

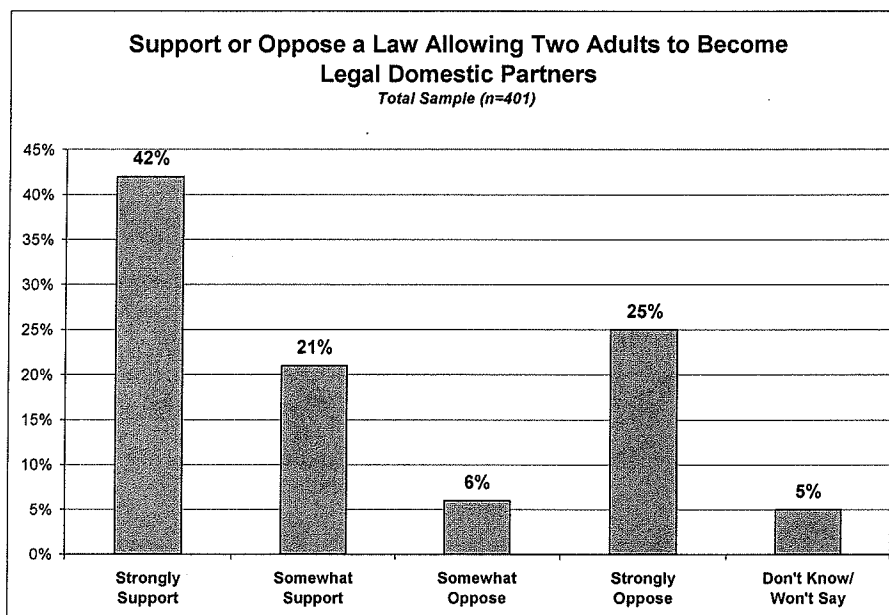
Senate District 26 Summary of Results

Methodology

This study, conducted by Research & Polling, Inc., was commissioned by the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico. The objective of the study was to measure public opinion regarding a proposed domestic partnership law in New Mexico among registered voters in State Senate District 26. A random sample of 401 registered voters living within Senate District 26 was interviewed by telephone between February 6th and February 8th, 2009. A sample size of 401 provides a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 4.9%.

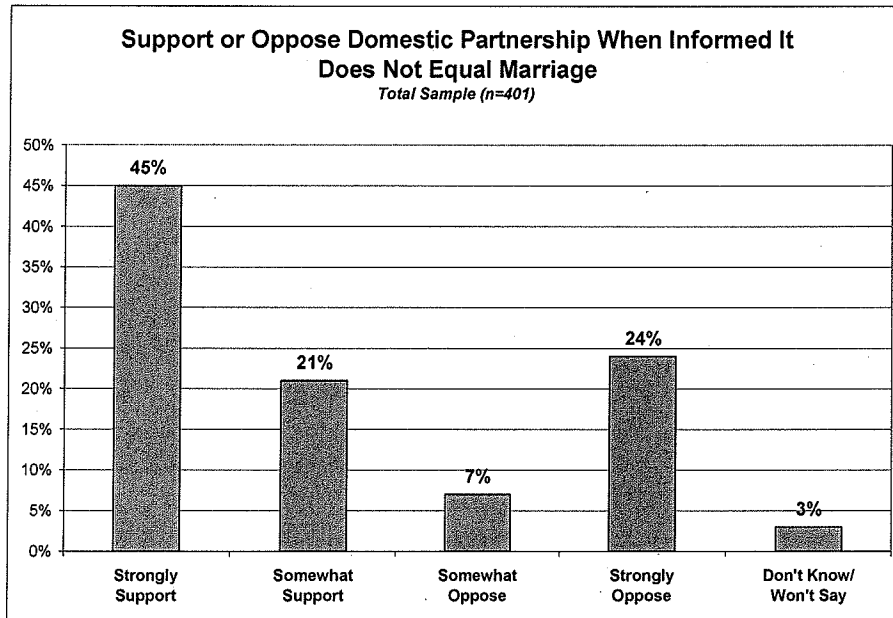
Key Findings

Registered voters in State Senate District 26 were informed that a state law has been proposed that would allow two adults, regardless of their gender, to become domestic partners giving them the same legal rights and protection as a married couple. This would include the right to make medical decisions for each other, to be the next of kin if one of them died, and receive similar health and financial protections that married couples now get. Voters were then asked if they support or oppose this proposal and their strength of support/opposition.



