


Federalist Society Polling Data: Kansas

Survey of 507 Likely Voters in Kansas
November 1-5, 2007
Margin of Error: $\pm 4.4\%$

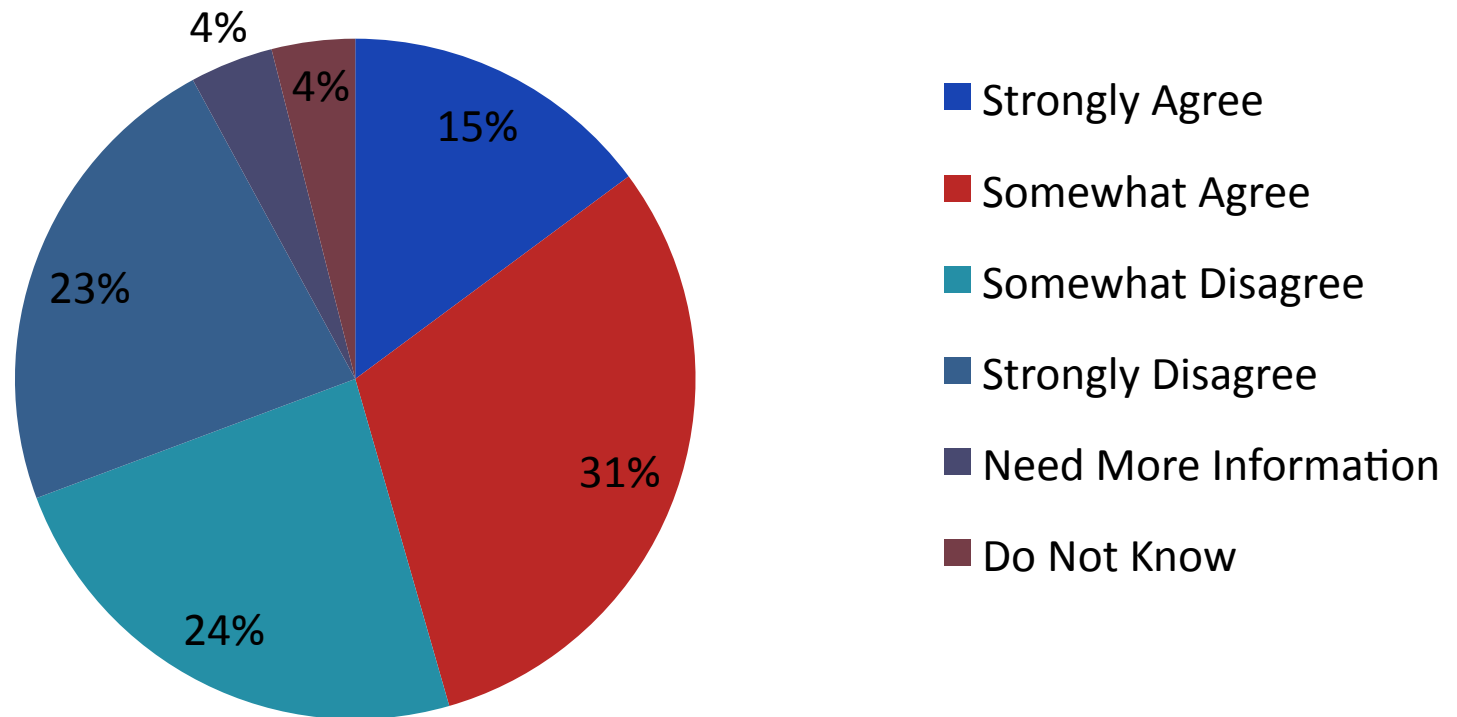
STATE COURTS
guide

 the polling company, inc.
WomanTrend



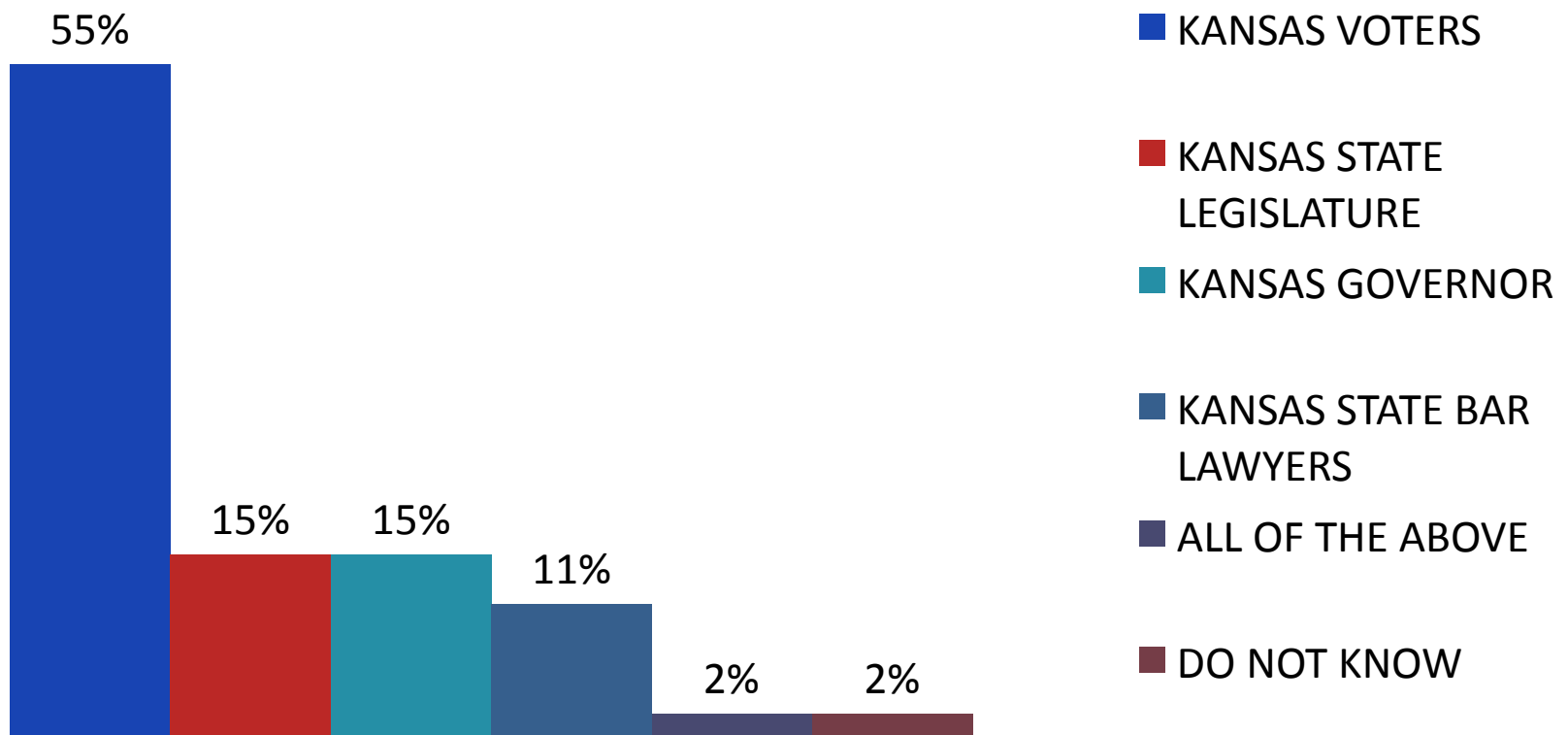
Kansas Supreme Court Selection

After a Justice is appointed to the Kansas Supreme Court and serves one year on the Court, in the next general election held in the state, voters have the opportunity to take part in an up or down/yes or no vote to decide whether or not to “retain” or keep the Justice for a term of six years. This is called a “retention election.” No Supreme Court Justice has ever lost a retention election in Kansas. Based on this information, do you agree or disagree that this system of judicial review is serving its intended purpose of accountability for our judges?



Kansas Supreme Court Selection

Who do you think should have the greatest input on who is selected to serve as a Justice on the Kansas State Supreme Court?

