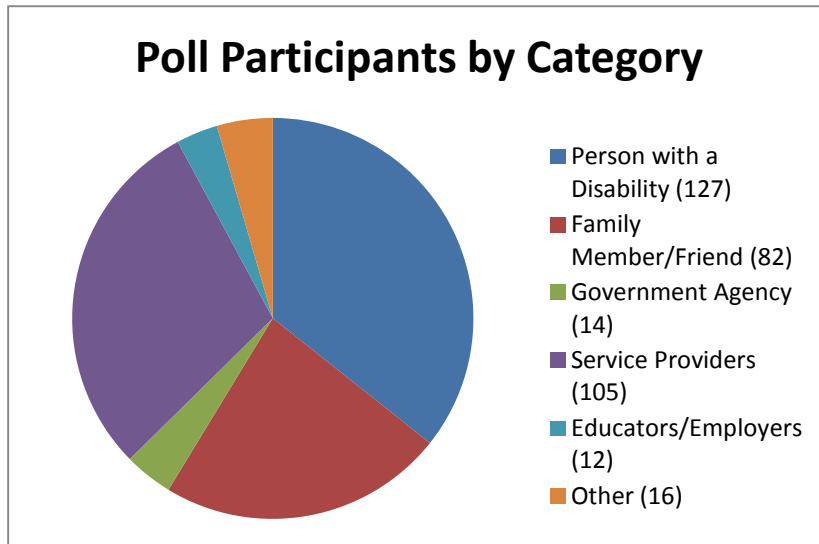


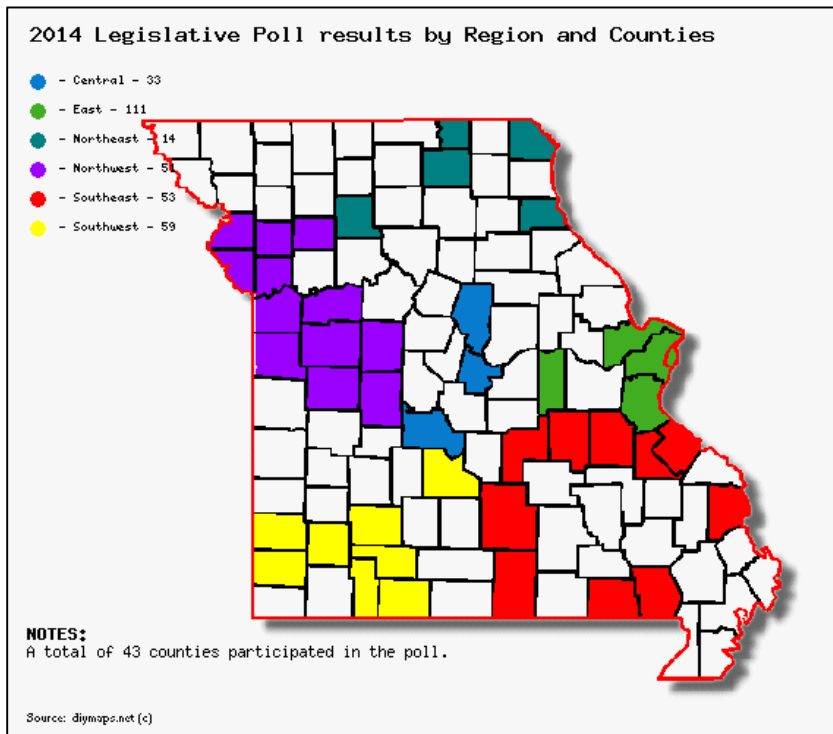
# Governor's Council on Disability's 2014 Legislative Priorities Poll Report

The Governor's Council on Disability conducted its annual poll to determine the level of importance disability related issues have to Missourians impacted by disability through their personal and/or professional lives. **Three hundred twenty-seven (327) polls were returned.**

Respondents were given the opportunity to indicate the group or groups to which they belonged:



The **results are represented by six regions of the state.** Please note that not all counties were represented. For the number of respondents per county please see Appendix B.



### State Issues

For the question concerning whether small businesses who have hired and employed someone with a disability should receive a tax credit. The majority (85%) agreed they should receive a tax credit, 9% were neutral, and 6% disagreed.

