

STATE SENATOR  
**MARIA CHAPPELLE-NADAL**

**DISTRICT 14**



SENATOR  
CHAPPELLE-NADAL  
SERVES A PORTION  
OF ST. LOUIS  
COUNTY IN THE  
MISSOURI SENATE.



**2012**  
**SURVEY RESULTS**

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**2012 SURVEY SUMMARY**

The results of my 2012 legislative survey show that constituents in the 14th Senatorial District are well versed in what is going on in state government. The following data was submitted to my office through a series of questions regarding many controversial topics such as economic development, senior citizen and veterans care, statewide smoking bans, county debt, and many other topics. Hundreds of people participated in the survey, and I value everyone's opinion. The information my office collected guides many of my legislative priorities this year and helps me craft many of my sponsored and co-sponsored bills.

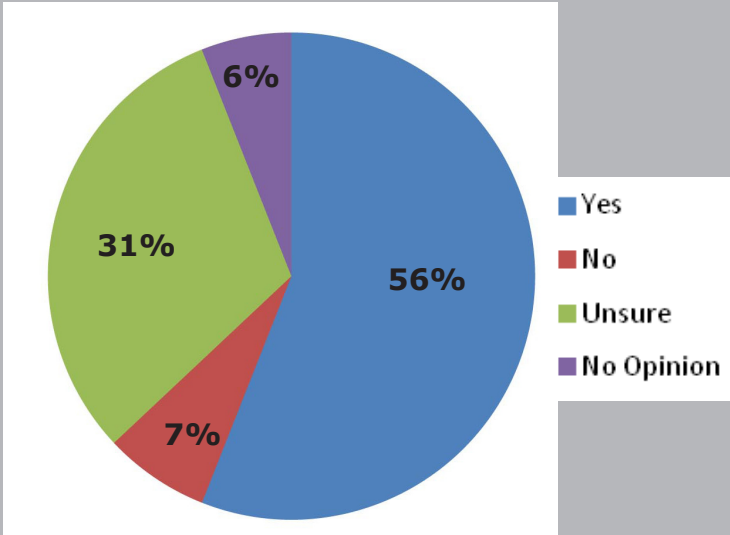
In the area of economic development, citizens who participated in my legislative survey state that our state's tax credit system must be reformed. They also indicate that St. Louis County officials should disclose their debts to the public. Survey takers spoke out against converting portions of I-70 into a toll road and rejected the idea of allowing charter schools to be operated in any Missouri school district that is provisionally accredited or unaccredited. Survey takers also overwhelmingly support mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse cases and the institution of more nutritional, locally grown food items in schools.

In the area of medical facility "certificate of need" policy requirements 42% of survey takers say we must revise requirements for specific facilities, such as long-term health care, and 18% say we should let the market self-regulate the issue. I also asked survey takers to rank which senior and veteran issues were most important. The No. 1 issue was making sure we fund seniors' ability to stay in their homes, followed by funding assisted living centers and nursing homes. Survey takers also overwhelmingly agreed that we should have tougher penalties for those who abuse seniors and that we should help seniors who have claimed or are close to bankruptcy.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in my legislative survey, please do not hesitate to contact my Capitol office if you have any questions or concerns.

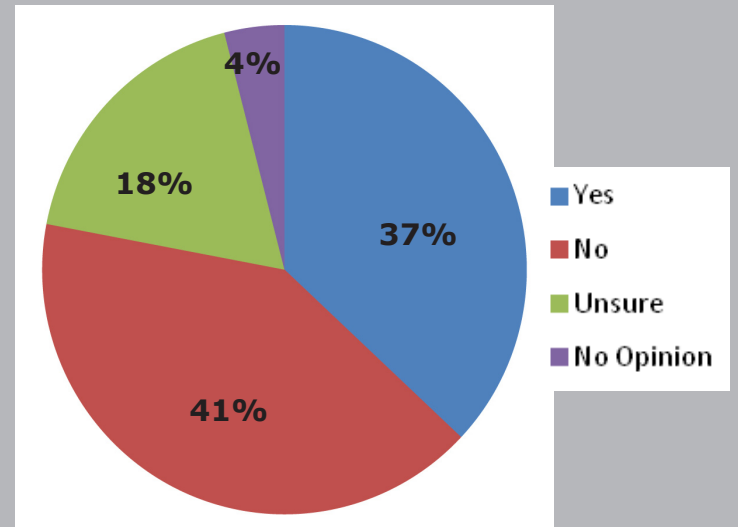
## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ JOB CREATION:

Do you think that Missouri's tax credit system needs to be transformed?