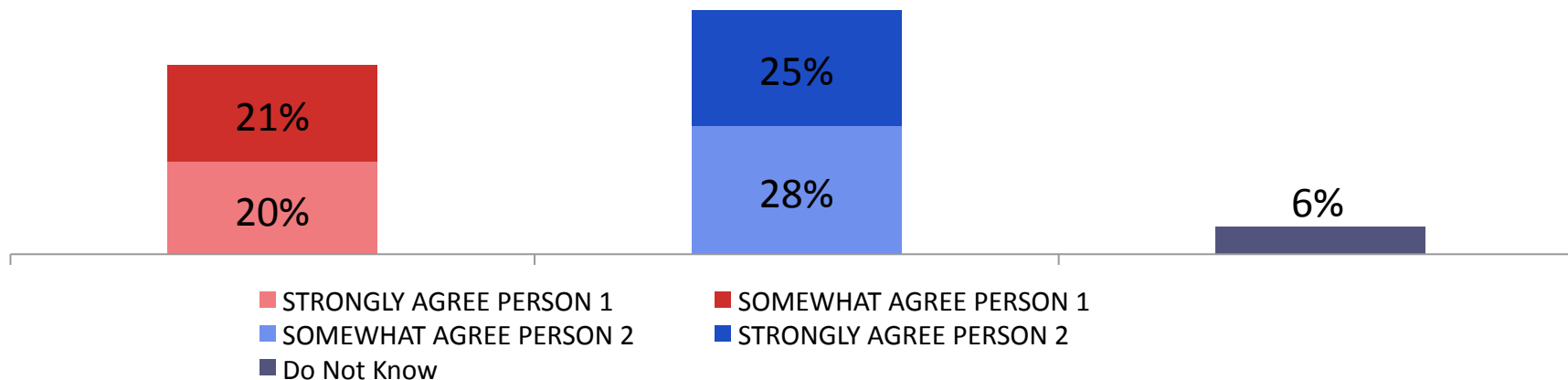


Kansas Supreme Court Selection

I am going to read you the opinions of two people. Please tell me which one comes closest to your view.

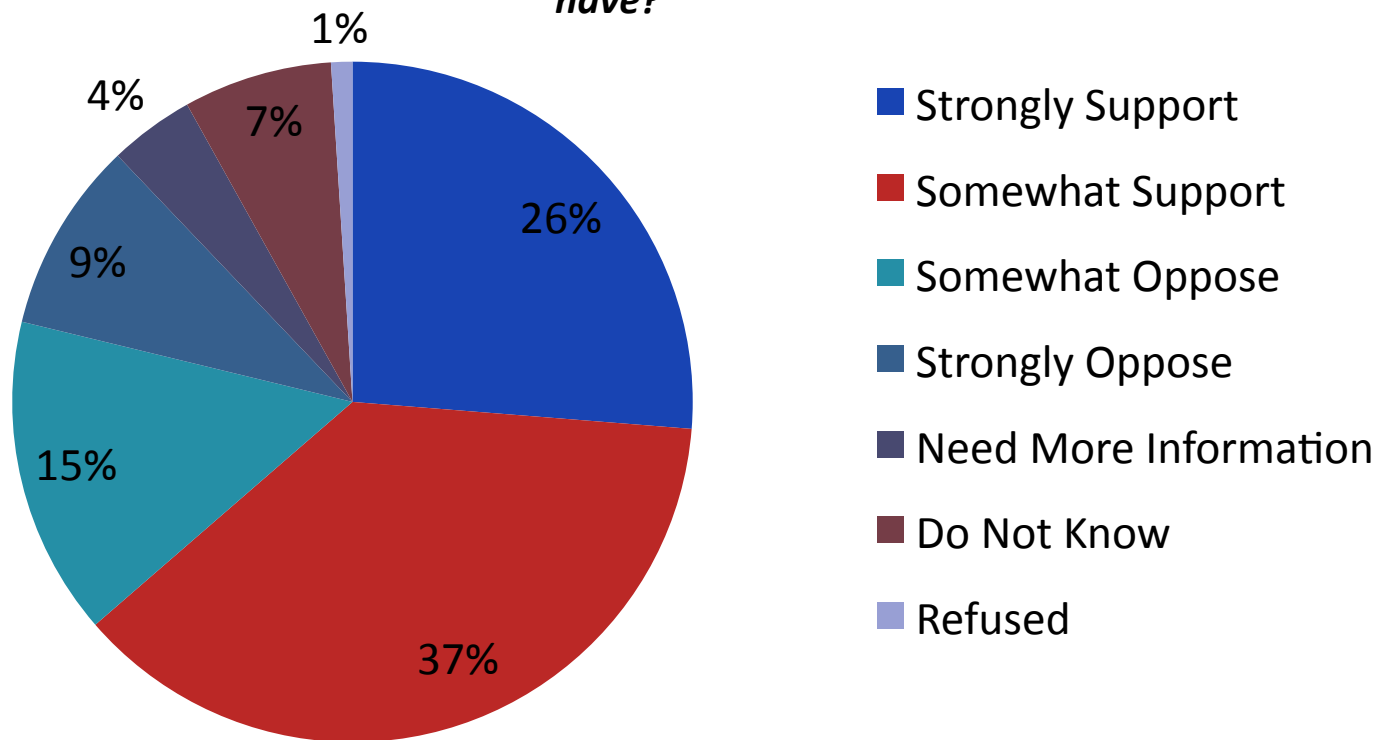
PERSON 1: *It is best that the deciding majority, meaning at least five of the nine members, of the nominating commission be lawyers, because lawyers know more than most non-lawyers, legislators or the Governor about what qualities a good Supreme Court Justice should possess*

