

Campaign Finance Reform is a Priority for North Carolinians

62%

The influence of large campaign contributions is so corrupting to campaigns and the democratic process that the Governor and the legislature need to address the issue before the next election.

36%

The legislature and the Governor should not take the time to address campaign finance reform when there are more pressing problems to deal with.

[1% of voters surveyed didn't know.]

Fix the System to Prevent Scandals, Voters Say

61%

We need to adopt a public funding proposal to avoid corruption scandals that have occurred in other states.

30%

We don't have a corruption problem here in North Carolina, and since we don't have a problem, there is no point in fixing something that isn't broken.

[7% of voters surveyed didn't know while 1% refused to answer the question.]

Survey conducted March 27–29, 2001

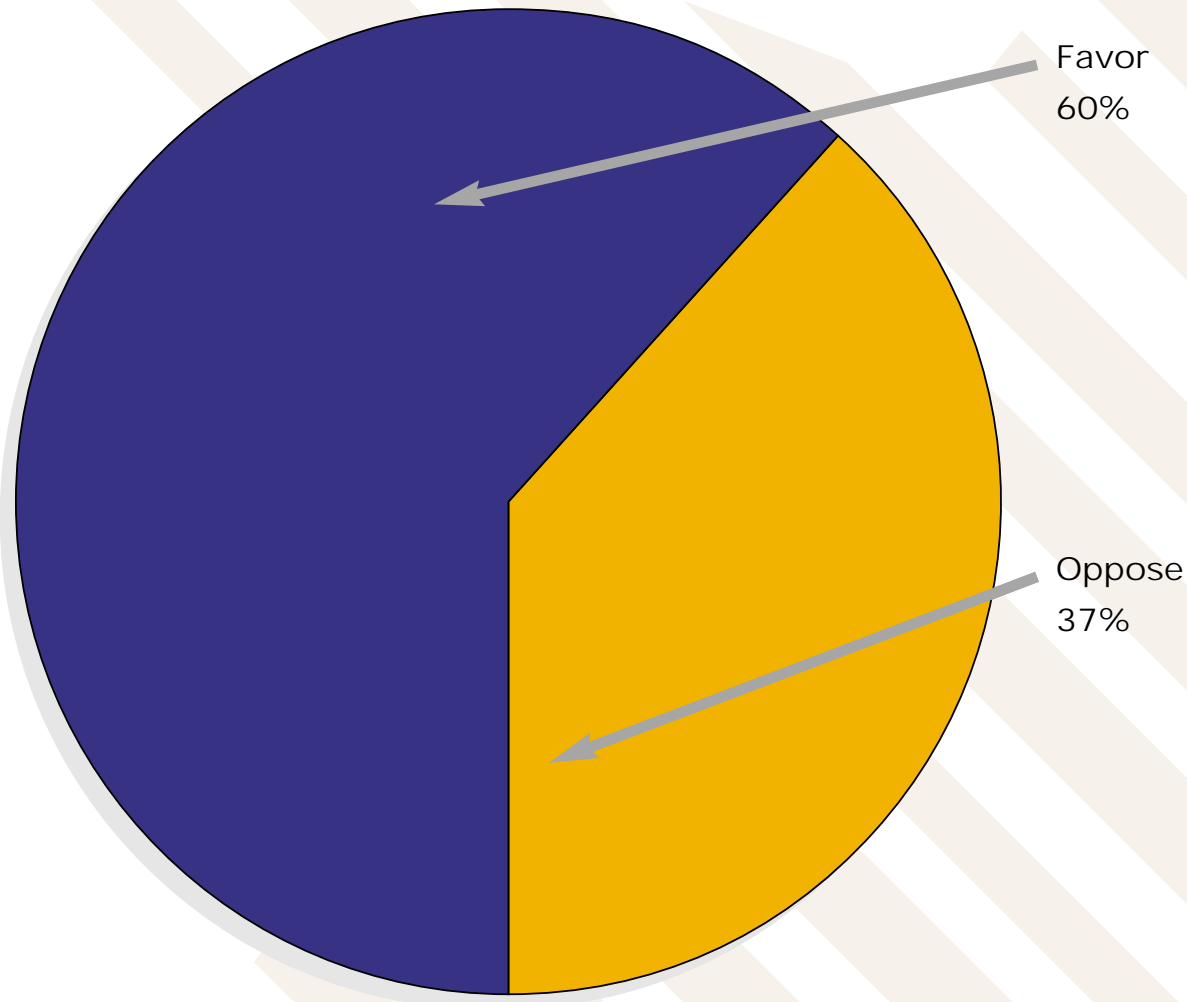
N=600 likely voters. Margin of error: +/- 4%

Data collection and analysis by Public Opinion Strategies.