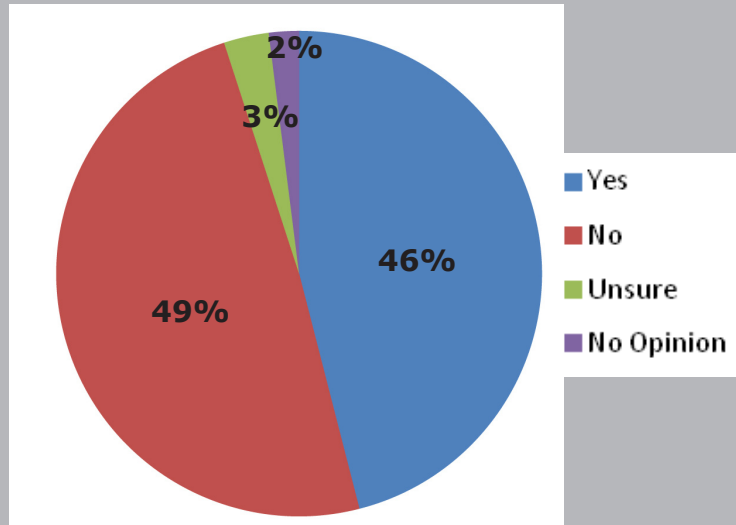
## CHARTER SCHOOLS:

Do you support a measure that would allow charter schools to be operated in any Missouri school district that is provisionally accredited?



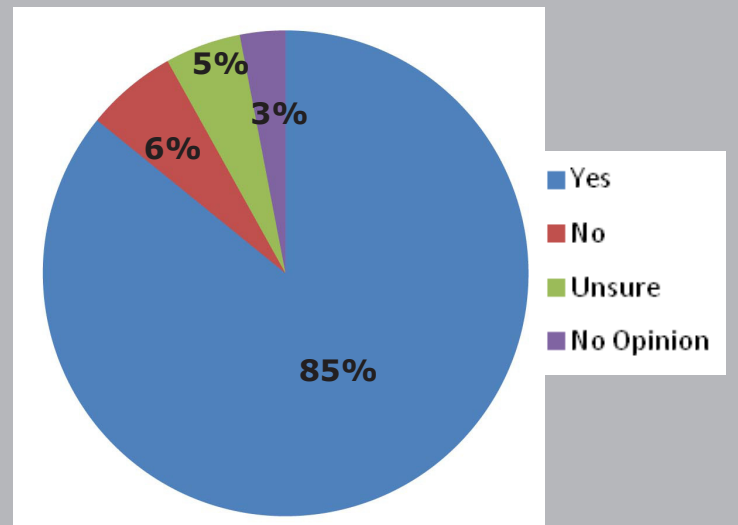
## ELECTIONS/VOTING:

Should the state require voters to show a photo ID in order to cast a ballot?



## COUNTY DEBT:

Should Missouri require St. Louis County to disclose their debt to the public?



