

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** INTERESTED PARTIES  
**FROM:** CHRIS PERKINS  
**SUBJECT:** TEXAS STATEWIDE SURVEY - VOTING AND ELECTION ISSUES  
**DATE:** JULY 2, 2021

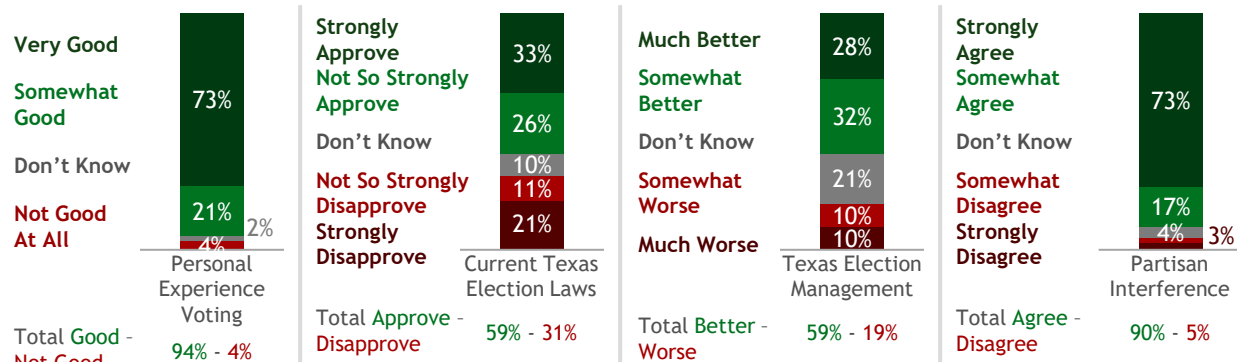
### Methodology

On behalf of Secure Democracy, Ragnar Research conducted a scientific survey June 27 through June 30, 2021 by live telephone operators, including landlines (15%) and cell phones (85%). Interviews include 1,000 Likely Voters (LVs) across the state of Texas. Quotas on age, gender, ethnicity, education, and region were used to ensure a representative distribution. The study's margin of error is  $\pm 3\%$ . Question Text located in the appendix.

### Election Management and Integrity

Nearly 60% of voters approve of Texas's current election laws and find Texas's management of elections better than other states.

Improving border security and reforming ERCOT are the most important issues voters believe should be addressed during a special session.



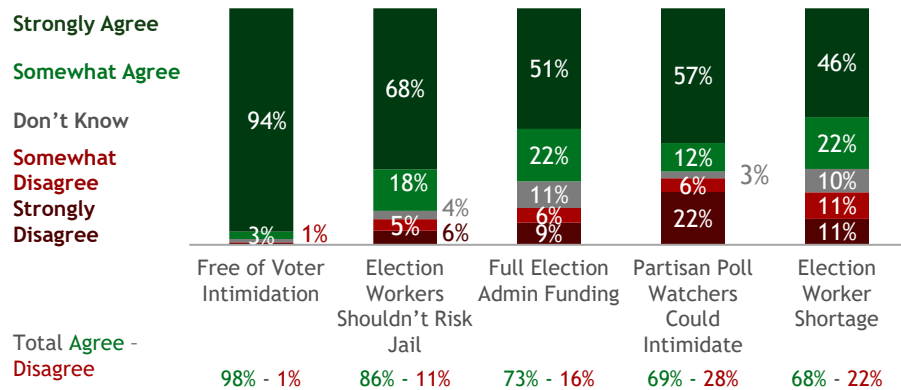
### Voter Opinion of Potential Special Session Items

