



Georgia's General Assembly

What Our Citizens Think

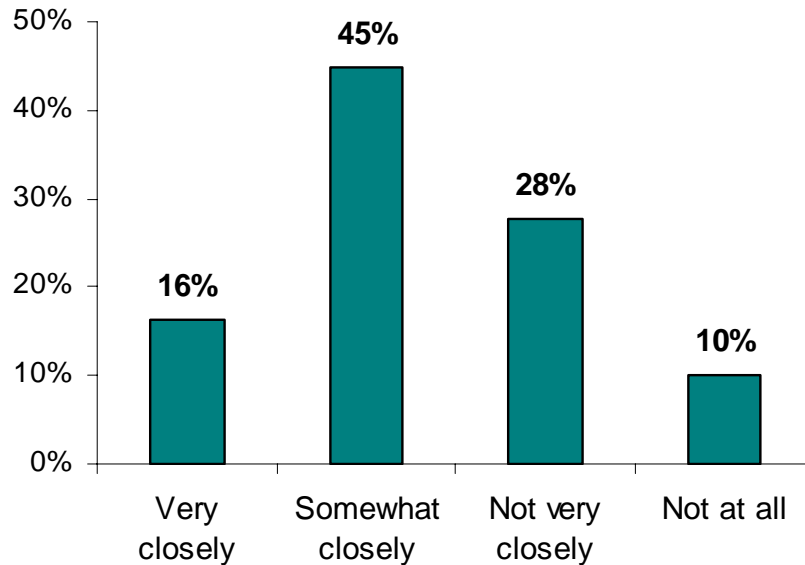
Tensions in Public Opinion

- The public says that what the legislature does is vital in their lives, but they know very little about the General Assembly.
- The public respects the difficulty of making decisions in a democracy and prefers a full-time legislature, but they prefer representatives who do what the people want and they favor wide use of a referenda process.
- The public feels that legislators are in politics for personal gain rather than public service and that legislators make reasonably high salaries qua legislators, but they think that legislators should be paid above actual current levels.

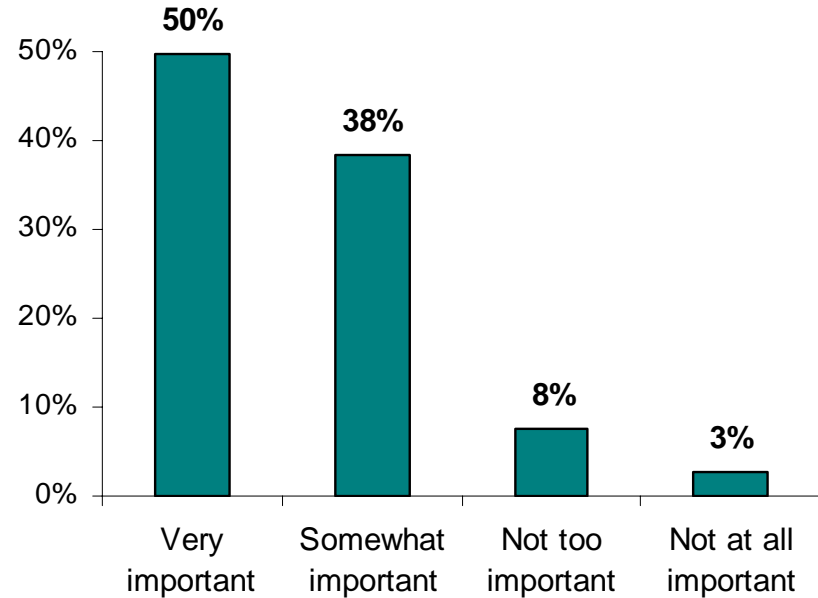


Public Interest in General Assembly

How closely do you follow news about the Georgia State Legislature?