North Carolina Center
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Strong Support for Public Financing and Spending Limits

There is a proposal here in North Carolina to replace private campaign contributions with public funding for Governor, State Legislature, and other state campaigns if the candidates voluntarily agree to spending limits. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?



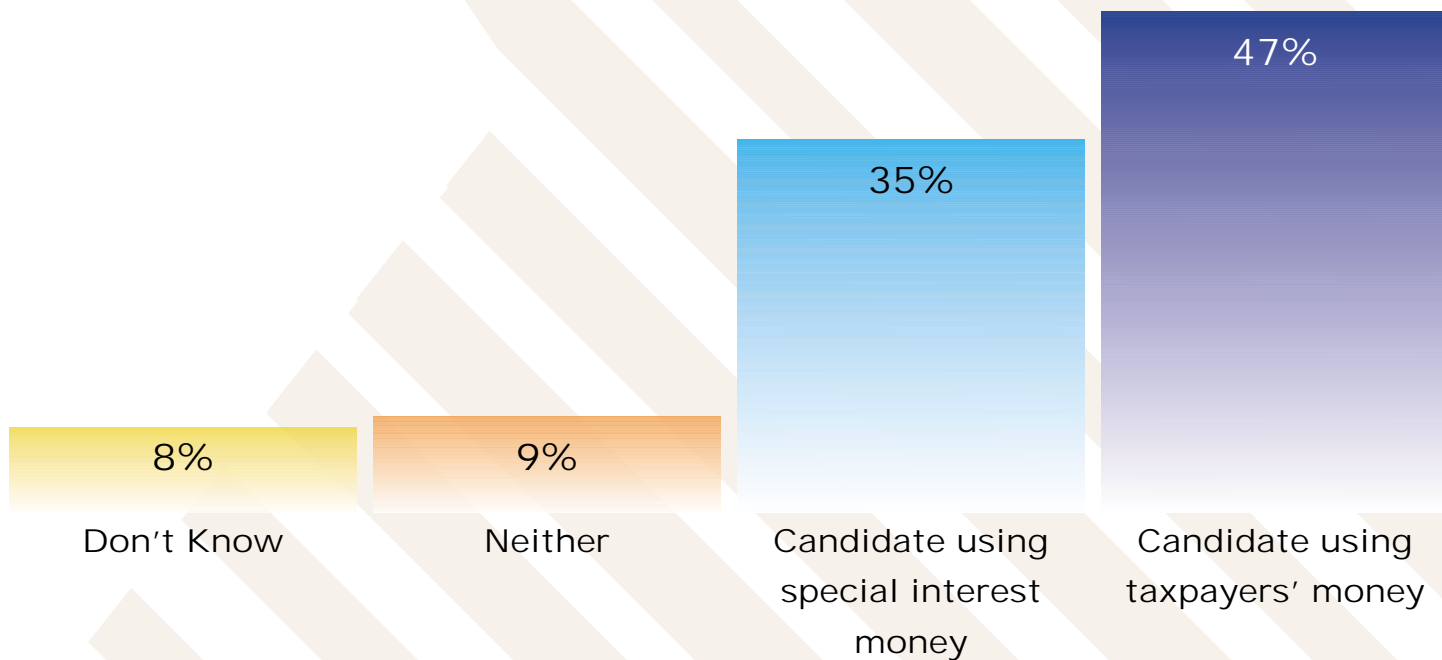
[3% of voters surveyed didn't know.]

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Voters Will Support Candidates Using Tax Dollars

If the only difference between two candidates for public office was that one used taxpayer money to fund his or campaign and the other was using special interest money, which would you vote for?



