

Initiative & Referendum Institute National Survey ³
Conducted by Portrait of America on 04/29/01 - 5/01/01

In 24 states, citizens can propose laws by petitioning. This is called a "citizen's initiative." Do you favor such a process in your state?

	Total	Gender		Age					Race		
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other
Yes	67.8%	67.9%	67.7%	73.7%	69.9%	65.7%	65.9%	61.9%	70.0%	56.8%	65.2%
No	13.2%	15.2%	11.4%	12.0%	11.5%	13.5%	16.4%	12.8%	12.4%	20.9%	11.5%
Not sure	18.6%	16.5%	20.7%	13.5%	18.3%	20.7%	17.7%	25.0%	17.2%	22.3%	23.3%
Declined to answer	.3%	.4%	.2%	.9%	.4%	.0%	.0%	.3%	.4%	.0%	.0%

Should there be a similar process where citizens can place laws on the ballot nationwide?

	Total	Gender		Age					Race		
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other
Yes	56.7%	56.3%	57.1%	64.2%	58.0%	57.9%	55.9%	44.3%	56.4%	62.9%	53.7%
No	20.9%	25.2%	17.0%	19.4%	18.4%	23.1%	22.5%	21.7%	22.2%	19.5%	15.3%
Not sure	21.7%	18.1%	25.0%	15.0%	22.3%	19.0%	21.6%	33.7%	20.9%	17.6%	29.1%
Declined to answer	.6%	.4%	.8%	1.4%	1.4%	.0%	.0%	.3%	.5%	.0%	1.8%

All other things being equal, which do you think is more likely to produce laws that are in the public interest; When the law is adopted by the legislature, or when the voters adopt the law.

	Total	Gender		Age					Race		
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other
By the legislature	20.4%	25.1%	16.0%	19.2%	19.0%	16.6%	21.2%	27.3%	22.3%	13.4%	16.1%
By the voters	65.5%	61.3%	69.3%	69.4%	62.4%	72.3%	65.4%	55.7%	64.0%	77.2%	64.2%
Not sure	13.6%	13.0%	14.1%	9.9%	17.9%	11.1%	13.2%	16.9%	13.3%	9.4%	18.7%
Declined to answer	.5%	.5%	.5%	1.5%	.7%	.0%	.2%	.0%	.5%	.0%	1.1%

President bush has proposed a 1.6 trillion dollar tax cut. The US Senate passed a smaller tax cut. Should we let the voters choose between them in a national referendum?

	Total	Gender		Age					Race		
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other
Yes	55.0%	52.0%	57.7%	63.2%	56.0%	56.8%	51.1%	44.5%	54.1%	58.7%	56.3%
No	31.9%	39.1%	25.2%	25.5%	34.1%	29.2%	36.7%	35.4%	33.5%	25.3%	28.4%
Not sure	12.6%	8.7%	16.2%	10.5%	9.2%	14.0%	11.2%	19.9%	11.9%	14.4%	15.3%

³ Survey was conducted telephonically with a 1,000 sampling. Margin of error is +/- 3%.

Declined to answer	.6%	.2%	.9%	.8%	.7%	.0%	.9%	.3%	.5%	1.6%	.0%
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Should the legislature impose additional regulations on citizen petitions?												
	Total	Gender		Age					Race			
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other	
Yes	22.1%	23.4%	21.0%	29.9%	22.8%	20.3%	18.3%	17.2%	22.0%	18.9%	25.7%	
No	50.3%	53.8%	47.0%	45.1%	46.4%	53.3%	54.0%	54.1%	50.8%	51.3%	46.7%	
Not sure	27.0%	22.4%	31.3%	24.5%	29.9%	26.1%	26.8%	28.5%	26.8%	28.2%	27.6%	
Declined to answer	.5%	.4%	.7%	.4%	.9%	.3%	.9%	.3%	.5%	1.6%	.0%	

Should there be a national referendum before sending troops into a foreign conflict, where the United States has not been attacked?												
	Total	Gender		Age					Race			
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other	
Should be national referendum	41.4%	38.0%	44.5%	56.7%	39.7%	35.3%	30.8%	41.9%	38.2%	56.2%	46.5%	
Should not be national referendum	45.5%	52.4%	39.1%	32.2%	43.9%	53.8%	55.3%	44.2%	48.8%	36.4%	34.7%	
Not sure	12.5%	9.4%	15.3%	10.7%	15.0%	10.6%	13.0%	13.4%	12.4%	5.8%	17.9%	
Declined to answer	.7%	.2%	1.1%	.4%	1.4%	.3%	.9%	.5%	.5%	1.6%	.9%	

If an organization supported a measure that would improve the way government works which group would be more receptive to the idea, the legislature, or the voters?												
	Total	Gender		Age					Race			
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other	
Legislature	13.5%	14.0%	13.0%	16.0%	11.9%	11.7%	13.1%	14.3%	12.5%	20.9%	12.5%	
Voters	59.6%	63.5%	56.0%	60.4%	49.8%	64.9%	61.2%	62.1%	59.4%	56.9%	63.0%	
Equally likely	17.7%	14.9%	20.3%	15.8%	24.7%	14.5%	16.8%	16.8%	18.3%	9.8%	20.6%	
Not sure	8.8%	7.5%	10.1%	7.7%	12.9%	8.9%	7.6%	6.8%	9.5%	10.8%	3.9%	
Declined to answer	.4%	.1%	.6%	.0%	.7%	.0%	1.3%	.0%	.3%	1.6%	.0%	

If an organization supported a measure that would harm your state, which group would be more receptive to arguments against the measure: the legislature, or the voters?												
	Total	Gender		Age					Race			
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other	
Legislature	20.6%	23.8%	17.6%	30.2%	17.9%	15.3%	16.0%	22.1%	20.6%	19.0%	21.7%	

Voters	61.5%	59.5%	63.3%	55.0%	59.2%	68.4%	66.8%	58.6%	61.7%	65.2%	57.5%
Equally likely	12.6%	12.1%	13.1%	10.6%	16.0%	11.8%	12.3%	13.0%	13.0%	8.3%	14.4%
Not sure	4.8%	4.3%	5.3%	4.2%	6.6%	4.1%	4.0%	5.3%	4.5%	4.3%	6.5%
Declined to answer	.5%	.4%	.7%	.0%	.4%	.5%	.9%	1.0%	.2%	3.2%	.0%

Generally speaking, when legislators propose regulations on petitioning, are they generally trying to protect the public, or are they trying to preserve their own power?

	Total	Gender		Age					Race		
		Men	Women	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65+	White	Black	Other
Protect the public	16.4%	17.6%	15.3%	18.8%	15.8%	12.5%	17.3%	17.5%	17.7%	13.0%	12.5%
Preserve their power	66.9%	68.7%	65.3%	67.2%	64.0%	72.3%	66.0%	64.6%	66.4%	75.0%	63.1%
Not sure	16.2%	13.5%	18.6%	13.6%	19.8%	14.6%	15.8%	17.6%	15.5%	10.4%	24.5%
Declined to answer	.5%	.2%	.8%	.4%	.4%	.5%	.9%	.3%	.4%	1.6%	.0%