

April 2021 Edition

LAKE EFFECT



What's Inside



Welcome to Lake Effect

Welcome to Lake Effect, a monthly research newsletter and a resource for progressive leaders and advocates, presented by Progress Michigan and Public Policy Polling.

Research in this newsletter comes from a survey conducted between April 1st and April 2nd.

In this issue

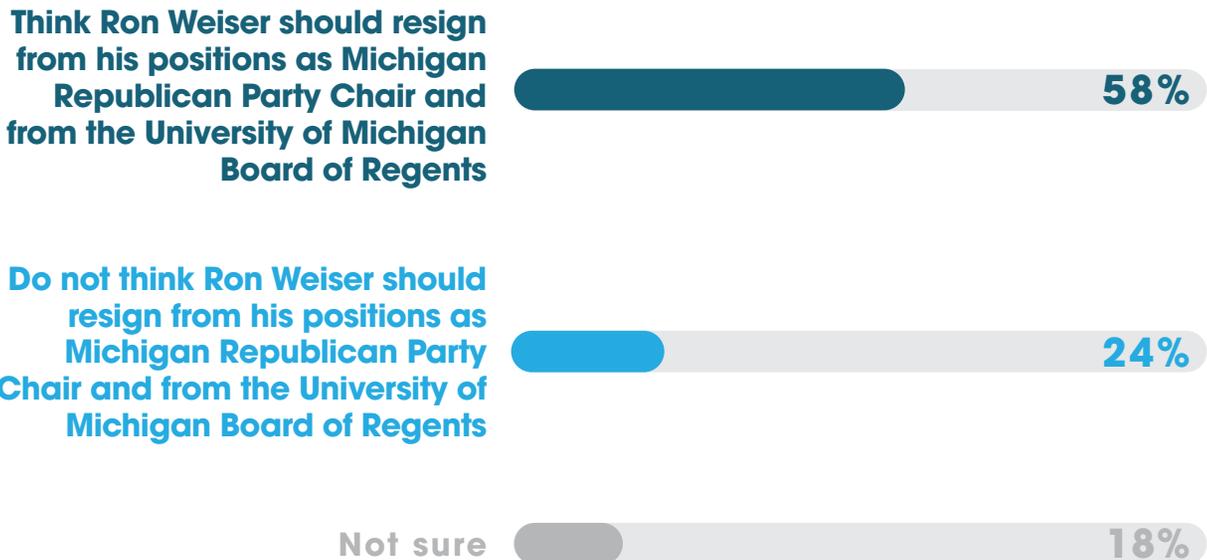




Ouster of Ron Weiser Popular

As the head of the MIGOP and a UM Board of Regent member, Ron Weiser holds two prominent roles in Michigan. Poll respondents think he should resign given his recent comments regarding Whitmer, Benson and Nessel.

Regent Ron Weiser called Attorney General Nessel, Secretary Benson and Governor Whitmer “three witches” and joked about burning them at the stake. Weiser also said the only way to get rid of the two Michigan Republican Representatives who voted to impeach Trump was “assassination.” Having heard this, do you think Ron Weiser should resign from his positions as Michigan Republican Party Chair and from the University of Michigan Board of Regents, or not?

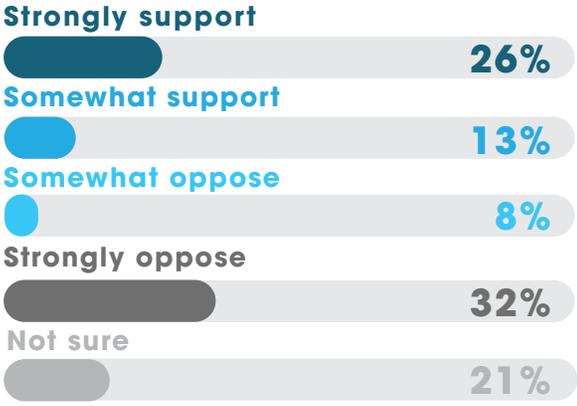




The Meaning Behind “Election Reform”

While election rights advocates and clerks have strong opinions about the 39-bill “election reform” package rolled out by Republicans, the public still has some uncertainty about it from a number of angles. But the messages around voter suppression and ties to national right-wing efforts seemed to sway opinions.