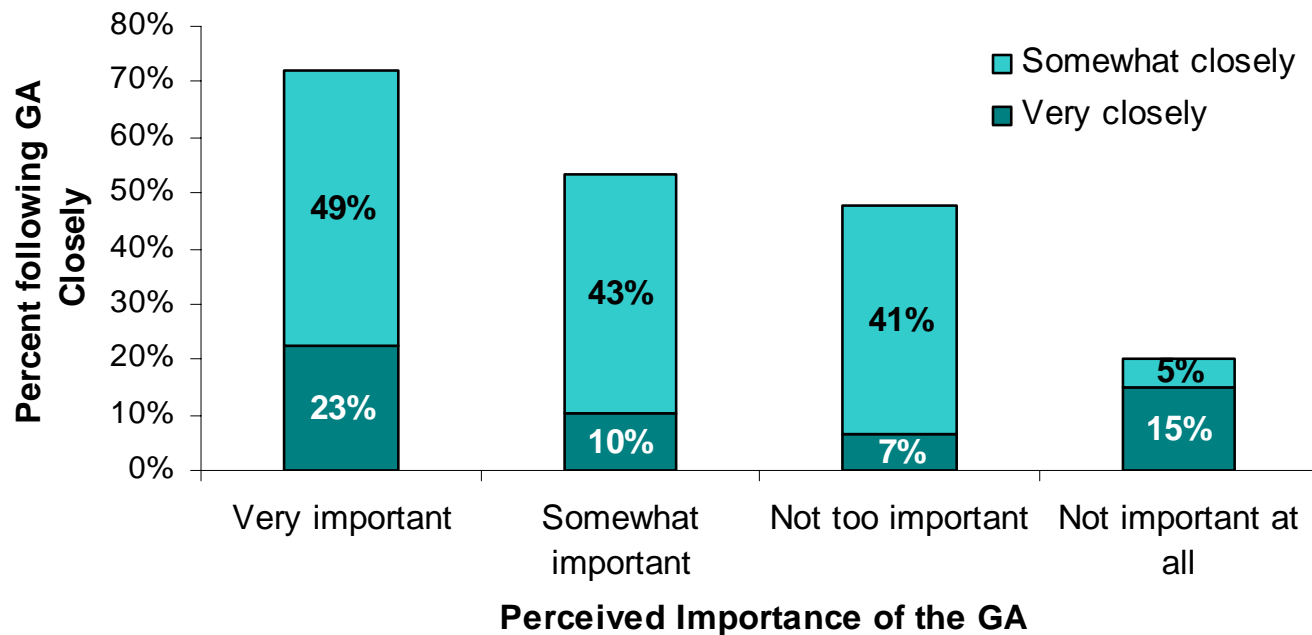


How important do you think the legislature is to your daily life?