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Index		1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice
3.25	Improving Border Security	25%	15%	10%	10%	11%	8%	8%
3.32	Reforming The Electric Reliability Council of Texas	26%	14%	11%	11%	10%	11%	8%
3.54	Lowering Property Taxes	15%	19%	14%	13%	13%	10%	7%
3.86	Banning the Teaching of Critical Race Theory in our Public Schools	14%	15%	14%	9%	8%	9%	16%
3.88	Improving election integrity	8%	14%	17%	14%	14%	10%	9%
4.62	Reforming our Prison Bail Bond System	4%	12%	12%	11%	12%	16%	19%
4.79	Stopping Social Media Companies from Censoring Citizens	3%	5%	11%	17%	15%	18%	15%

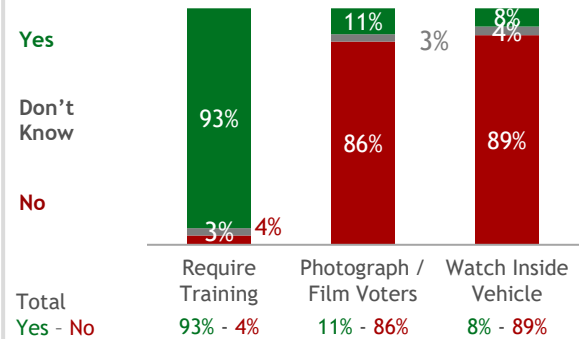
#### Index

Each initiatives index score is determined as an average of that initiative's ranking across all respondents, where an index of 1 is the most important and 7 is the least important.