[1% of voters surveyed refused to answer.]

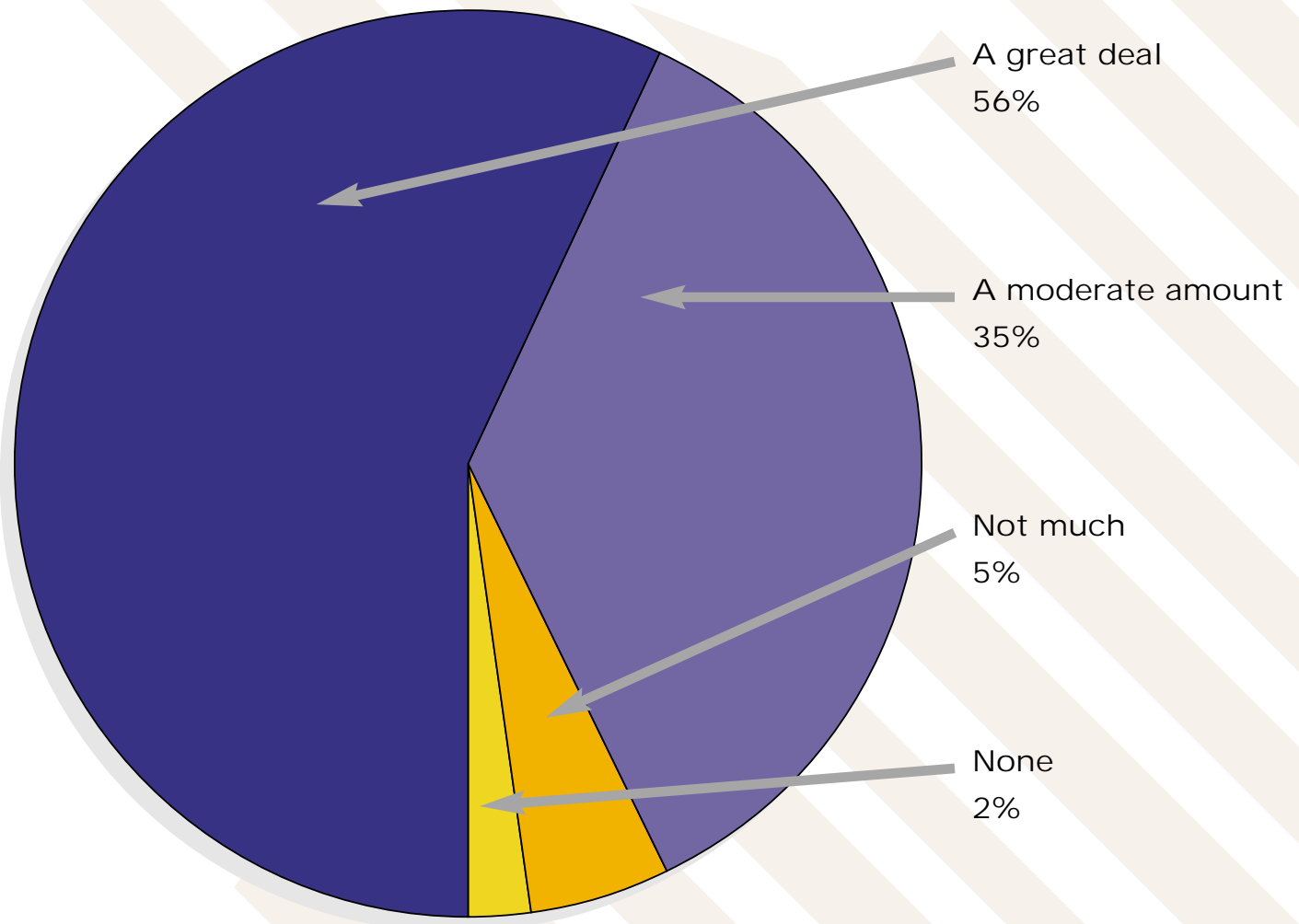
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Public Perception: Campaign Contributors Hold Influence

When asked, **91%** of voters say campaign contributors influence the decisions made by elected officials.