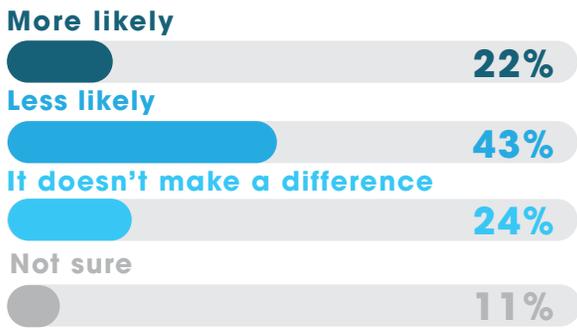
Michigan Senate Republicans recently introduced a 39-bill package targeting election reforms. Based on what you know, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this bill package?



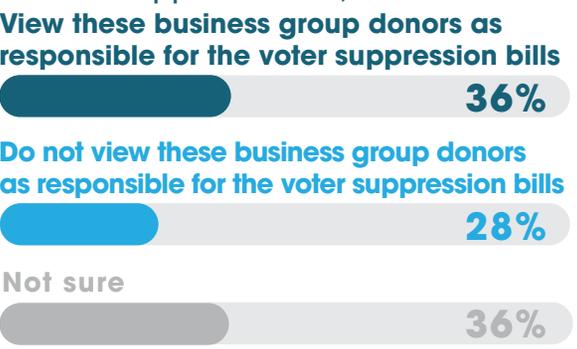
Many local clerks and voting rights advocates have said the Republican-sponsored, 39-bill voting package will make it more difficult for people to vote by requiring additional steps like sending in a photocopy of your ID to receive an absentee ballot and limiting the times when people can drop off absentee ballots at drop boxes. Does hearing this make you more likely or less likely to support the 39-bill package targeting election reforms, or does it not make a difference?



Many of the election reforms in the bill package are linked to a national conservative effort that voting rights advocates say is designed to put up barriers between voters and the ballot box. Does hearing this make you more likely or less likely to support the 39-bill package targeting election reforms, or does it not make a difference?



Business groups have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to Republicans sponsoring legislation that voting advocates say will lead to voter suppression. Some say these donors are responsible for the bills the lawmakers they fund are pushing. Do you view these business group donors as responsible for the voter suppression bills, or not?



Do you think the 2020 Presidential election results were legitimate, or not?





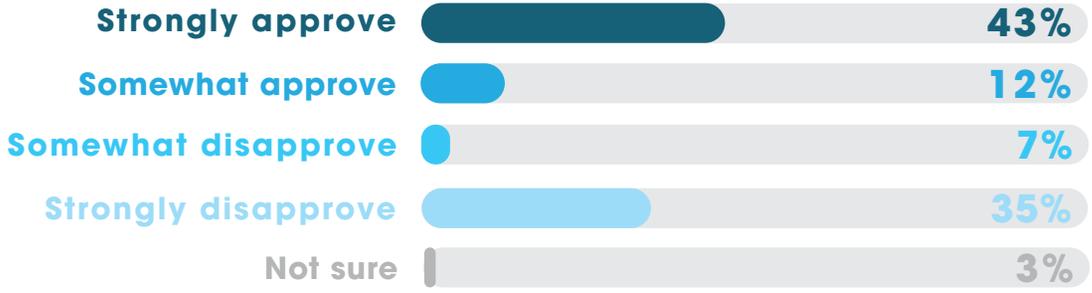
Lucido's Nursing Home Crusade Not Landing

Michigan Republicans and Macomb County Prosecutor Peter Lucido have been hammering away at talking points trying to connect Gov. Whitmer and deaths in nursing homes from COVID, despite data showing their narrative is bogus. A majority of respondents do not blame Whitmer for nursing home deaths — and actually support her handling of the crisis over Republicans’.