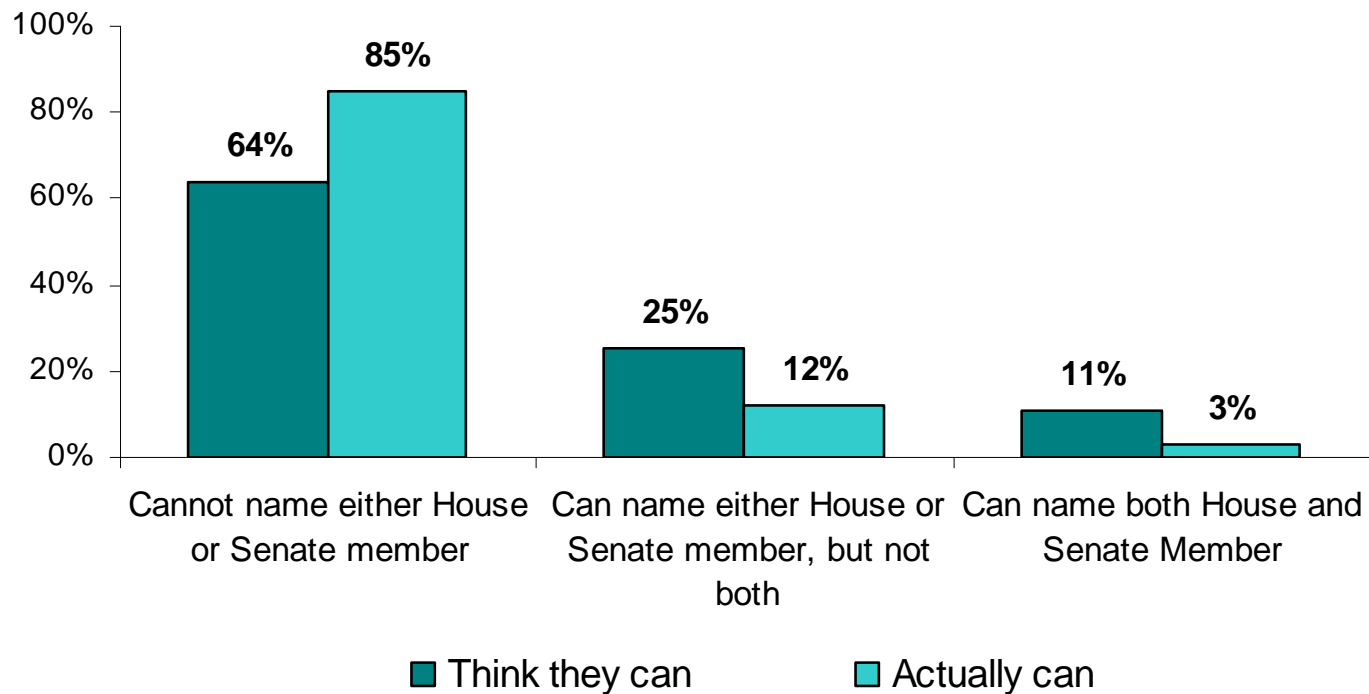
Public Interest in General Assembly

Relationship between Importance of General Assembly and Attention Paid to It



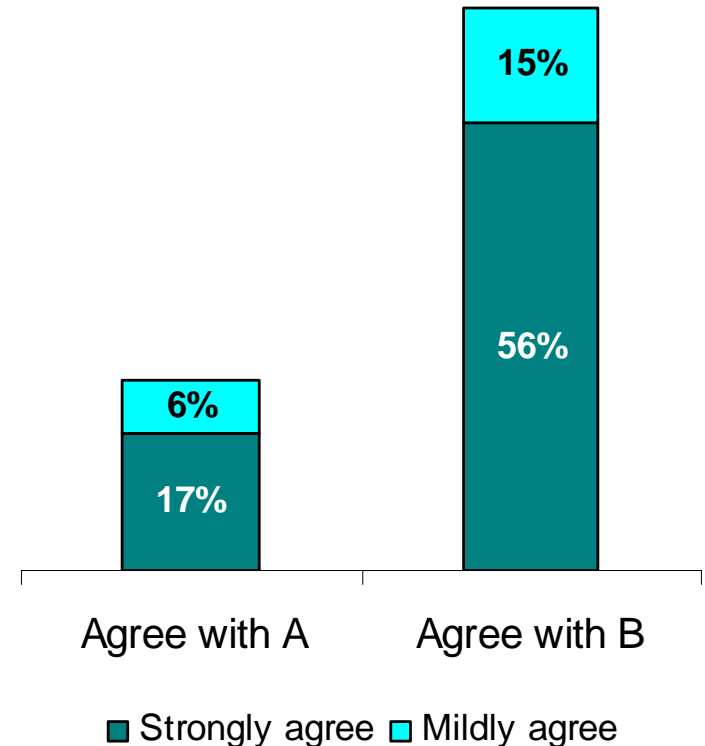
Public Awareness of General Assembly

Ability to Name Representatives in the General Assembly



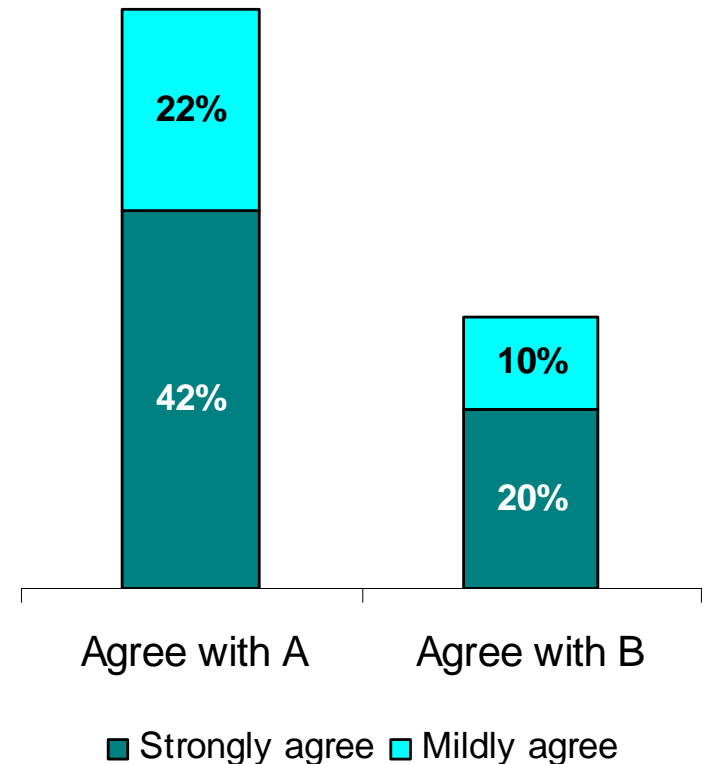
Public Assessment of the Task of Legislating

