

To: Interested Parties

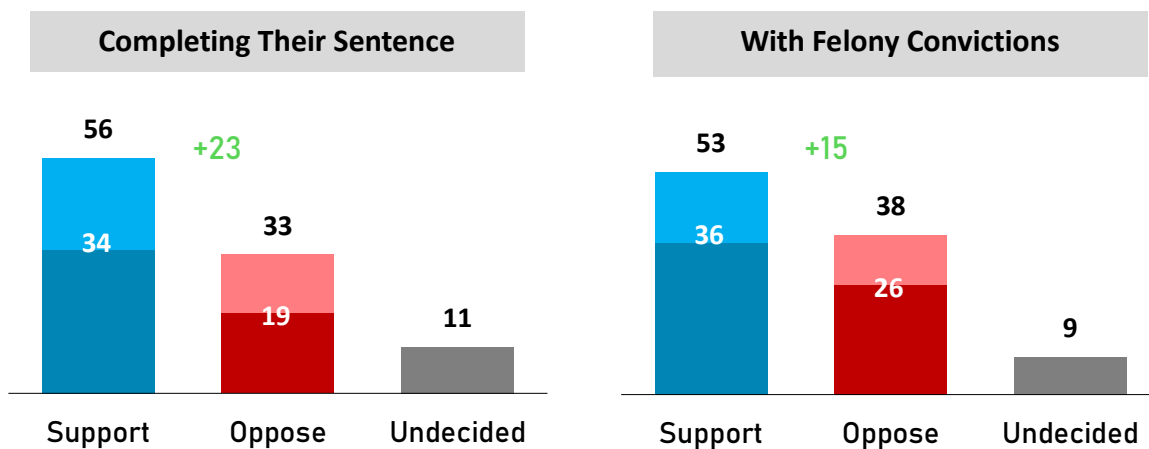
From: Daniel Gotoff, Sandra Markowitz, McCauley Pugh, and Ronan Ferrentino, *LRP*

RE: New Illinois Poll shows Majority Favor Guaranteed Right to Vote for All

Date: August 31, 2022

A recently conducted statewide survey of Illinois voters¹ by Lake Research Partners on behalf of *State Innovation Exchange*, *Stand Up America*, *The Sentencing Project*, and *Common Cause* reveals over half of voters support the full restoration of voting rights to all citizens over the age of 18, including those completing a sentence, both inside and outside of prison. Even when the term “felony convictions” is added to the proposal, a majority of voters in Illinois still support expanding voting rights to justice-impacted citizens.

- **Over half of Illinois voters (56%) supports a law to guarantee the eligibility to vote for all citizens 18 and older, including citizens completing their sentence, both inside and outside of prison, compared to just 33% who say they would oppose.** Strength of support is also far higher than strength of opposition, with a **third of Illinoisans (34%)** saying they would strongly support such a law, compared to 19% of voters who say they would strongly oppose.
 - When Illinois voters are asked if they would support a law that guarantees the eligibility to vote for all citizens 18 and older, **including citizens with felony convictions** both inside and outside of prison, **over half of voters (53%) say they would support such a law, and 38% say they would oppose it.**



¹ Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey online, reaching a sample of 232 likely 2022 General Election voters in Illinois. The survey was conducted July 11-17, 2022. The margin of error for the base sample is +/- 6.9% and larger for subgroups. Respondents were recruited for the sample from an online panel. The data were weighted slightly by gender, age, race, region, education level, and ideology.

- **Our survey finds that voters aren't very aware of the voting laws in Illinois regarding incarceration and felony convictions.** Over a third of Illinois voters (40%) say they don't know if citizens in their state who are incarcerated can vote, and a third of voters (34%) say the same about citizens with felony convictions.

Illinoisans are ready for all citizens of this country to be eligible to vote, no matter their relationship with the criminal justice system, and including language about felony convictions does not deter voters. Even though many voters admit to not being fully aware of the laws in their states around voting rights, there is a belief across the nation that every citizen should be eligible for and have the right to vote.

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