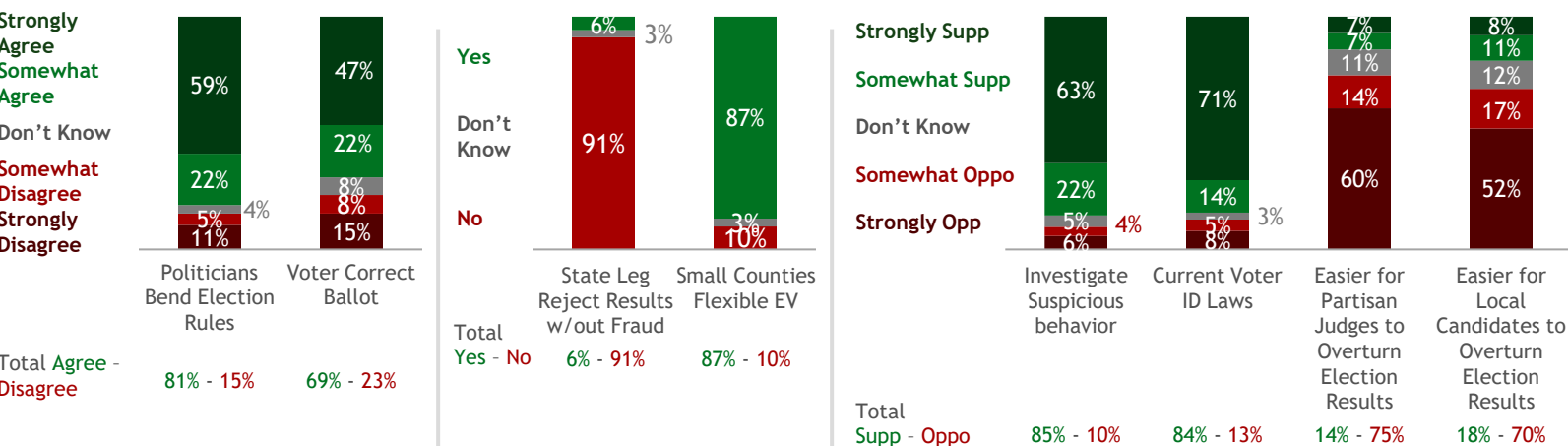
## Election Administration



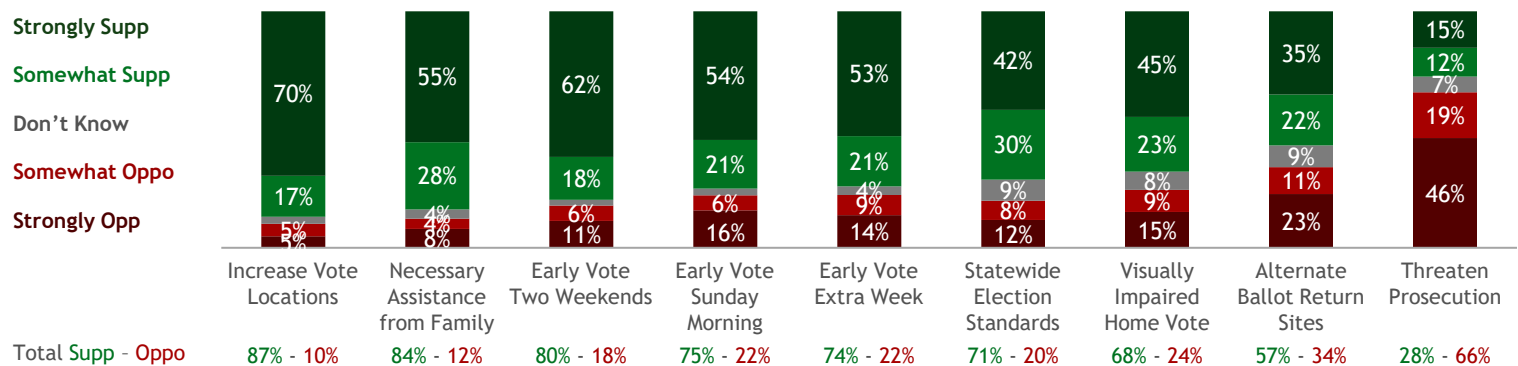
## Poll Watchers



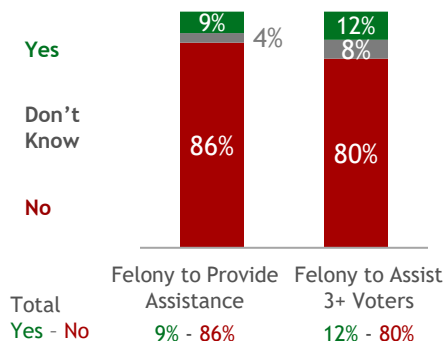
## Other Election Issues



## Potential Legislation



### Felony for Voter Assistance



There is strong support for increasing the number of voting locations, providing the necessary assistance to voters who need it, and extending early voting period.

Voters also support statewide voting standards and allowing visually impaired voters the ability to cast a secure, private ballot at their home.

### Conclusion

Voters want to expand the accessibility of early voting (one week longer 74% support; open on weekends 80% support) and expand the number of polling locations available on election day (87% support). Voters strongly support (84%) current voter ID laws and believe that those who need it should be able to receive assistance without the threat of a felony looming. Voters believe that poll watchers should have proper training (93%) but do not want them to film or photograph their votes (86%). Outside of voting issues, reforming ERCOT and increasing border security are the top special session priorities to voters.

### About Chris Perkins

Chris Perkins is an expert in quantitative and qualitative analysis having conducted and analyzed survey data for over a decade on behalf of Republican candidates, colleges and universities, and Fortune 500 companies. Perkins is considered one of the top public opinion experts in the United States and has been cited as among the most accurate pollsters in the country.

In the 2010 - 2020 election cycles, Perkins polled for nearly one hundred winning Republican candidates for the State Legislature, US House of Representatives, US Senate, Governor, and other statewide offices.

In Texas, Perkins was named the top pollster by Capitol Inside's bi-partisan "Texas Power Consultants" rankings for six consecutive election cycles and is widely recognized to have been the most accurate pollster conducting surveys in Texas since 2010.

Perkins teaches 'Polling and Targeting' for the Annette Straus Institute's New Politics Forum at the University of Texas at Austin, which provides UT students a bi-partisan look at the way modern political campaigns are conducted.