## STATEWIDE SMOKING BAN:

Ban smoking in all public places, restaurants, and stand-alone bars: **53%**

Ban smoking but exempt some businesses, such as stand-alone bars: **25%**

None of the Above: **16%**

No Opinion: **6%**

## LEGALIZING MEDICAL MARIJUANA:

Yes: **55%**

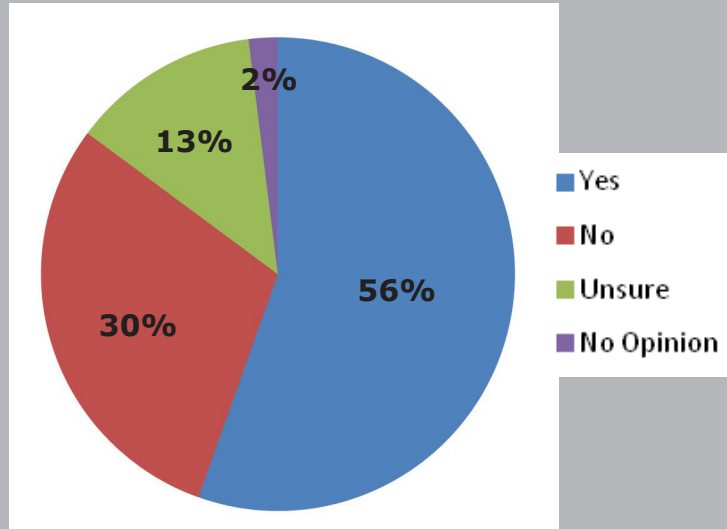
No: **32%**

Unsure: **10%**

No Opinion: **3%**

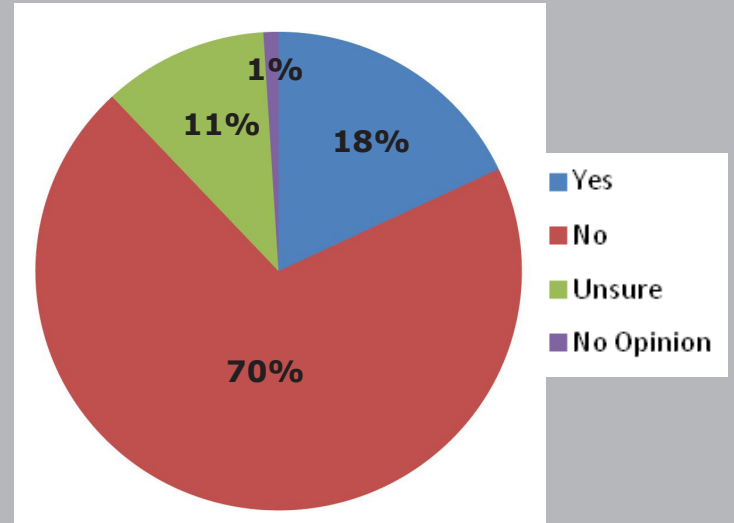
## MARIJUANA POSSESSION:

Should Missouri reduce the penalties for marijuana possession?



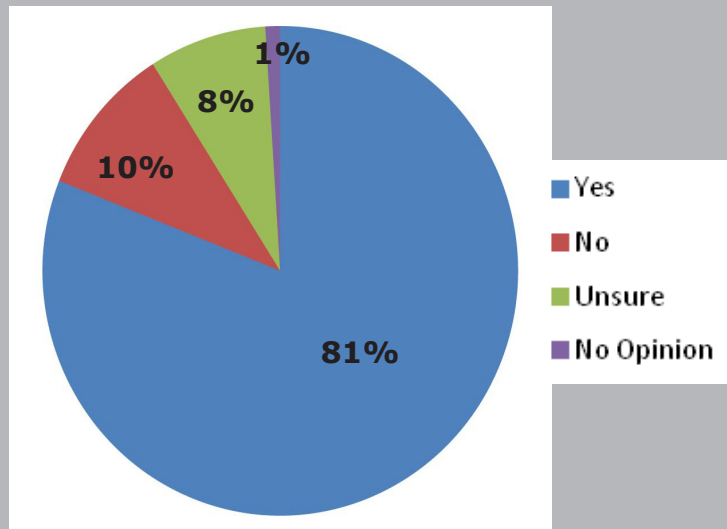
## TOLL ROADS:

Should Missouri convert portions of Interstate 70 into a toll road?