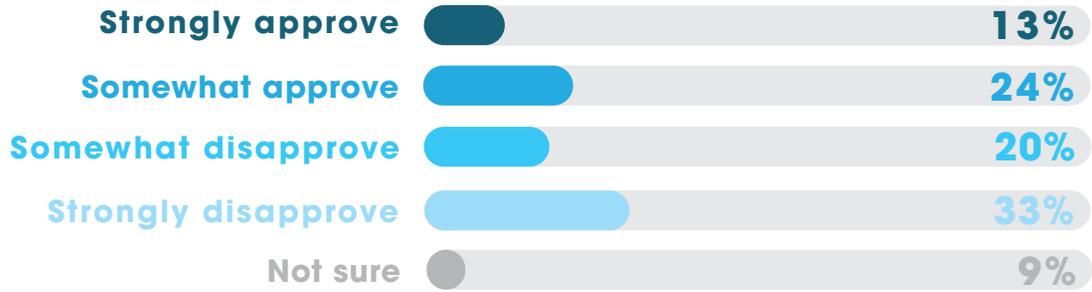
Do you believe that Governor Whitmer is responsible for COVID-19 deaths in nursing homes, or not?



Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of the job Governor Whitmer is doing handling the coronavirus?



Do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove or strongly disapprove of the job Republicans in the State Legislature are doing handling the coronavirus?

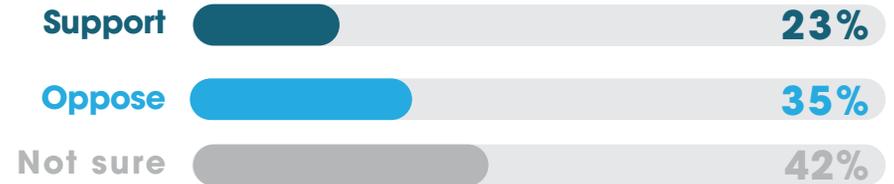




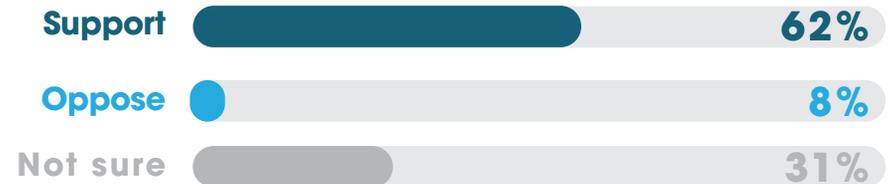
Real Transparency Reforms Super Popular

For the second Lake Effect in a row, we are seeing massive support for Progress Michigan-announced ballot efforts around FOIA and lobbying reform. The temperature on the lesser version of FOIA reform moving through the legislature gets a lukewarm reception.

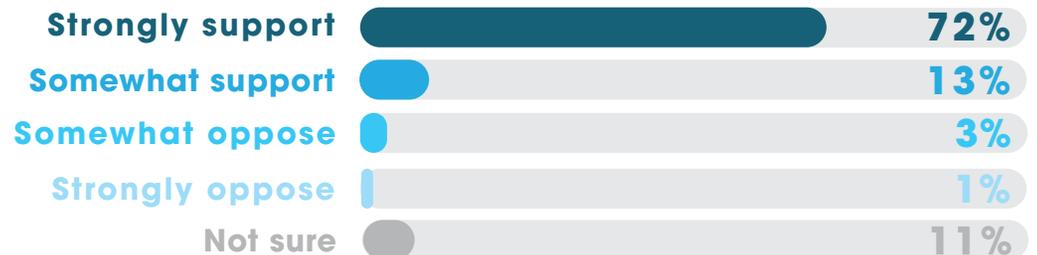
The legislature is debating bills to open the Governor's office up to Freedom of Information Act requests but that also would create a separate system with less transparency for legislative records requests. Do you support or oppose this bill package?



Progress Michigan has announced a ballot initiative to open both the Governor's office and legislature up to the full Freedom of Information Act law. Would you support or oppose this ballot initiative?



Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a ballot initiative that would require more transparency and reporting for lobbying activities in state government?



About Lake Effect

Presented by Progress Michigan, Lake Effect is a monthly research newsletter that follows public opinion in Michigan. Each month, Public Policy Polling will survey registered voters across Michigan about their opinions of important issues and public figures in the state. These newsletters will break down the results and provide readers with key takeaways and analysis from the data.

About This Study

PPP interviewed 936 Michigan voters by phone and text from April 1st and April 2nd on behalf of Progress Michigan. The margin of error is +/- 3.2%

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