



**Date:** January, 14, 2010

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**RE: Results from poll**

### Methodology

Zogby International was commissioned by Common Cause in Connecticut to conduct a telephone survey of likely voters in CT from 1/11/10 to 1/13/10.

The sample is 503 interviews with approximately 15 questions asked. Samples are randomly drawn from telephone CDs of national listed sample. Zogby International surveys employ sampling strategies in which selection probabilities are proportional to population size within area codes and exchanges. Up to six calls are made to reach a sampled phone number. Cooperation rates are calculated using one of AAPOR's approved methodologies<sup>1</sup> and are comparable to other professional public-opinion surveys conducted using similar sampling strategies.<sup>2</sup> Weighting by party, age, race and gender are used to adjust for non-response. The margin of error is +/-4.5 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Please note, for reporting purposes, some figures do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

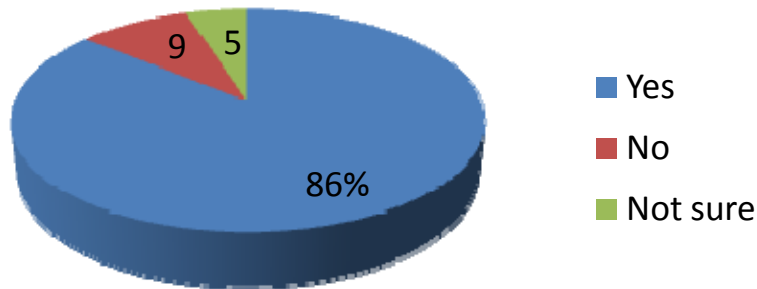
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<sup>1</sup> See COOP4 (p.38) in *Standard Definitions: Final Dispositions of Case Codes and Outcome Rates of Surveys*. The American Association for Public Opinion Research, (2000).

<sup>2</sup> *Cooperation Tracking Study: April 2003 Update*, Jane M. Sheppard and Shelly Haas. The Council for Marketing & Opinion Research (CMOR). Cincinnati, Ohio (2003).

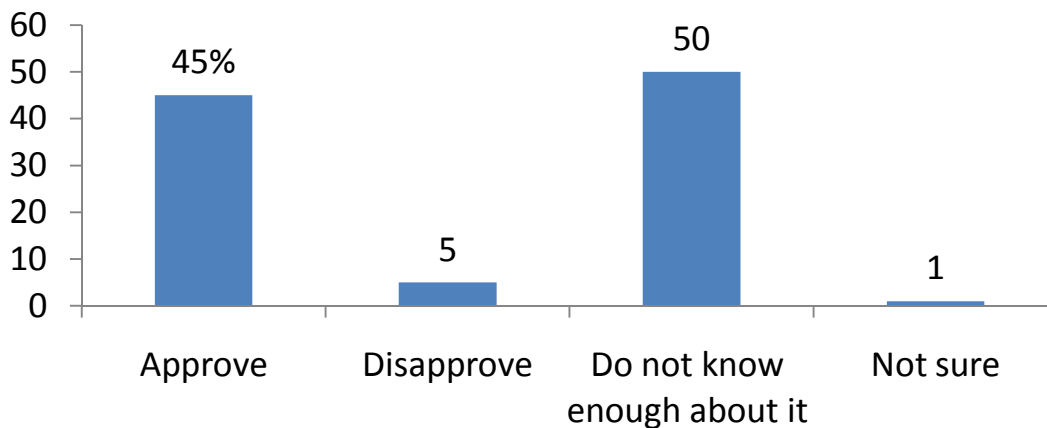
**Narrative Summary**

4. When it comes to the way election campaigns are financed, do you think lobbyists and political insiders have more influence than average voters, or not?