PERSON 2: *It is best that the deciding majority, meaning at least five of the nine members, of the nominating commission not be lawyers, because non-lawyers are less likely to have conflicts of interest before the court and they are just as qualified as lawyers to make decisions about what qualities a good Supreme Court Justice should possess.*



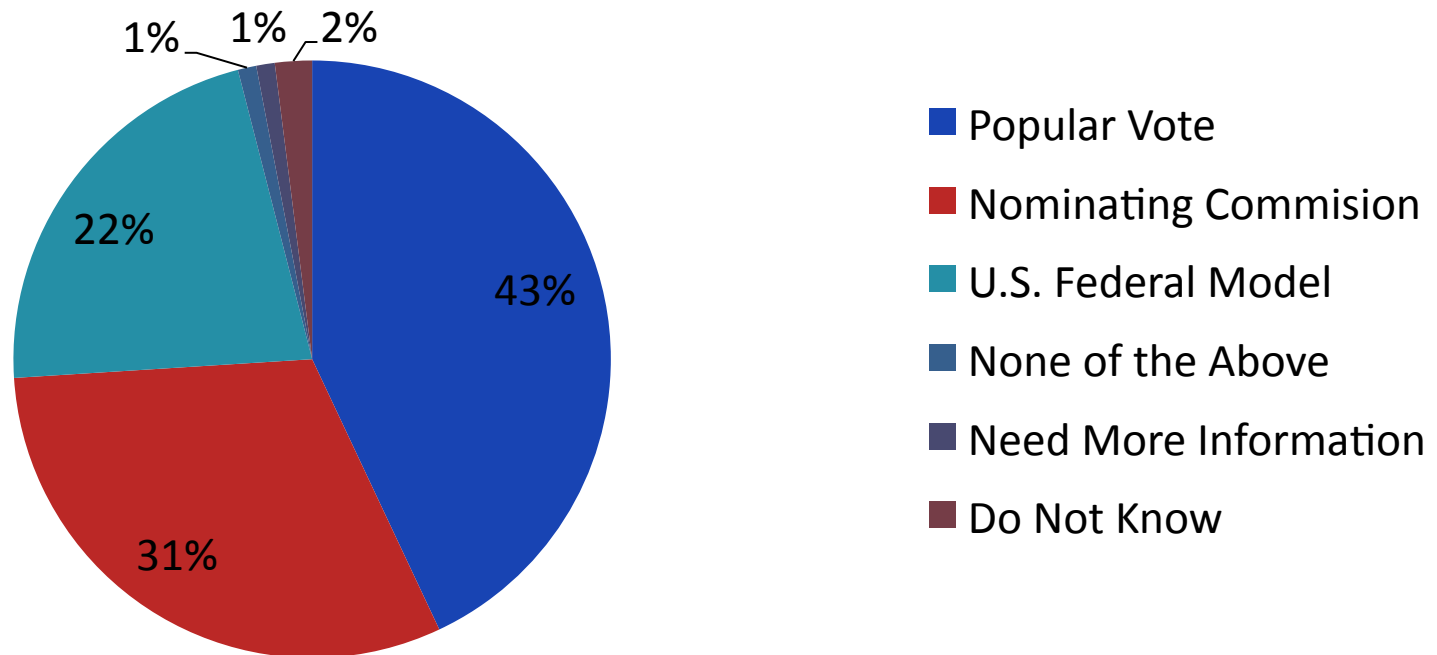
Kansas Supreme Court Selection

A number of states have adopted the same process of selecting judicial nominees as Kansas; however, most of them have a judicial nominating commission that includes more input from the Governor, state legislature, citizens, and other interested parties and less input from lawyers and state bar associations. Do you support or oppose changing the way Kansas selects the members of its Commission as other states have?



Kansas Supreme Court Selection

There are several different ways by which State Supreme Court Justices could be selected. I am now going to describe for you a few different methods used by other states. Please tell me which one you think would be the best model for Kansas.



Kansas Supreme Court Selection

The Kansas State Legislature is currently considering a bill that would change the way the Kansas Supreme Court Justices are selected from the current method that we have been discussing to the method used for the United States Supreme Court – the Federal Model – whereby the Kansas Supreme Court Justices would be nominated by the Governor and then confirmed by the State Senate. Would you support or oppose adopting this method of judicial selection?