As shown above, the large majority (63%) of registered voters in State Senate District 26 either *strongly support* (42%) or *somewhat support* (21%) the domestic partnership proposal. Just under one-in-three (31%) of registered voters in Senate District 26 say they either *strongly oppose* (25%) or *somewhat oppose* (6%) the domestic partnership proposal. Five percent of those surveyed either have not made a decision on the issue or have no opinion.

In a follow-up question voters were informed that under this proposal a domestic partnership is not recognized as a marriage, but it does provide two consenting adults the same legal rights and protections that a married couple receives. They were again asked if they support or oppose the proposal.



As shown above, being given this information only has a minimal effect on support levels as 66% say they are supportive while 31% remain opposed.

The issue of domestic partnerships and civil unions has been strongly debated in recent years both at the state level and at the national level. While the issue has stirred a great deal of passion and rhetoric on both sides, this study shows conclusively that the large majority of voters in Senate District 26 support a domestic partnership law that gives two consenting adults regardless of their gender, the same legal protections and rights as a married couples currently enjoy.

**Demographics of Sample
(Registered Voters Only)**

	<i>Total Sample (n=401)</i>
<u>Gender</u>	
Male	47%
Female	53%
<u>Age</u>	
18 to 34 years	33%
35 to 49 years	27%
50 to 64 years	24%
65 years or older	16%
Won't say	*
<u>Ethnicity</u>	
Hispanic	54%
Anglo/Caucasian	36%
Black/African-American	2%
Native American Indian	3%
Other descent	4%
Won't say	1%
<u>Political Affiliation</u>	
Democrat	57%
Republican	24%
Independent/D-T-S/other	18%
Won't say	1%

* Less than 1% reported.

4. Do you consider yourself to be: (READ CATEGORIES)

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Hispanic | 4. Native American Indian |
| 2. Anglo/Caucasian | 5. Or of other descent? |
| 3. Black/African-American | 6. Won't say (<i>DO NOT READ</i>) |

5. Are you a registered Democrat, Republican, Independent or other?

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Democrat | 3. Independent/D-T-S/other |
| 2. Republican | 4. Won't say (<i>SEE LIST</i>) |

6. What is your religious preference? (*DO NOT READ CATEGORIES*) (*TAKE ONE RESPONSE ONLY*)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 01. Agnostic | 11. Episcopalian | 21. Muslim/Islam |
| 02. Atheist | 12. Evangelical | 22. Non-denominational |
| 03. Baha'i | 13. Hindu | 23. Presbyterian |
| 04. Baptist | 14. Jehovah's Witness | 24. Protestant |
| 05. Buddhist | 15. Jewish | 25. Religious Science |
| 06. Catholic/Roman Catholic | 16. Lutheran | 26. Scientology |
| 07. Christian | 17. Mennonite | 27. Unitarian |
| 08. Church of Christ | 18. Metaphysical | 28. Unity |
| 09. Deism | 19. Methodist | |
| 10. Eckankar | 20. Mormon | |

98. None
99. Undecided/don't know/won't say

Other (*SPECIFY*) _____

THIS CONCLUDES OUR SURVEY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. HAVE A GOOD DAY.

NOTE TO INTERVIEWER, WAS RESPONDENT:

1. Male
2. Female

Respondent's Phone Number _____

Interviewer Name _____

Interviewer Code _____

ENTER ZIP CODE FROM PHONE LIST: _____