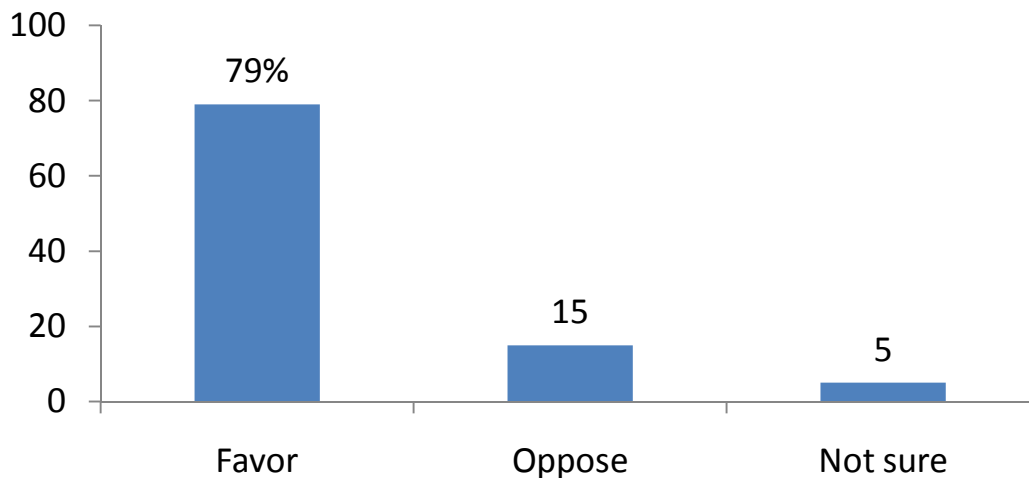
The vast majority of respondents (86%) say they think that when it comes to the way election campaigns are financed, lobbyists and political insiders have more influence than average voters.

5. The Citizens' Election Program was approved by Gov Rell and a bipartisan vote of the state legislature in an effort to allow candidates to run for office without having to rely on political contributions from lobbyists, state contractors and other special interests. Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of the creation of a Citizens' Election Program, or do you not know enough about it to have an opinion?



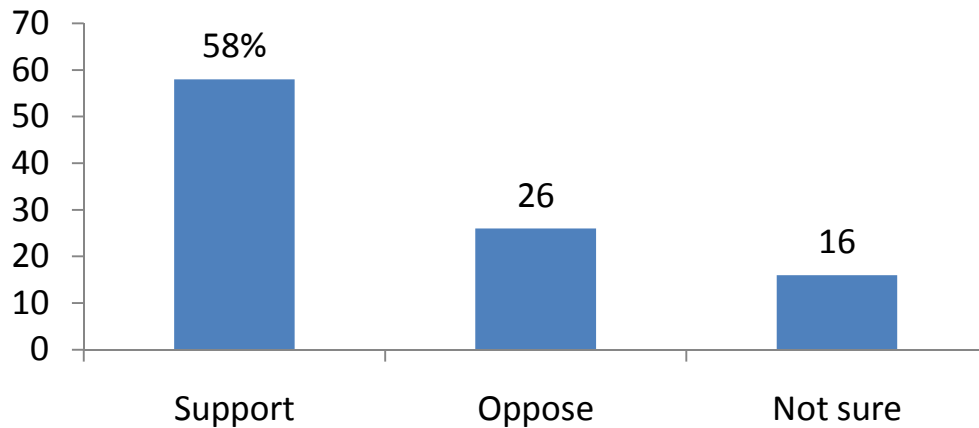
Half of likely voters say they do not know enough about the Citizens' Election Program to have an opinion, yet nearly everyone else (45%) say they either strongly approve (29%) or somewhat approve (16%).

6. Under the Citizens' Election program, candidates collect a set amount of small contributions of \$100 or less to qualify for a limited amount of public funds. Once qualified, they must adhere to strict campaign spending limits and can no longer accept campaign contributions. Knowing this, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the Citizens' Election Program?



A very strong majority (79%) favor the Citizens' Election Program after hearing a short description of how it works. Respondents are split over whether they strongly favor (40%) or somewhat favor the program (40%). Just 9% say they somewhat oppose the program and 6% say they strongly oppose it.