- (A) Developing a budget for the state is no different from developing a budget for a household, and it can be done by almost any person
- (B) Developing a budget for the state is a complex process that requires the most committed and intelligent people



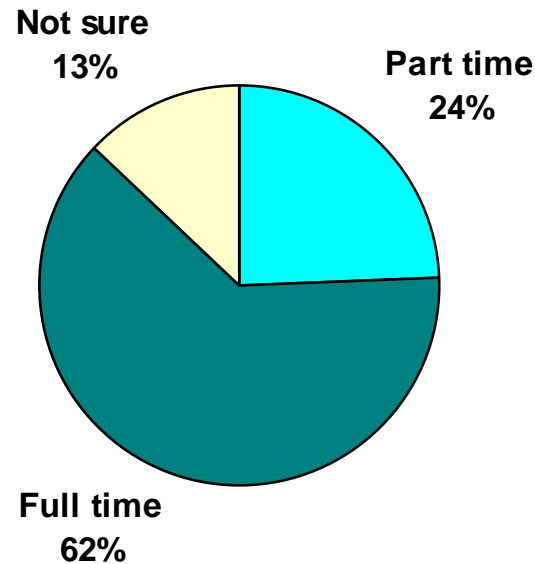
Public Assessment of the Task of Legislating

- (A) Conflict is unavoidable in the process of making laws because there are so many competing groups and interests
- (B) The process of making laws is full of unnecessary conflict



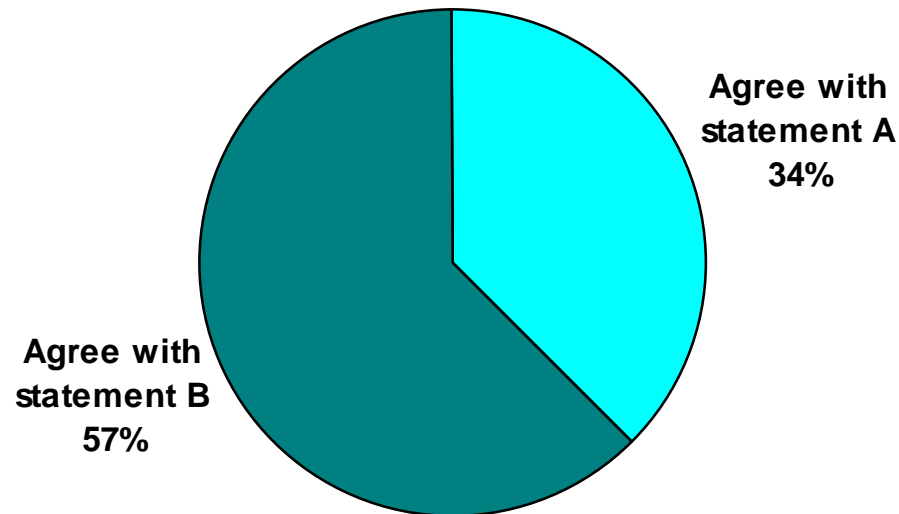
Public Preference for a Full-Time Legislature

Is state government better served by having a part-time legislature or would it be better to have a full-time legislature?



