end of the survey.)

Answered: 189 Skipped: 17

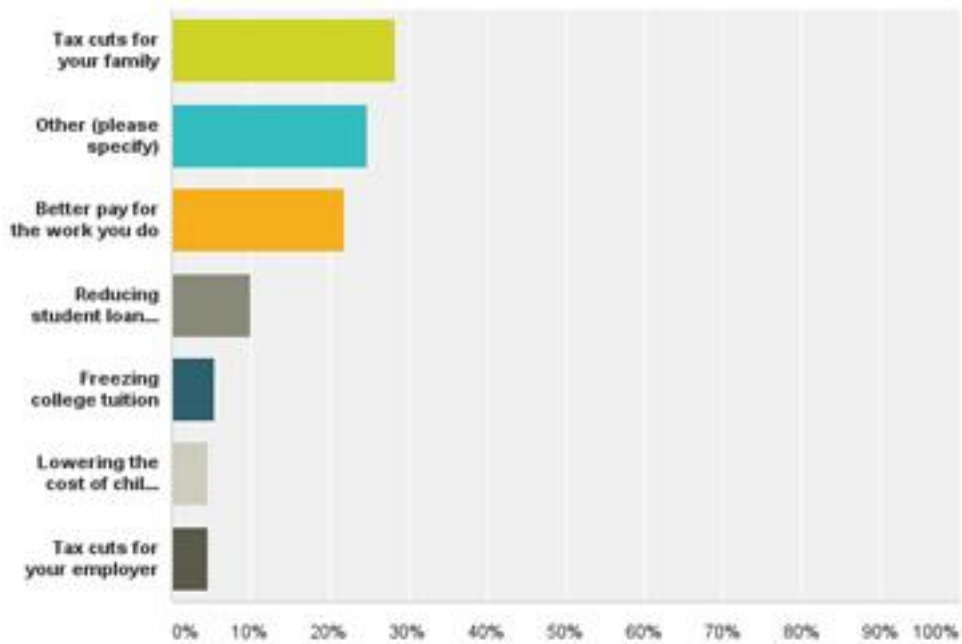


	1	2	3	4
Increase transit funding	20.18% 22	19.27% 21	18.35% 20	13.76% 15
Increase road and bridge funding	20.18% 22	28.44% 31	19.27% 21	15.60% 17
Increase early childhood education funding	18.35% 20	13.76% 15	19.27% 21	11.93% 13
Increase property tax refunds	16.51% 18	11.01% 12	11.93% 13	10.09% 11

When it came to helping your family's economic situation, respondents favored tax cuts targeted toward helping their family, rather than tax cuts for their employer. There were a wide array of "other" suggestions which I took note of, and better pay was the third most important factor for helping personal economies. Reducing student loan debt and controlling college costs were also important to respondents.

Q4 What policy would help improve your family's economic situation the most?

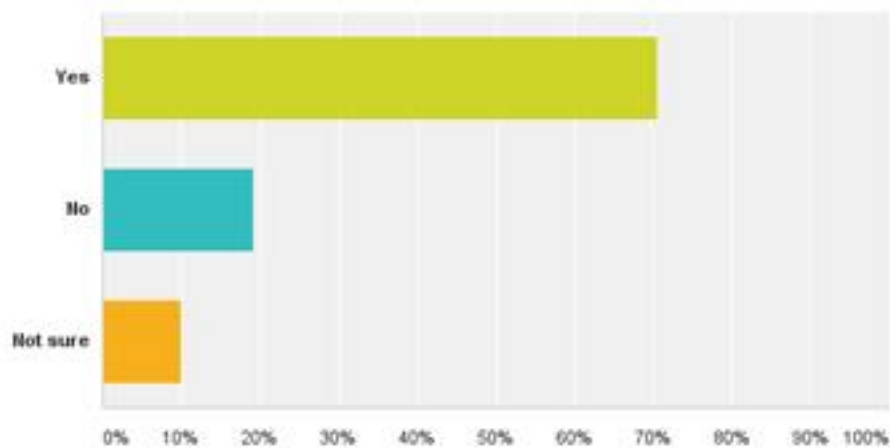
Answered: 189 Skipped: 17



Respondents were broadly supportive of a quarter-cent increase in the metro wide tax to support bus and light rail expansion.

Q5 Do you support a quarter-cent increase in the metro-wide transit tax to build out our light rail and bus rapid transit system?