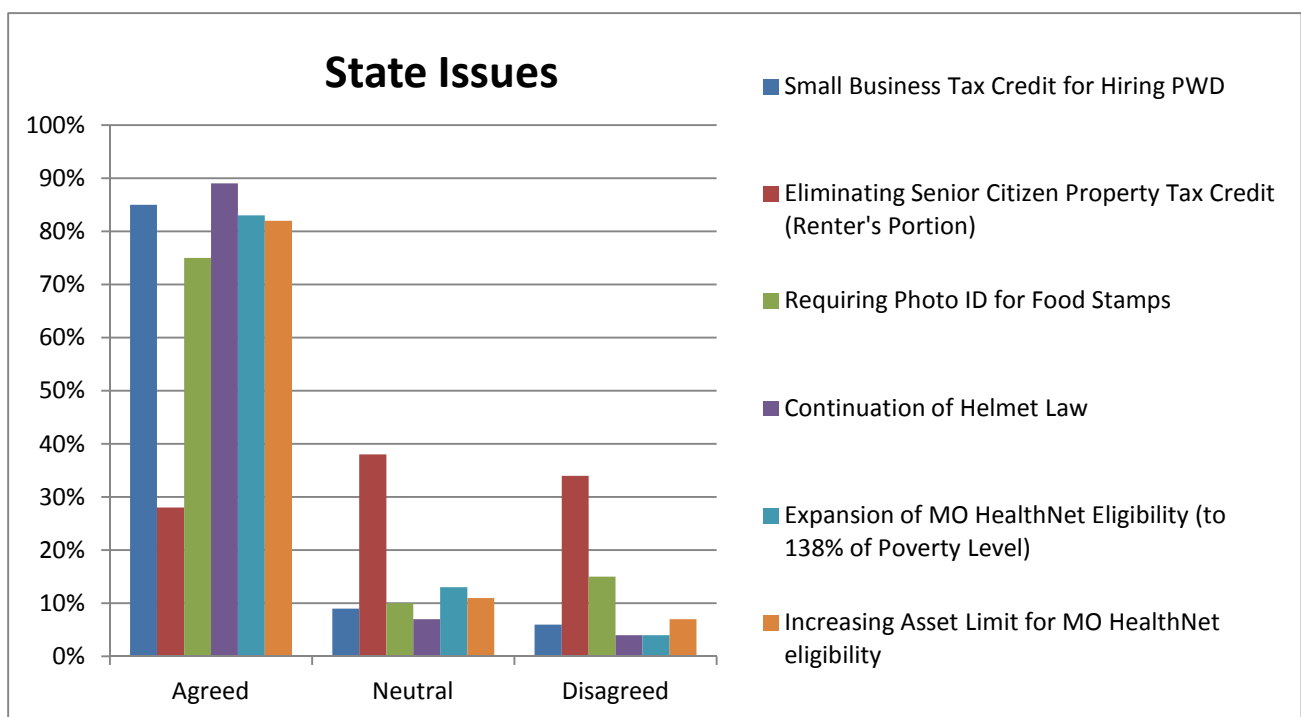
Question #2: Eliminating the renter's portion of the Senior Citizen Property Tax Credit for those who begin qualifying after January 1, 2014. The responses were almost evenly divided. (28%) respondents agreed, while 38% were neutral, and 34% disagreed.

Question #3: Shall you have a photo ID to obtain or continue to use food stamps? The majority (75%) agreed while 10% were neutral, and 15% disagreed.

Question #4: Continuation of the helmet law requirement for all riders and drivers of motorcycles. 89% agreed, 7% were neutral, and 4% disagreed.

Question #5: Support expansion of MO HealthNet eligibility to 138% of the federal poverty level. The majority (83%) agreed with 13% being neutral and 4% disagreeing.

Question #6: Increasing the asset limit for individuals and couples to qualify for MO Health Net. The majority (82%) agreed with 11% being neutral and 7% disagreeing.