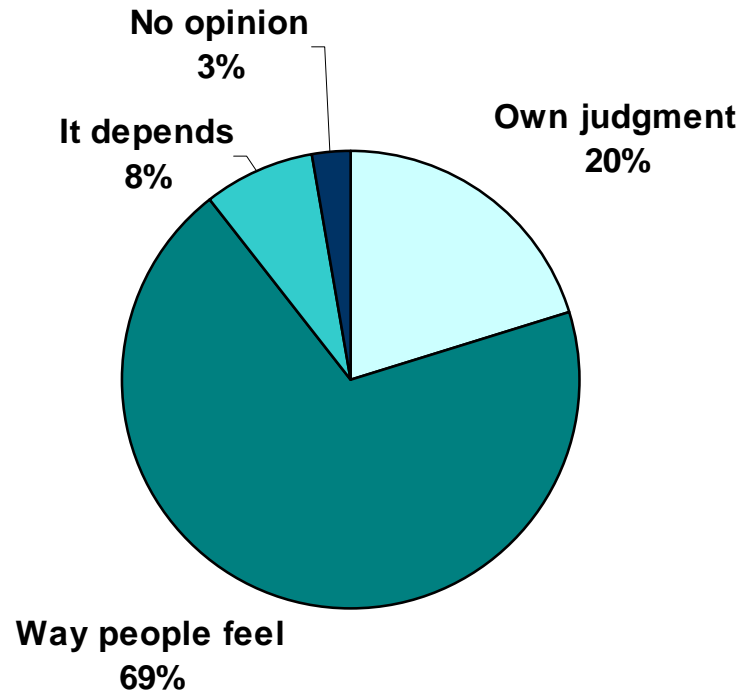
Public Preference for Circumventing Representative Government

(A) Making laws is a complicated job best left to elected representatives in the state legislature. OR **(B)** The state would be better off if the public decided issues directly by voting on them.



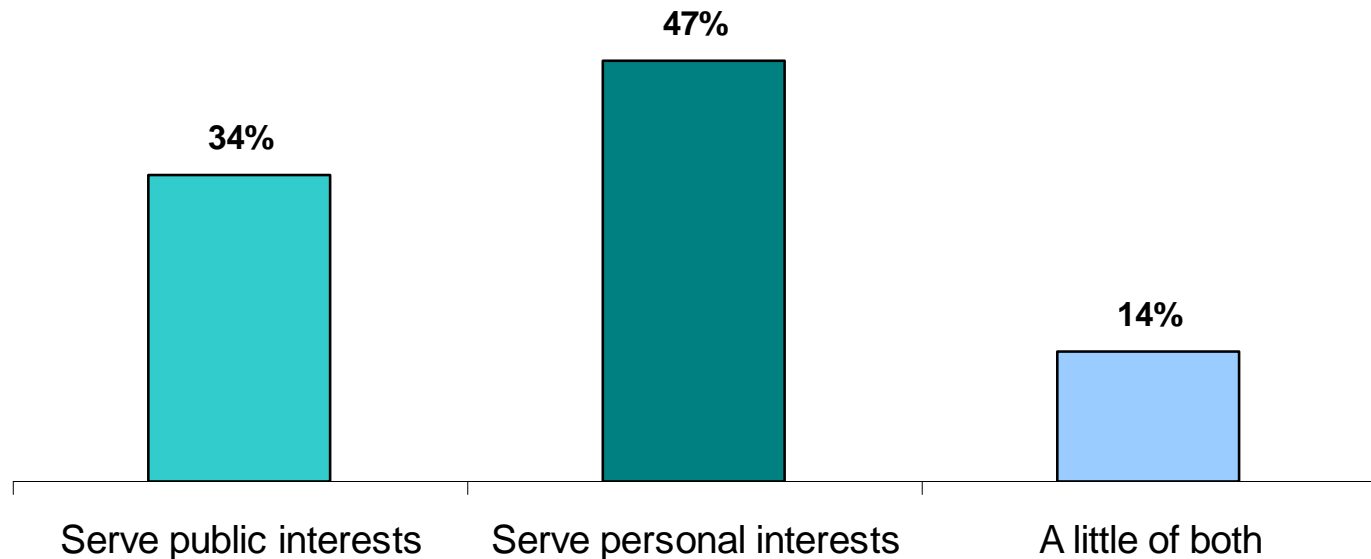
Public Preference for Representatives Who Follow Public Preferences

Should members of the Georgia General Assembly vote according to their own best judgment, or according to the way the people in their districts feel?