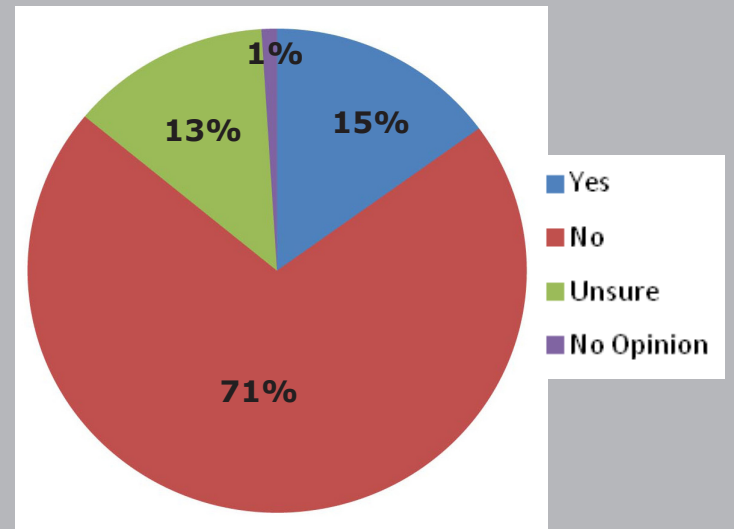
## TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR HEALTH

**CARE COSTS:** Should Missouri allow income tax deductions to individuals who purchase their own health care?



## REPLACING THE INCOME TAX:

Should Missouri's income tax be eliminated and replaced with a substantially higher sales tax?



## ADJUSTING PERSONAL INCOME TAX BRACKETS:

Should Missouri adopt a more progressive income tax structure under which tax rates would vary by income? Yes: 55% No: 32% Unsure: 10% No Opinion: 3%

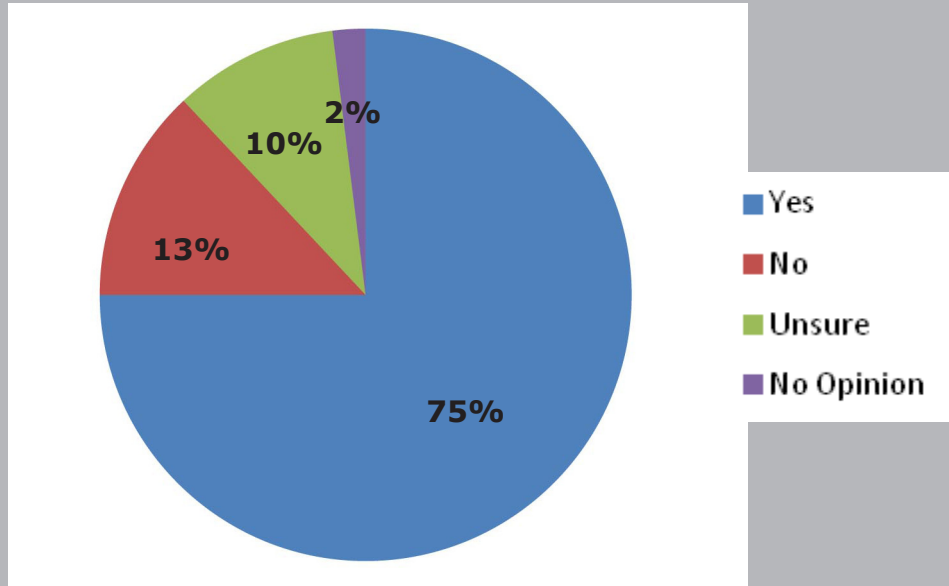
## SALES TAX COLLECTIONS:

Should Missouri eliminate the law that allows businesses to keep 2% of what their customers pay in sales taxes? Yes: 55% No: 32% Unsure: 10% No Opinion: 3%

## MANDATORY REPORTING OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:

During the 2012 legislative session, the Missouri General Assembly will likely consider legislation extending the mandatory reporting requirements to all citizens. Eighteen states require all citizens to report suspected sexual abuse of children.