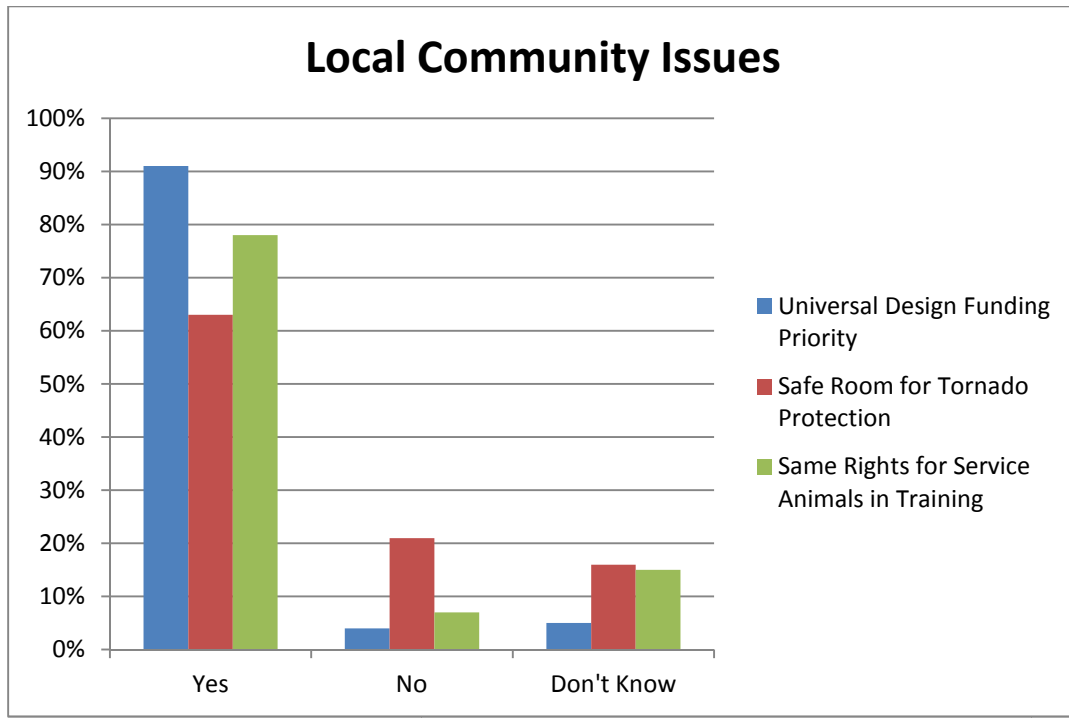


### Local Community Issues

Question 1: Public housing agencies and organizations should give **funding priority to projects which use Universal Design** (wider doorways, no steps/stairs, accessible bathroom, color contrast or texture change for walls and flooring). The majority (91%) answered yes, 4% answered no, and 5% answered don't know.

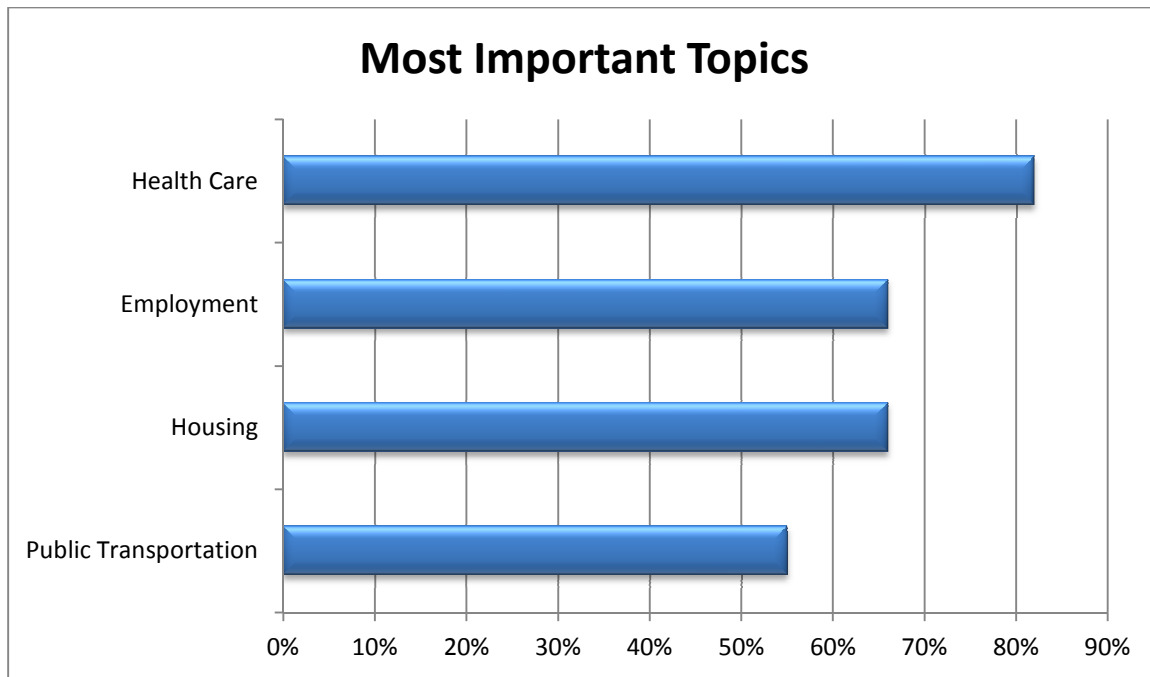
Question 2: All new homes should include a **safe room for tornado protection** 63% answered yes, 21% answered no, and 16% answered don't know.

Question 3: **Service animals in training should be given the same access rights as trained service animals.** The majority (78%) answered yes, 7% answered no, and 15% answered don't know.