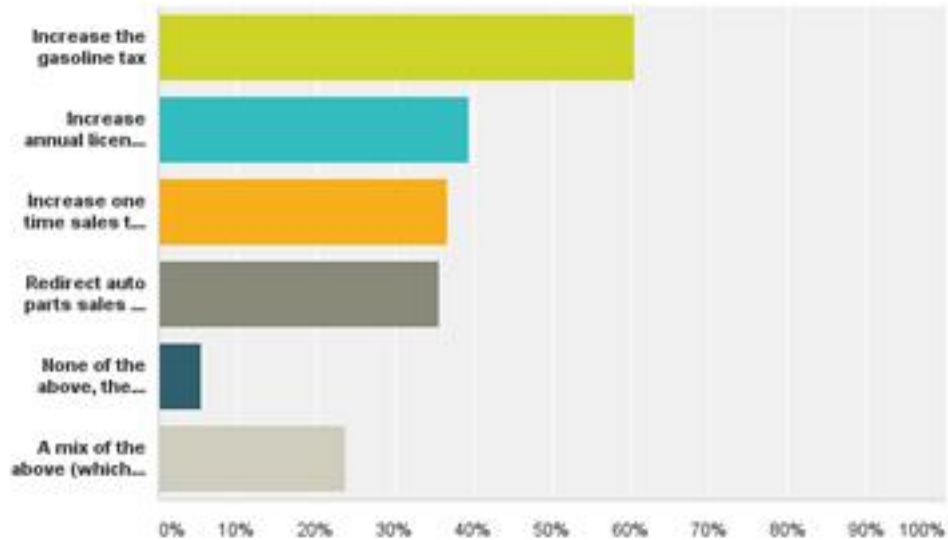
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Overall, my assessment is that respondents favor a number of tools to address our transportation funding shortfall, but in general they favored increasing new revenue from several sources to address our funding problem now, including: increasing the gas tax, increasing license tab fees, and increasing sales tax on auto purchases.

Q6 Just to maintain current road and bridge conditions, the Governor's transportation task force concluded an additional \$6 billion over 10 years is needed. Do you support increasing any of these transportation funding sources (which ones)?

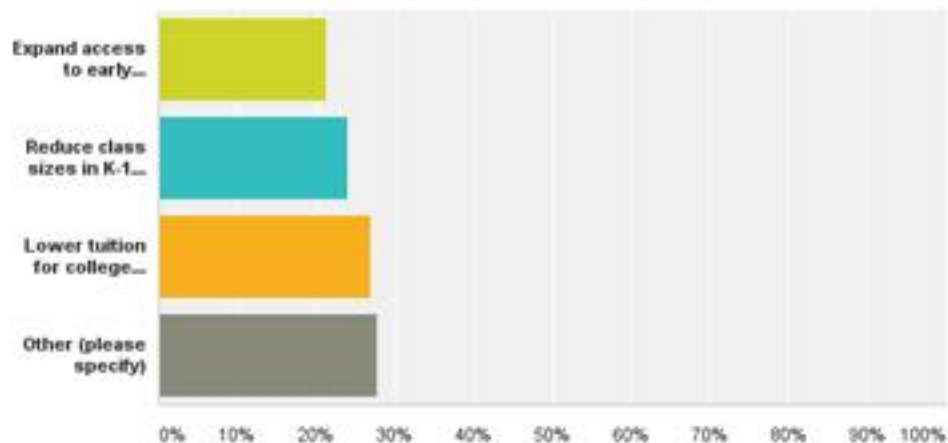
Answered: 189 Skipped: 17



When asked what's next for education, there was a wide variety of responses indicated by the large number of respondents who chose "other". Some wanted a mix of all of the above, and many raised more specific concerns - charter school performance reviews, moving to a year-long school year, and many others.

Q7 The 2015 legislative session provided a 2% increase in K-12 education funding in 2016 and 2017. What's next for education?

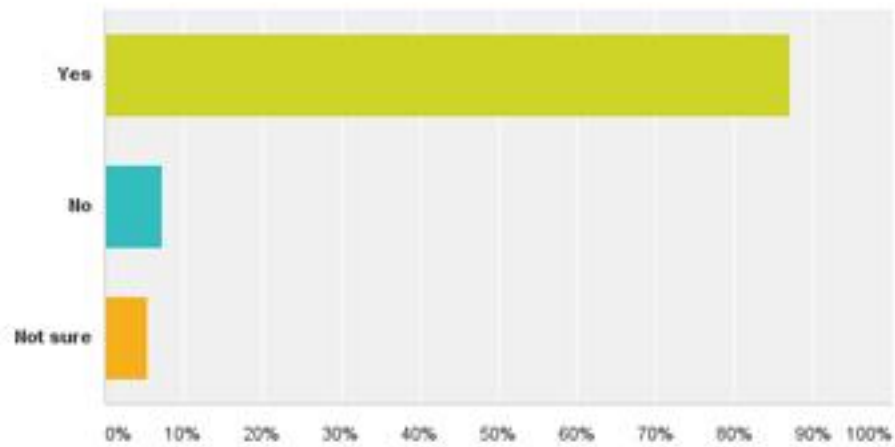
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Respondents supported increased campaign finance transparency for special interest groups by a broad margin.

Q8 Should outside special interest groups that can spend unlimited amounts of money in elections on independent mailings and ads be required to disclose their identity and the total amount of spending?