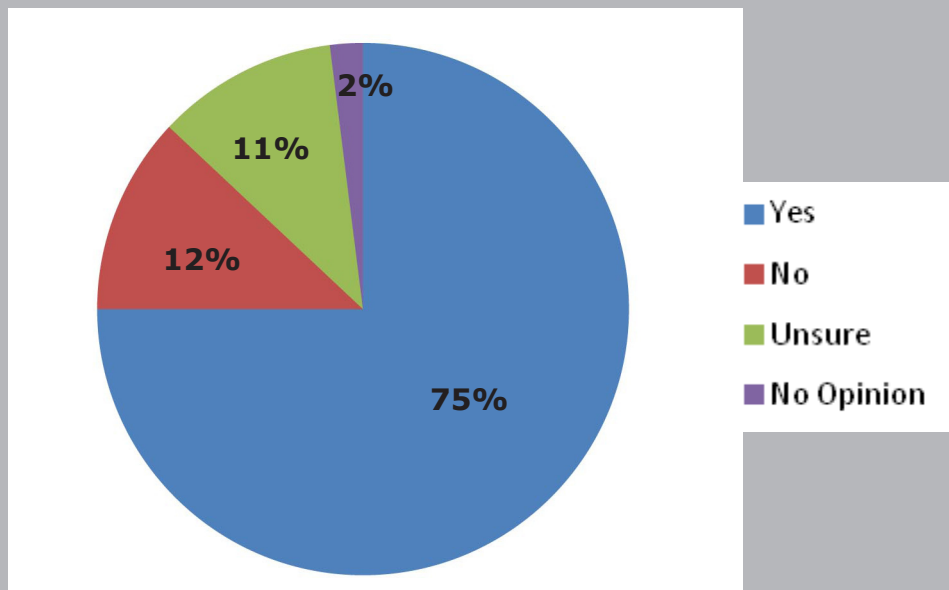
Should all citizens be required to report suspected sexual abuse of children to law enforcement?



## URBAN AGRICULTURE:

The Farm-to-Table Advisory Board, created by legislation passed in 2011, is designed to provide recommendations for strategies that allow schools and state institutions to more easily incorporate locally grown agricultural products into their cafeteria food plans, salad bars and vending machines.

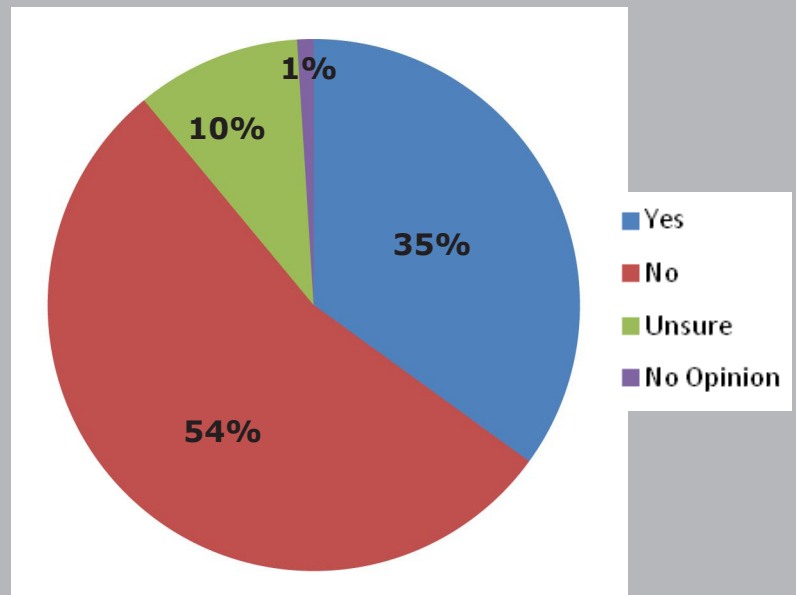
Do you think Missouri schools and institutions need help incorporating more nutritional, locally grown items in their food plans?



## **LEGISLATIVE TERM LIMITS:** Should Missouri eliminate term limits for legislators?

In Missouri's General Assembly, legislators, with some exceptions for partial terms, can serve for a total of 16 years, but no more than eight years each in the House or Senate. Legislative term limits took full effect with the 2002 elections.