**Importance of Topics**

This section of the poll asked respondents to indicate the degree of importance each of the topics (employment, housing, health care, and public transportation) had for them. The topic of highest importance as indicated by a response of very important was health care (82%) followed equally by employment (66%) and housing (66%), and the topic of least importance was public transportation (55%).



### **Individual Responses**

Individuals had the opportunity to provide additional comments on the poll. The comments were generally in these categories: asset limit, employment, environmental access, food stamps, fraud, helmet law, housing, medical insurance, other, tax credits, and transportation.

- Asset limit: most individuals are requesting an increase in the limit.
- Employment: discuss that employment choice shall include sheltered workshops.
- Environmental access: include improvements to sidewalks and the accessibility of buildings built before passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Food stamps: Increase the amount of food stamps received.
- Fraud: Increasing investigations and moving people off the rolls who don't have disabilities.
- Helmet law category maintaining the law as it exists.
- Housing: Individuals would like to see more affordable and accessible options.
- Medical insurance: Expanding MO HealthNet, providing coverage for hearing aids, providing coverage for traumatic brain injury rehabilitation, and providing coverage for dental care.
- Tax credits: Continue with the Senior Citizen Property Tax Credit.
- Transportation: Increase affordable and accessible public transit particularly in rural or increase funding to providers that provide transportation.
- Other: Increasing funding for centers for independent living, vocational rehabilitation, special education, and developmental disabilities and expanding the Money Follows the Person Program.

## Appendix A

### Northeast Region Counties

Mercer, Putnam, Grundy, Livingston, Chariton, Randolph, Audrain, Pike, Ralls, Marion, Lewis, Clark, Scotland, Schuyler, Sullivan, Linn, Adair, Macon, Shelby, Monroe, Knox

### East Region Counties

St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St. Charles, Jefferson, Franklin, Gasconade, Montgomery, Warren, Lincoln

### Southeast Region Counties

St. Genevieve, Perry, Cape Girardeau, Scott, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Dunklin, Butler, Ripley, Oregon, Howell, Texas, Pulaski, Maries, Phelps, Crawford, Washington, St. Francois, Bollinger, Madison, Wayne, Stoddard, Reynolds, Iron, Dent, Shannon, Carter

### Southwest Region Counties

Vernon, St. Clair, Hickory, Laclede, Wright, Douglas, Ozark, Taney, Stone, Barry, McDonald, Newton, Jasper, Barton, Dallas, Cedar, Dade, Lawrence, Polk, Greene, Christian, Webster

### Northwest Region Counties

Atchison, Nodaway, Worth, Harrison, Holt, Gentry, Andrew, DeKalb, Daviess, Buchanan, Clinton, Caldwell, Platte, Clay, Ray, Jackson, Lafayette, Cass, Johnson, Pettis, Bates, Henry, Benton

### Central Region Counties

Carroll, Saline, Howard, Boone, Callaway, Osage, Miller, Camden, Morgan, Cooper, Moniteau, Cole

## Appendix B

Adair	9
Benton	1
Boone	21
Buchanan	3
Butler	6
Camden	1
Caldwell	1
Cape Girardeau	3
Cass	3
Christian	3
Clark	1
Clay	3
Clinton	2
Cole	11
Crawford	3
Gasconade	1
Greene	12
Henry	1
Howell	26
Jackson	26
Jasper	9
Jefferson	29
Johnson	6
Laclede	1
Lafayette	1
Lawrence	1
Livingston	2
Marion	1
Newton	7
Pettis	2
Phelps	3
Platte	3
Ripley	1
St. Charles	7
St. Francois	2
St. Genevieve	3
St. Louis City	25
St. Louis County	49
Schuyler	1
Stone	2
Taney	24
Texas	4
Washington	2

## Appendix C

Access II	3
North East Independent Living Services	2
Rural Advocates for Independent Living	10
Disability Resource Association	29
Heartland, Inc.	1
Paraquad, Inc.	74
Delta Center for Independent Living	7
Southwest Center for Independent Living	42
The Independent Living Center, Inc.	16
Independent Living Resource Center	12
Services for Independent Living	21
Midland Empire Resources for Independent Living	5
The Whole Person, Inc.	32
West-Central Independent Living Solutions	10
Tri-County Center for Independent Living	1
Independent Living Center of Southeast Missouri	7
Southeast Missouri Alliance for Disability Independence	3
Living Independently for Everyone	5
Disabled Citizen Alliance for Independence	5
Bootheel Area Independent Living Services	0
On My Own, Inc.	0
Ozark Independent Living	30