2018 Legislative Priorities Poll Report

The Governor's Council on Disability recently 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. The results will be shared with council members, the Governor, state legislators, and other interested groups. The poll was available to individuals via the Governor's Council on Disability listserves, Twitter, Facebook, website, personal contacts, and other organization contacts. It was provided in PDF and Survey Monkey formats.

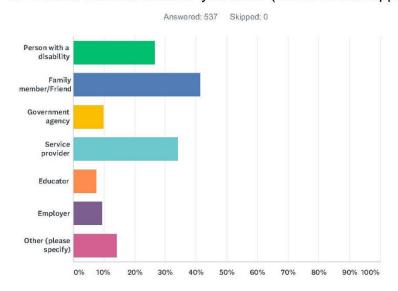
Five hundred thirty-seven (537) polls were returned. Some individuals did not answer all the questions. The number of responses for each question is indicated in the graph data.

The top five priorities for the Governor's Council on Disability for the coming year are determined by the questions which receive the highest combined percentage of strongly agree and agree responses. The 2019 priorities will be:

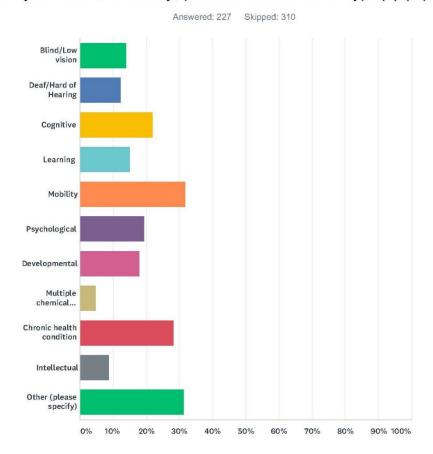
- 1. All schools having evacuation plans for all people with disabilities
- 2. All public buildings having evacuation plans for all people with disabilities
- 3. MO HealthNet coverage for hearing aids for adults
- 4. Private insurance coverage requirement for hearing aids
- 5. Mandated insurance coverage for all physical and developmental disabilities

Respondents were given the opportunity to indicate the group or groups to which they belonged: person with a disability, family member/friend, government agency employee, service provider, educator, employer, other. The person with a disability category was marked 143 times. Of the other respondents, 222 were a family member/friend, 53 represented a government agency, 183 were service providers, 40 were educators, 51 were employers, and 76 marked other. Individuals with disabilities were given the option to indicate what type or types of disability they have: blind/low vision (32), chronic health condition (64), multiple chemical sensitivity (11), cognitive (50), deaf/hard of hearing (28), developmental (41), learning (34), mobility (72), psychological (44), intellectual (20) and other (71).

Q4 Please indicate whether you are a (select all that apply):



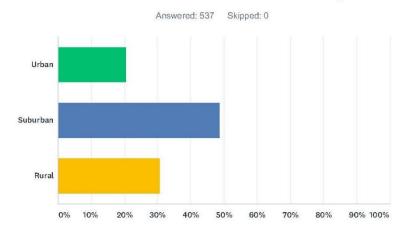
Q5 If you have a disability, please indicate which type(s) (Optional)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Blind/Low vision	14.10%	32
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	12.33%	28
Cognitive	22.03%	50
Learning	14.98%	34
Mobility	31.72%	72
Psychological	19.38%	44
Developmental	18.06%	41
Multiple chemical sensitivity	4.85%	11
Chronic health condition	28.19%	64
Intellectual	8.81%	20
Other (please specify)	31.28%	71
Total Respondents: 227		

Individuals were asked to indicate what county they reside in and whether they live in an urban, suburban, or rural area. For the purposes of this report, the City of St. Louis is considered a county. Of the one hundred fifteen counties, seventy-seven are represented. For the number of respondents per county see Appendix A. As indicated by self-report, 110 (20.48%) live in urban areas, 262 (48.79%) live in suburban areas, and 165 (30.73%) live in rural areas.

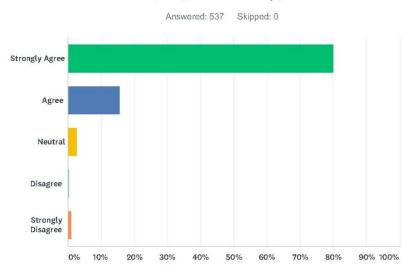
Q3 Please indicate which describes where you live.



The following are the individual question results.

