TO:	Interested Parties
FROM:	EMC Research
RE:	Key Findings of Survey of Likely Voters in Oklahoma
DATE:	February 20, 2019

EMC Research conducted a statewide poll in Oklahoma of Likely November 2020 Voters to assess support for criminal justice reform proposals. Survey results showed strong voter support for State Question 780, and broad support for retroactive reclassification and reforming bail practices. Key findings from the voter research include:

Support for State Question 780 remains high across the state. More than three-quarters of Oklahoma voters currently support State Question 780, which was passed in 2016.

As you may know, State Question 780 was on the ballot in 2016. It changed the classification of certain drug possession and property crimes from a felony to a misdemeanor, made possession of a limited quantity of drugs a misdemeanor, and changed the classification of certain drug possession crimes to misdemeanors. The measure increased the threshold dollar amount used for determining whether certain property crimes are considered a felony or misdemeanor from $500 to $1,000. This measure passed and became effective July 1, 2017.
Regardless of how you voted in 2016, do you currently support or oppose this measure?

Overall, voters say they continue to support the state question (76% Support; 24% Oppose). Intensity of support is high with a plurality (42%) saying they strongly support the question. A majority of Republicans (65% Support; 34% Oppose), Independents (83% Support; 17% Oppose), and Democrats (89% Support; 11% Oppose) support the measure.

A majority of November 2020 likely voters across the state would support a proposal to retroactively reclassify felony convictions for minor drug and property theft offenses. Eighty percent (80%) of likely voters statewide support this proposal with just 19% opposing.

And as you may have heard, there is a proposal to create a process that will retroactively apply the terms of State Question 780 – that is, allow anyone who was previously convicted of a crime that was categorized as a felony under the old laws to go through an application process to have that felony modified into a misdemeanor under the new laws created by the passage of State Question 780.
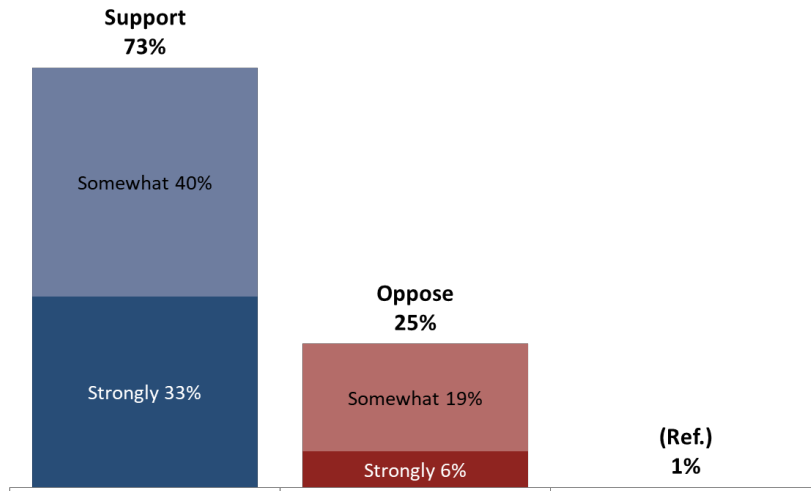***Would you support or oppose retroactively applying the terms of this measure?***

Intensity of support is high as well. A plurality (46%) of voters strongly support a proposal for retroactive reclassification. Retroactive reclassification also reaches majority support across party lines with Republicans (72% Support; 28% Oppose), Independents (84% Support; 16% Oppose), and Democrats (91% Support; 9% Oppose).

EMCresearch.com

COLUMBUS, OH	IRVING, TX	OAKLAND, CA	ORLANDO, FL	PORTLAND, OR	SEATTLE, WA	WASHINGTON, D.C.
614-268-1660	972-717-7427	510-844-0680	407-704-6208	503-444-6000	206-652-2454	202-686-5900

Almost 3-in-4 voters (73%) support reforming bail practices in Oklahoma, including abolishing for-profit bail. Voters demonstrate strong support for a proposal reforming bail practices.

And as you may have heard, a proposal to reform bail practices, including abolishing for-profit bail, has been discussed in Oklahoma.
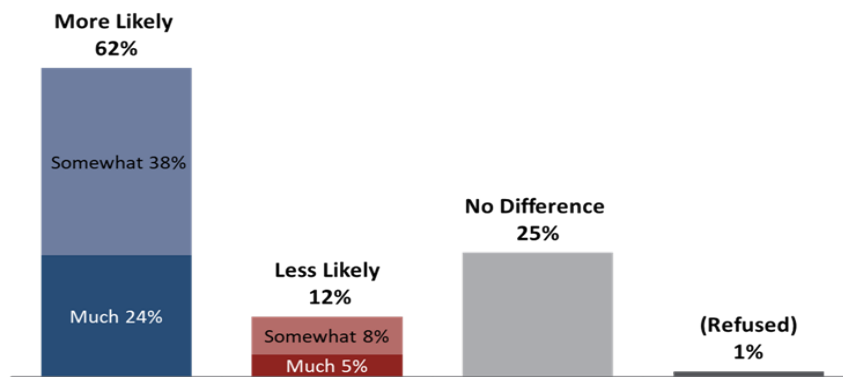**Would you support or oppose reforming bail practices in Oklahoma?**

Support for bail reform is strong across partisanship, receiving majority support from Republicans (65% Support; 34% Oppose), Independents (77% Support; 22% Oppose) and Democrats (85% Support; 14% Oppose).

Oklahoma voters are more likely to vote for a state legislator who supports reforming bail practices by a 50-point margin. Only 12% of Oklahomans say that support for this reform would make them less likely to support that legislator. Voters, regardless of partisanship, indicate that they are "more likely" to support legislators who support this reform. A near majority of Republicans (49%), and a strong majority of Independents (70%) and Democrats (78%) all say they are more likely to support a legislator who backs this reform. Just 16% of Republicans, 11% of Independents, and 7% of Democrats indicate support for bail reform would make them "less likely" to support a legislator.

If you knew that your state legislator supported bail reform, would it make you more or less likely to want to vote for your state legislator, or would it make no difference?

This memorandum is based on an email-to-web survey of 501 Likely November 2020 Voters in the state of Oklahoma. The survey was conducted between January 31 and February 15, 2019, and results have an overall margin of error of ±4.4 percentage points.

EMC research