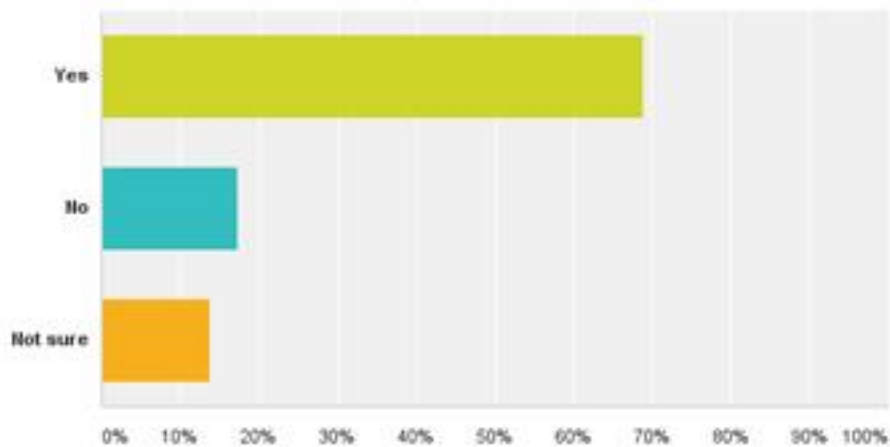
Answered: 189 Skipped: 17



Respondents also favored legislation requiring access to earned sick leave and safe time for workers.

Q9 Would you support a law requiring access to earned sick leave and safe time for Minnesota workers?

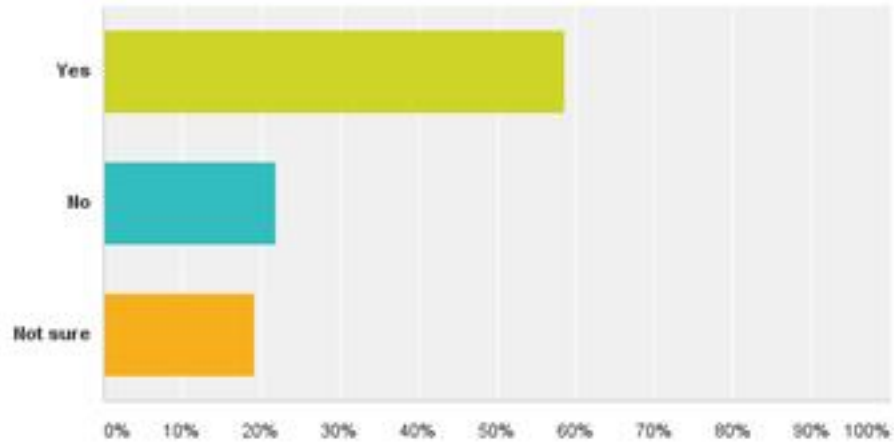
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Regarding the pre-registration of 16 year olds to vote, a sound majority of respondents thought it was a good idea.

Q10 Do you support allowing 16 year olds to pre-register to vote when they apply for their drivers license?

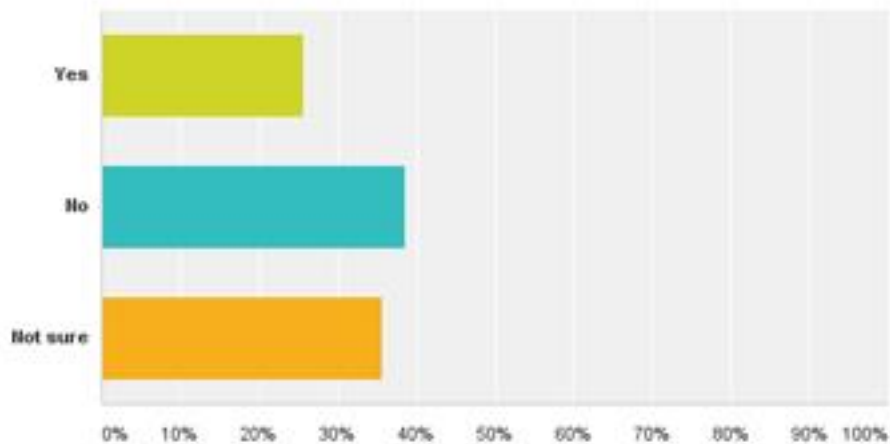
Answered: 199 Skipped: 17



When asked if the Bureau of Mediation Services should mediate disputes between condo owners and their condo boards, there was no clear majority, but more seemed to oppose the idea than support it. It is clear that people may want to learn more about this issue.

Q11 Would you support increased funding to the Minnesota Bureau of Mediation Services to mediate disputes between condo owners and their condo boards?

Answered: 199 Skipped: 17



I hope you will find these results interesting. I will be doing another on-line survey at the end of the year. If you have any ideas on how to spread the word to increase participation, I would be happy to hear them.

Have a nice weekend!

Cheryl