Critics of term limits say the rapid turnover caused by term limits have resulted in inexperienced lawmakers who lack institutional knowledge and expertise on complex issues and has shifted powers from the Legislature to the executive branch and special interest lobbyists. Supporters say legislative term limits ensure that Missourians are being represented by people with fresh ideas.



## **MEDICAL FACILITY "CERTIFICATE OF NEED":**

Missouri's "certificate of need" policy requirements regulate the construction and expansion of medical facilities. The purpose of Certificate of Need laws is to eliminate duplication of services and reduce overall costs. In recent years, some have proposed eliminating the certificate of need requirements.

Proponents argue it would increase competition and ultimately drive down health care costs. They also contend the process of obtaining a certificate of need is costly, time consuming and stifles the free market.

Opponents of elimination believe the current requirements ensure quality services are provided in a given region while avoiding unnecessary and duplicative medical facilities that drive up health care costs. They also contend eliminating the requirements would result in the building of specialty hospitals that provide only the most profitable services. They argue that such cherry-picking of services would give specialty facilities an unfair advantage over general hospitals that must offer a full range of services, including caring for the uninsured.

What action should Missouri take with regard to Certificate of Need requirements?

Eliminate Requirements: **13%**

Allow the market to regulate itself: **18%**

Revise requirements for specific facilities, such as long-term health care: **42%**

Take no action: **6%**

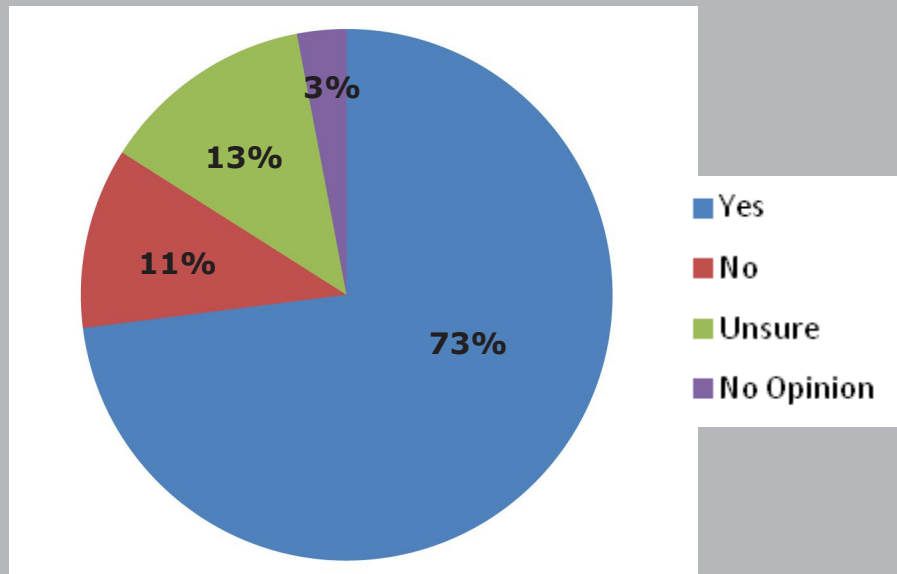
Leave current requirements in place: **0%**

