



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 1999 State Fair Poll Results

[St. Paul] < Minnesotans do not support the notion of a unicameral legislature and do not discriminate when it comes to their opposition to public funding for facilities for the Twins or Vikings, according to an unofficial opinion poll conducted by the Minnesota House of Representatives during the 1999 Minnesota State Fair. The poll asked separate questions related to stadium proposals for the Twins and Vikings. The plan to build a St. Paul ballpark to house the Twins received only slightly more support than the idea of providing public backing for a new football stadium.

The poll also showed that respondents believe the governor should reimburse the state for expenses related to his personal business. Fairgoers also showed support for the legalization of marijuana for medical uses and (by a relatively narrow margin) the installation of slot machines at Canterbury Park.

Nearly 7,000 fairgoers stopped by the House booth in the Education Building and completed the 10-question poll. The results were electronically calculated after the fair concluded Sept. 6.

Here's a look at the poll questions with fairgoers' responses:

**1. Would you support a constitutional amendment that would eliminate the Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives and replace them with a unicameral (one-house) legislature?**

Yes	36.7%	(2,550)
No	49.2%	(3,421)
Undecided/No Opinion	14.1%	(979)

**2. Should Minnesota's primary elections be moved from early September to late June?**

Yes	25.1%	(1,744)
No	52.9%	(3,672)
Undecided/ No Opinion	21.9%	(1,519)

**3. Should the state allow cities to set their own speed limits?**

Yes	37.3%	(2,586)
No	56.1%	(3,884)
Undecided/No Opinion	6.6%	(459)

**4. Should Minnesotans be allowed to buy and use small fireworks, such as firecrackers and bottle rockets, in the days surrounding the Fourth of July?**

Yes	46.6%	(3,239)
No	49.2%	(3,420)
Undecided/No opinion	4.3%	(299)

**5. Should state legislators be prohibited from working as lobbyists during the first year after they leave office?**

Yes	68.8%	(4,757)
No	21.8%	(1,507)
Undecided/No Opinion	9.5%	(654)

**6. Should the state allow the installation of slot machines at Canterbury Park horse racing track?**

Yes	48.0%	(3,335)
No	43.0%	(2,990)
Undecided/No Opinion	9.0%	(622)

**7. Do you support the legalization of marijuana for medical uses?**

Yes	58.7%	(4,064)
No	32.7%	(2,260)
Undecided/ No Opinion	8.6%	(594)

**8. Should the state require reimbursement when the state incurs added costs from the governor's involvement in personal business activities?**

Yes	64.4%	(4,449)
No	27.0%	(1,862)
Undecided/ No Opinion	8.6%	(597)

**9. Should the state contribute one-third of the cost of a new stadium for the Minnesota Twins in St. Paul?**

Yes	22.4%	(1,556)
No	72.9%	(5,059)
Undecided/ No Opinion	4.8%	(333)

**10. Should the state contribute funds to help pay for a new stadium for the Minnesota Vikings?**

Yes	17.6%	(1,227)
No	77.6%	(5,400)
Undecided/ No Opinion	4.8%	(334)

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*Please Note: The Minnesota House of Representatives' survey is informal and unscientific. It is simply a measurement of the opinions expressed by those who took the time to complete the poll while visiting our booth at the fair. Our main purpose in conducting this opinion poll was to familiarize fairgoers with some of the issues that have recently been discussed by the Legislature and issues that may be debated during the upcoming legislative session.*