### Question Text Appendix

#### Personal Experience Voting

*In twenty-twenty, would you say that your personal experience voting was...not good at all, somewhat good, or very good?*

#### Current Texas Election Laws

*Overall, would you say that you disapprove or approve of Texas's current election laws?*

#### Texas Election Management

*Would you say that elections in Texas are managed worse or better than elections in other states?*

#### Partisan Interference

*Do you disagree or agree that state lawmakers should take steps to protect our elections from partisan interference?*

#### Voter Opinion of Potential Special Session Items

*Next, I'm going to read you a list of seven initiatives that Governor Abbott has called a special session for the legislature to address. I'm going to have you rank these initiatives in order of importance. Which of these initiatives is the most important? 1. Reforming our prison bail bond system, 2. Improving Election Integrity, 3. Reforming The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, 4. Improving Border Security, 5. Lowering Property Taxes, 6. Banning the Teaching of Critical Race Theory In Our Public Schools, and 7. Stopping Social Media Companies from Censoring Citizens.*

#### Agree Or Disagree - Election Administration

*Question Text: Would you disagree or agree ...*

- 1. Voters should be able to cast their ballots free from fear and intimidation?*
- 2. Our neighbors who work as election workers shouldn't worry about risking jail time for doing their jobs?*
- 3. That elections administrators should receive full funding so they do not have to rely on outside resources for funding?*
- 4. Giving unidentified, partisan poll watchers the ability to record voters and follow them throughout a polling place could intimidate voters?*
- 5. Longstanding concerns over election worker shortages will become worse if election workers must risk jail time for making small human errors or violating unclear rules?*

### Question Text Appendix Continued

#### Poll Watchers

*Should poll watchers appointed by political parties be required to receive training prior to service?*

*Should poll watchers be able to photograph or film voters while they cast their ballots?*

*Should voters who are eligible to vote curbside be required to allow partisan poll watchers inside their vehicle?*

#### Politicians Bend Election Rules

*Do you disagree or agree that politicians will bend election rules to tip the balance in their favor?*

#### Voter Correct Ballot

*Do you disagree or agree that a consistent voting process should allow a voter to correct a ballot if it is missing a required piece of information before it is thrown out*

#### State Leg Reject Results w/out Fraud

*Should the state legislature be permitted to reject or change election results without clear proof of fraud?*

#### Small Counties Flexible EV

*Should small counties have flexibility to provide early voting at varying hours and locations to best serve their constituents?*

#### Investigate Suspicious Behavior

*Do you support or oppose requiring election officials to follow up and investigate suspicious behavior before cancelling a voter's registration?*

#### Current Voter ID Laws

*Do you oppose or support current Texas law that requires voters to provide identification before receiving a ballot?*

#### Easier for Partisan Judges to Overturn Election Results

*Do you oppose or support making it easier for partisan judges to overturn local and county election results?*

#### Easier for Local Candidates to Overturn Election Results

*Do you oppose or support making it easier for city and county candidates that initially lost an election to overturn the election results?*

#### Potential Legislation

*Question Text: Would you oppose or support ...*

- 1. Increasing the number of locations where voters can cast their ballot in person on election day?*
- 2. Ensuring voters can have necessary assistance from their family, household members or caregivers in returning their ballot if needed?*
- 3. Extending the early voting period to include two full weekends?*
- 4. Allowing early voting on Sunday mornings?*
- 5. Extending the early voting period by one extra week?*
- 6. Allowing the Secretary of State to set statewide election standards to avoid confusion and mismanagement of election laws by local governments?*
- 7. Allowing visually impaired voters the ability to cast a secure, private ballot at their home?*
- 8. Secure sites other than election offices to return a ballot received by mail?*
- 9. Threatening people with criminal prosecution if they accidentally vote without knowing they are ineligible?*

#### Felony for Voter Assistance

*Should it be a felony to provide assistance to voters with disabilities or voters with other unique needs at polling locations?*

*Should it be a felony to assist more than three voters with disabilities or language barriers at polling locations?*