No Opinion: **22%**

## BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION FOR SENIORS:

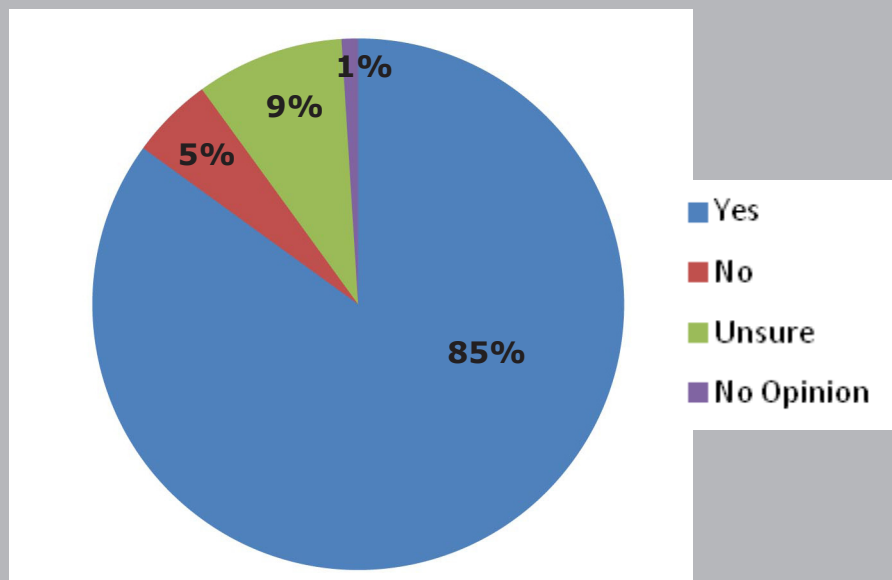
Seniors are currently subject to the same limits in equity as all Missourians when filing for bankruptcy. Missouri law allows individuals filing for bankruptcy to exempt a homestead up to \$15,000 in value. Some in Missouri have proposed changing Missouri law to reflect the federal limit for homestead equity, which is currently \$125,000.

Would you support raising the maximum home equity amount a person may exempt from attachment or execution from the current limit of \$15,000 to \$125,000 for senior citizens 62 years or older?



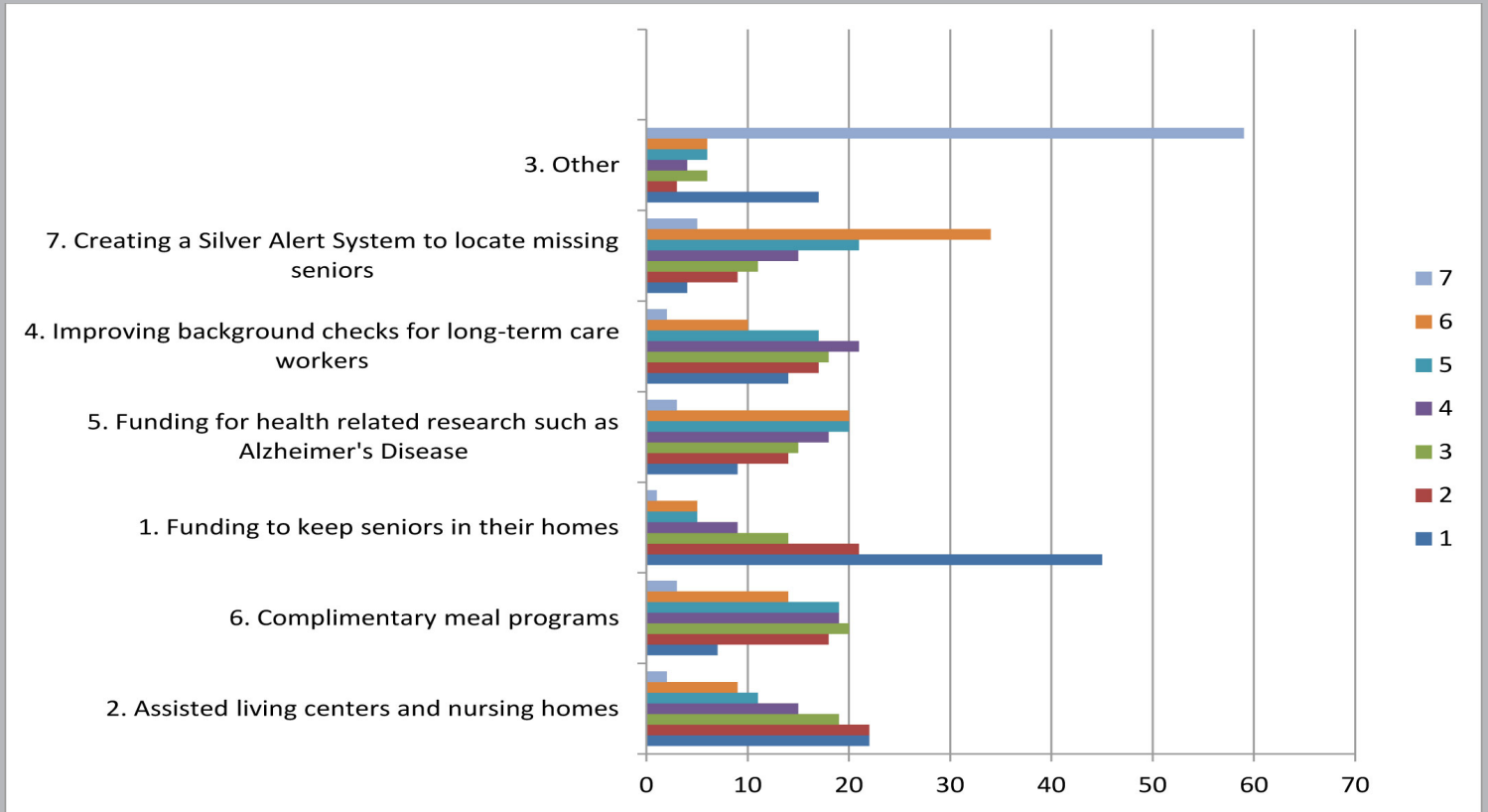
## SENIOR ABUSE:

Should Missouri create tougher penalties for individuals who physically or emotionally abuse individuals 60 years old or older?

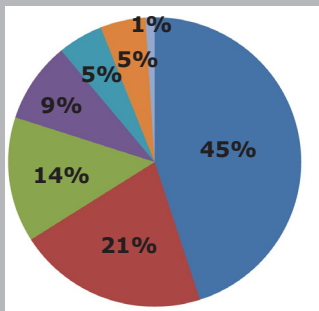


# VETERANS AND SENIORS:

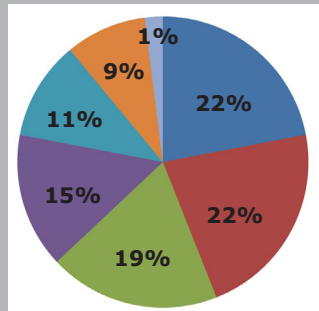
Regarding senior issues, please rank the following matters that should receive the most state funding, 1 being the most important and 7 being the least important.



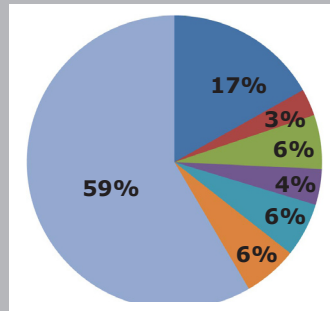
1. Funding to keep seniors in their homes:



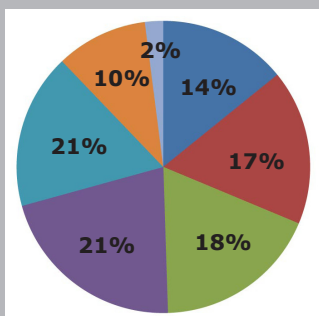
2. Assisted living centers and nursing homes:



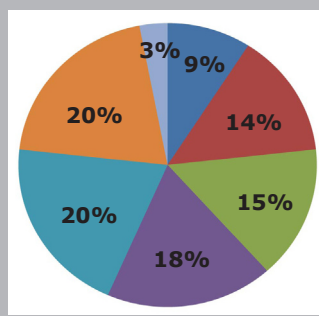
3. Other Issues:



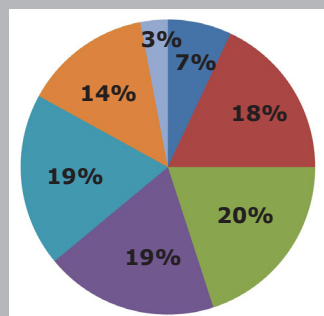
4. Improving the process of criminal background checks for long-term care workers:



5. Funding for health-related research such as Alzheimer's Disease:



6. Complimentary meal programs for seniors:



7. Creating a Silver Alert System:

