



To: INTERESTED PARTIES
FROM: MARK STEPHENSON, RED OAK STRATEGIC
DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2015
SUBJECT: OVERWHELMING, BROAD AND EXTENSIVE SUPPORT ACROSS PARTY, IDEOLOGY AND DEMOGRAPHICS FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM IN NEW LOUISIANA SURVEY FINDINGS

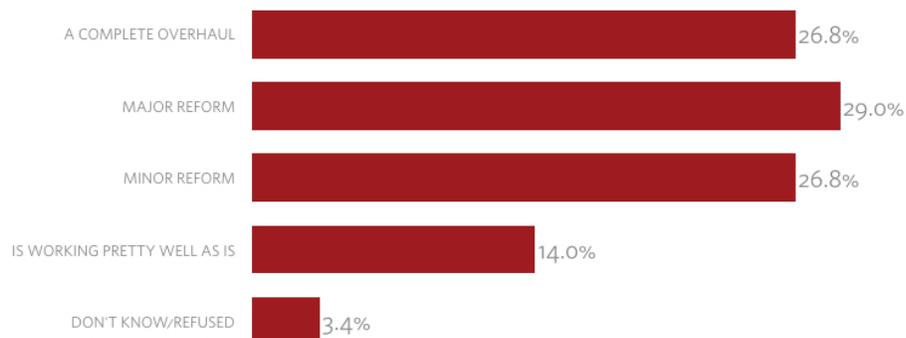
THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM IS BASED ON SURVEY RESULTS FIELDIED ON BEHALF OF JUSTICE ACTION NETWORK IN LOUISIANA FROM 11/10/2015 TO 11/14/2015. THIS STUDY WAS CONDUCTED AMONG N=500 LIKELY 2016 GENERAL VOTERS, AND HAS A MARGIN OF ERROR OF $\pm 4.38\%$. INTERVIEWS WERE FIELDIED AMONG 64% LANDLINE AND 36% MOBILE PHONE RESPONDENTS.

BROAD SUPPORT FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA ACROSS ALL DEMOGRAPHICS

Across party lines, age groups and political ideology, the support for reform is evident and pervasive in numerous groups of likely-voting Louisianans.

- 82.6% of Louisiana likely voters support justice reform, including 26.8% who believe the system needs a complete overhaul and 29% who think it needs major reform.
- This is an issue that voters of all parties are supporting - 79% of Republicans support reform, along with 86% of Democrats and 88% of Independents.
- Across ideologies, support levels are consistently high:
 - 81% of conservatives, 87% of liberals and 84% of moderates support reform.
- Voters of all ages are supportive of the reform movement, including 86% of 18 to 34 year olds and almost 80% of voters over 65.

GENERALLY SPEAKING, DO YOU THINK LOUISIANA'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM NEEDS ...



VOTERS VIEW COST SAVINGS AND ECONOMICS OF PROGRAMS AS A MAJOR DRIVER TO SUPPORT REFORM

Voters believe that like any other set of government programs, criminal justice should be put to the economic and success test, and support moving some resources down to local efforts to strengthen community programs.

- 77.1% support a cost-benefit test for prisons, to ensure that taxpayer dollars are being spent effectively.
- 74.9% agree that money spent on locking up non-violent offenders should be shifted to other, more locally-focused programs, including almost 50% who agree strongly.
- Voters believe that the prison system should do a better job of making sure that offenders are less likely to commit more crimes after imprisonment: 79.2% agree, including almost 58% strongly.

SUPPORT FOR REFORMS TO REENTRY AND REHABILITATION POLICIES, MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES

Louisiana voters also believe that enhancing rehabilitation programs and changes to mandatory minimums are needed.

- 91% favor additional rehabilitation programs for low-level offenders, to help turn criminals away from crime and get them off of the taxpayer's dime.
 - Again, supported across party and demographic groups, with 87% of Republicans, 96% of Democrats and 85% of Independents in favor of additional rehab programs.
- Almost 79% favor replacing mandatory minimum sentencing with ranges, so that judges can make a more individual recommendation based on each case.
- Voters favor enacting "ban the box" legislation, with 67% supporting allowing employers to inquire into an applicant's criminal background only when ready to make an offer.
- 70% agree with the statement that the policy of civil asset forfeiture is in need of reform, and that our justice system is founded on the idea of being innocent until proven guilty.

SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

The results of our Louisiana research overwhelmingly demonstrate voter belief that criminal justice reform is needed. Across demographics, party and ideology, this is an issue that is being driven by economic and cost concerns, along with the belief that many programs should be reformed to push for more local involvement and empowering the individual. This is an issue broadly supported across voter demographic segments and these findings demonstrate the need for justice reform and priority it should have for policymakers.