7. A recent court ruling would end the Citizens' Election Program for the 2010 elections if the Governor and legislature do not pass a set of changes to make it compliant with the ruling. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the governor and legislature making changes to the Citizens' Election Program so it can be used in the upcoming elections?

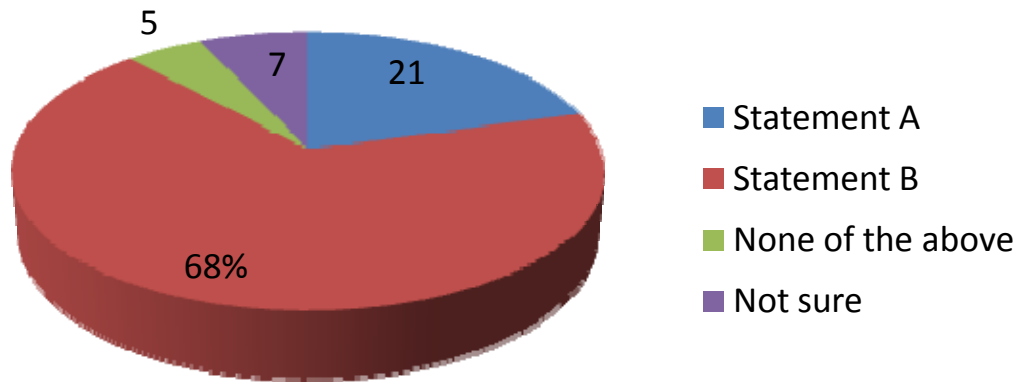


More than half of all respondents (58%) say they support the governor and legislature making changes to the citizens' Election Program so it can be used in the upcoming elections, and a quarter (26%) are opposed. Twenty-nine percent of respondents strongly support making changes, and 29% say they somewhat support them. Eight percent overall say they strongly oppose making changes so the program can be used in the upcoming elections, and 18% are somewhat opposed.

8. Which of the following statements do you most agree with?

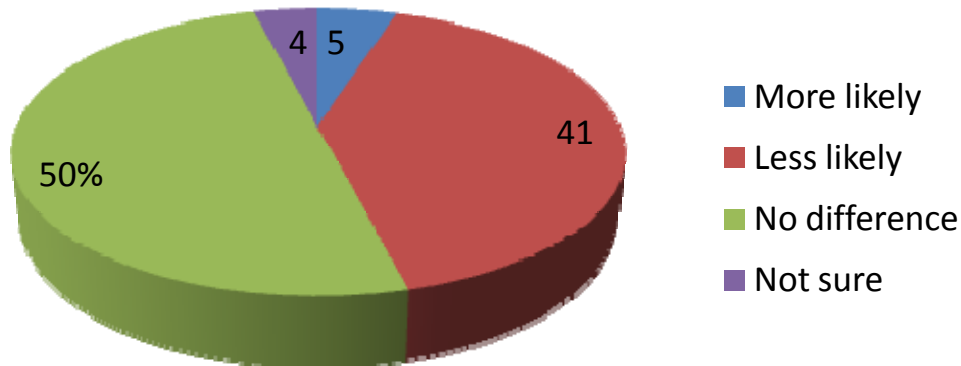
**Statement A:** The state can't afford the Citizens' Election Program because of the state deficit.

**Statement B:** The state needs the Citizens' Election Program because, in the past, lobbyists and state contractors received special deals in exchange for political contributions which has even landed some politicians in jail.



A strong majority of respondents (68%) prefer Statement B, while just 5% say they do not agree with either statement provided.

*9. If you knew your State legislator voted against fixing the Citizens' Election Program, would it make you more or less likely to vote for him or her for re-election this year, or does it make no difference to your vote?*



Respondents say that if they knew their state legislator voted against the Citizens Election Program, it would either make no difference to their vote (50%), or it would make them less likely to vote for him or her for re-election this year (41%), while just 5% say it would make them more likely to vote for him or her for re-election.