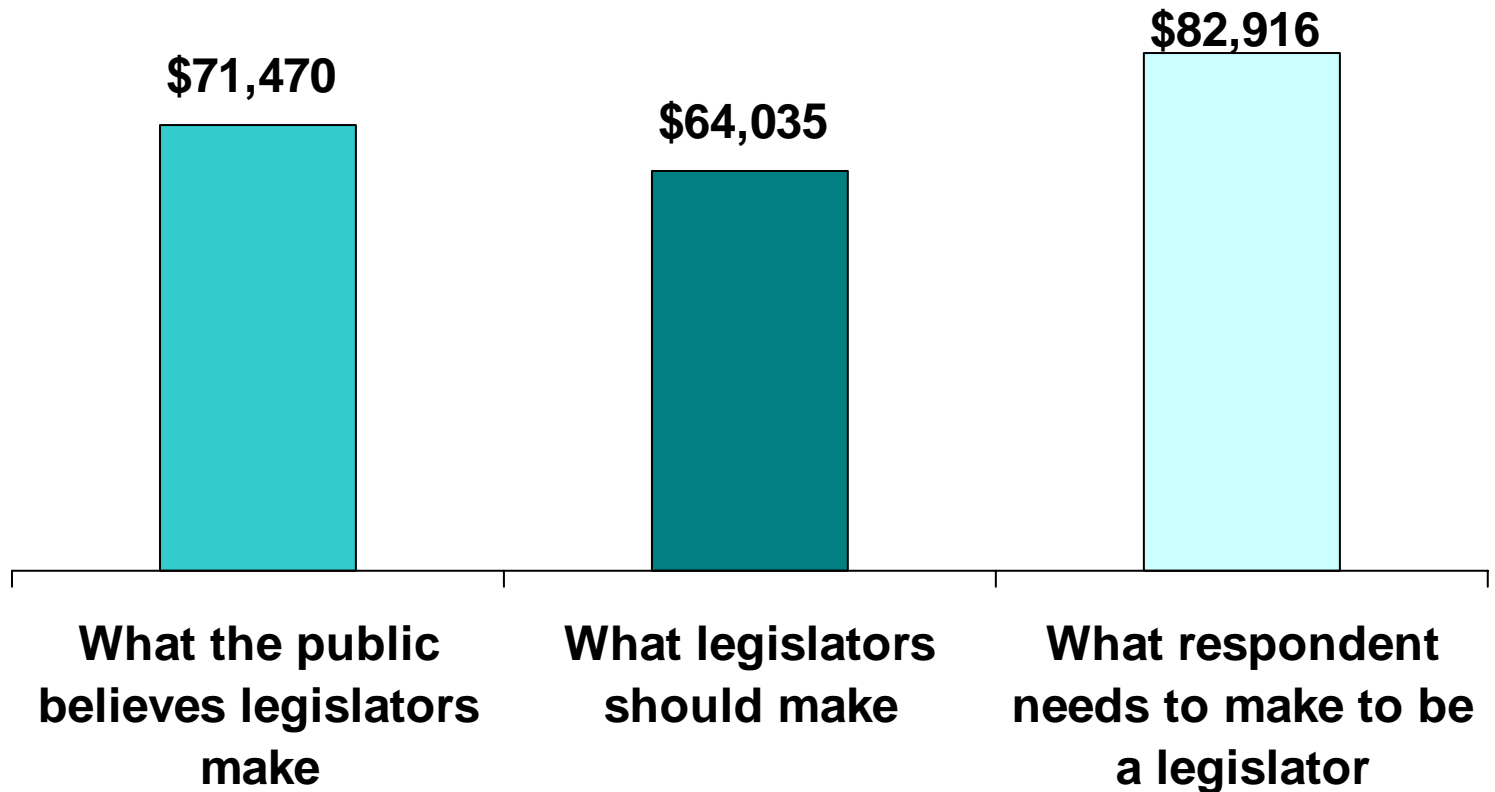


Public Assessment of Legislators' Personal Motives

Do you believe that legislators generally work to serve the public interest or do they generally work to serve their own personal interests?



Public Awareness of Legislators' Compensation



Ending on a positive note



Public Trust of General Assembly

How often can you trust the General Assembly, as an institution, to do what is right for the state as a whole?