[1% of voters surveyed didn't know.]

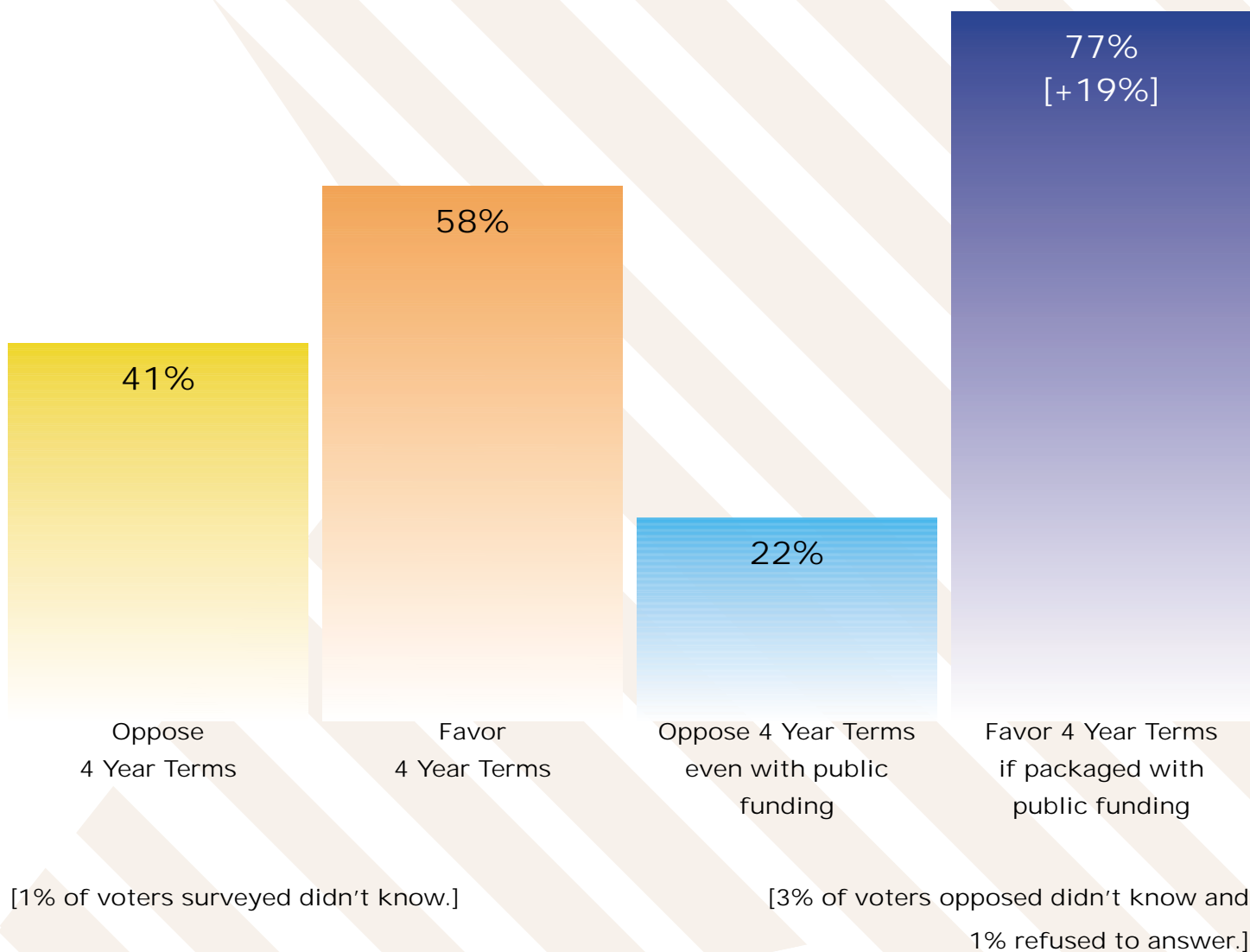
72% of voters think that candidates for public office spend more time raising money for their campaigns. Only 24% thought that candidates spent more time solving the problems of average North Carolinians.

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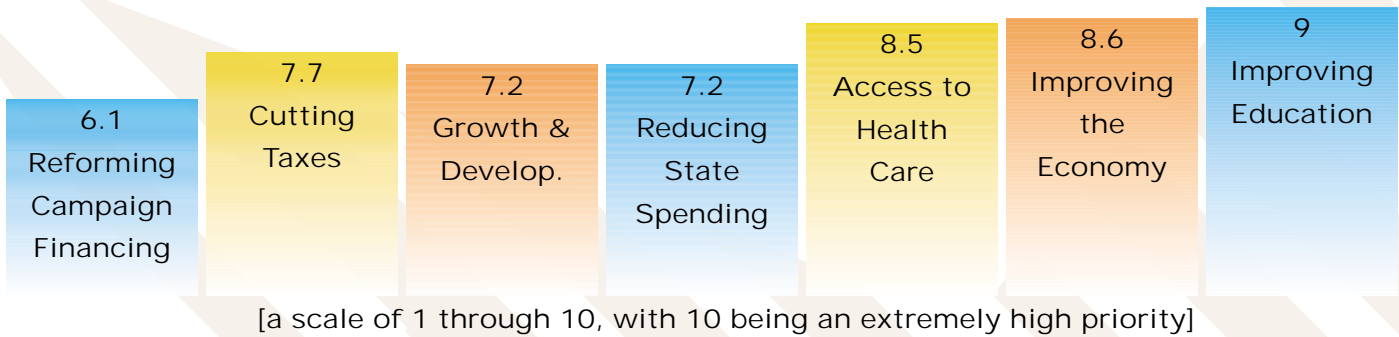
Support for 4 Year Terms Grows with Public Funding

When given an objective explanation of the issue, and both pro and con arguments, voters were asked what if they would favor or oppose extending the terms of state legislators from two to four years. Those who opposed were then asked if they would change their minds if those campaigns were publicly funded.

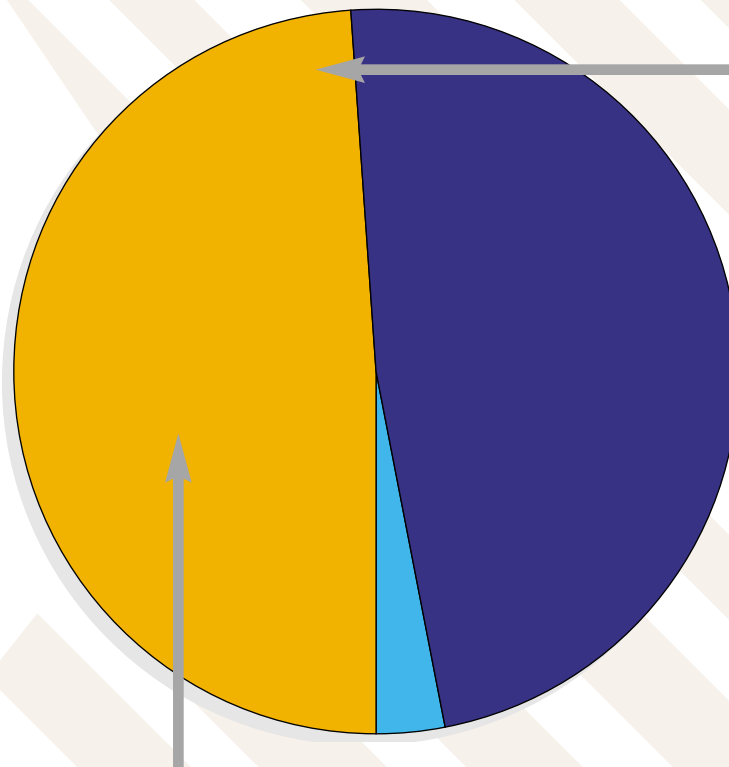


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Even Weighed Against Top Priorities. . .



Support for Reform Remains Strong



48% of voters felt that public funding ensures that all qualified candidates can run, and will allow elected officials to spend more time solving problems for average North Carolinians instead of doing favors for special interests.

49% felt that limiting campaign spending limits free speech. Furthermore, using taxpayer funding for campaigns is wrong and prevents money from being used for other priorities like education and health care.

[2% of voters surveyed didn't know.]

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