1. All public buildings should have emergency plans which include plans for evacuation of people with all types of disabilities. 80.07% strongly agree 15.64% agree, 2.79% are neutral, 0.37% disagree, and 1.12% strongly disagree.

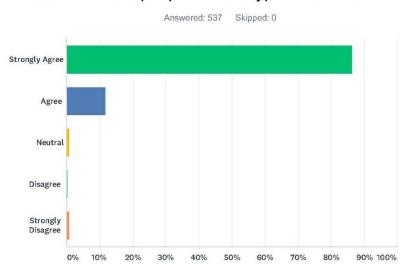
Q6 All public buildings should have emergency plans which include plans for evacuation of people with all types of disabilities.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES		
Strongly Agree	80.07%	430	
Agree	15.64%	84	
Neutral	2.79%	15	
Disagree	0.37%	2	
Strongly Disagree	1.12%	6	
TOTAL		537	

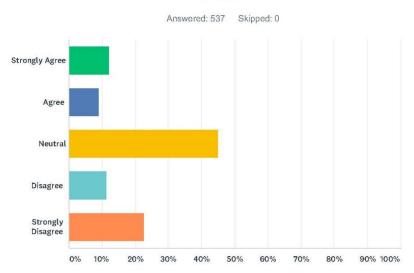
2. All schools should have emergency plans which include plans for evacuation of people with all types of disabilities. 86.41% strongly agree, 11.73% agree, 0.74% are neutral, 0.37% disagree, and 0.74% strongly disagree.

Q7 All schools should have emergency plans which include plans for evacuation of people with all types of disabilities.



3. Eliminating the renter's portion of the Senior Citizen Property Tax Credit. 12.10% strongly agree, 8.94% agree, 45.07% are neutral, 11.36% disagree, and 22.53% strongly disagree.

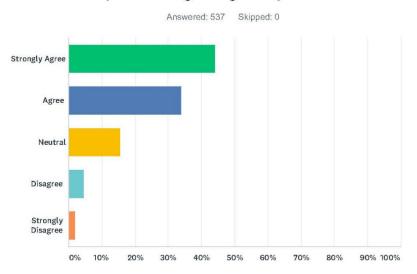
Q8 Eliminating the renter's portion of the Senior Citizen Property Tax Credit



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Agree	12.10%	65
Agree	8.94%	48
Neutral	45.07%	242
Disagree	11.36%	61
Strongly Disagree	22.53%	121
TOTAL		537

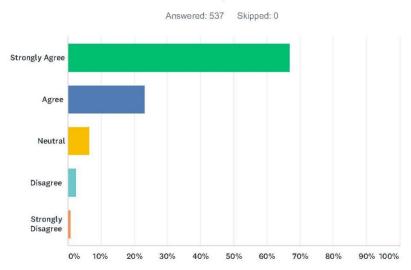
4. Creating an assistance program with scholarship accounts to help parents of students with disabilities pay for education expenses beginning with preschool. 44.13% strongly agree 33.89% agree, 15.46% are neutral, 4.66% disagree, and 1.86% strongly disagree.

Q9 Creating an assistance program with scholarship accounts to help parents of students with disabilities pay for education expenses beginning with preschool



5. Private insurance plans in Missouri should be required to cover hearing aids. 67.04% strongly agree 23.28% agree, 6.52% are neutral, 2.42% disagree, and 0.74% strongly disagree.

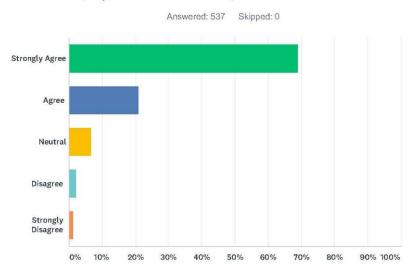
Q10 Private insurance plans in Missouri should be required to cover hearing aids



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Agree	67.04%	360
Agree	23.28%	125
Neutral	6.52%	35
Disagree	2.42%	13
Strongly Disagree	0.74%	4
TOTAL		537

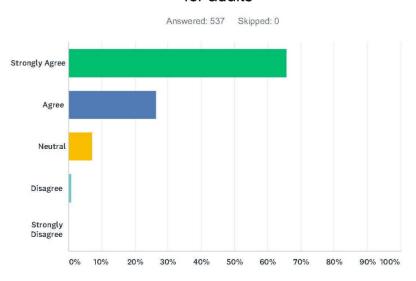
6. Private insurance plans should be mandated to provide coverage for all physical and developmental disabilities. 69.09% strongly agree, 20.86% agree, 6.70% are neutral, 2.05% disagree, and 1.30% strongly disagree.

Q11 Private insurance plans should be mandated to provide coverage for all physical and developmental disabilities.



7. Expanding MO HealthNet coverage to include hearing aid coverage for adults. 65.74% strongly agree, 26.26% agree, 7.08% are neutral, 0.93% disagree, and 0.00% strongly disagree.

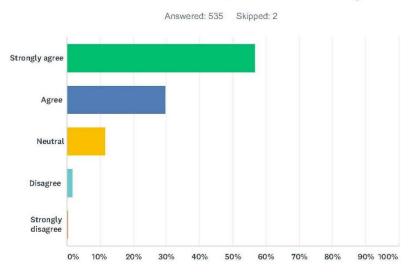
Q12 Expanding MO HealthNet coverage to include hearing aid coverage for adults



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES		
Strongly Agree	65.74%	353	
Agree	26.26%	141	
Neutral	7.08%	38	
Disagree	0.93%	5	
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0	
TOTAL		537	

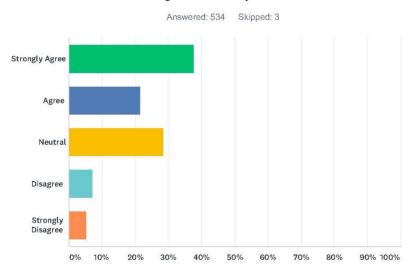
8. School and health care professionals should be required to complete two hours of suicide prevention training. 56.64% strongly agree, 29.72% agree, 11.59% are neutral, 1.68% disagree, and 0.37% strongly disagree.

Q13 School and health care professionals should be required to complete two hours of suicide prevention training



9. The Secretary of State should establish an automatic voter registration system. 37.64% strongly agree, 21.54% agree, 28.46% are neutral, 7.12% disagree, and 5.24% strongly disagree.

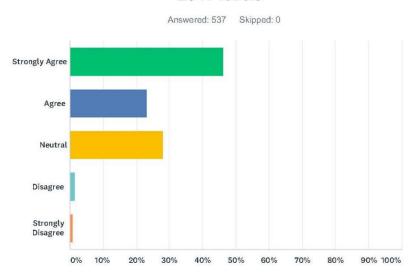
Q14 The Secretary of State should establish an automatic voter registration system



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES		
Strongly Agree	37.64%	201	
Agree	21.54%	115	
Neutral	28.46%	152	
Disagree	7.12%	38	
Strongly Disagree	5.24%	28	
TOTAL		534	

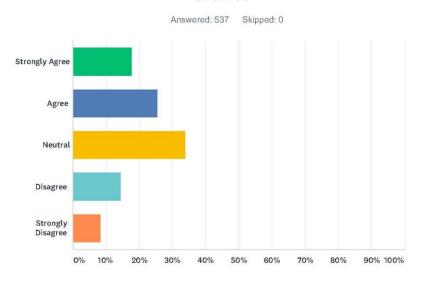
10. Home and Community-Based Services should be restored to pre-2017 levels. 46.18% strongly agree, 23.28% agree, 28.12% are neutral, 1.49% disagree, and 0.93% strongly disagree.

Q15 Home and Community-Based Services should be restored to pre-2017 levels



11. Manufacturer research or testing of driverless vehicles should be allowed. 17.88% strongly agree, 25.51% agree, 33.89% are neutral, 14.34% disagree, and 8.38% strongly disagree.

Q16 Manufacturer research or testing of driverless vehicles should be allowed



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES		
Strongly Agree	17.88%	96	
Agree	25.51%	137	
Neutral	33.89%	182	
Disagree	14.34%	77	
Strongly Disagree	8.38%	45	
TOTAL		537	

There were several opportunities for individuals to share their personal thoughts regarding issues with competitive employment, housing, health care, and transportation, what they would like legislators to work on during the upcoming legislative session, and ideas to help Missouri be more disability friendly. There were several topics mentioned frequently, which included:

- A lack of choice in employment
- Not having enough affordable, accessible housing
- Lack and/or failure of public transportation
- The cost of health care/insurance, and ensuring therapies and services are provided for adults and for additional disabilities
- Maintaining the motorcycle helmet law

In an effort to ensure each citizen voice is heard in its entirety we will be sending the responses from each question via email to your offices.

Appendix A

County	Number	County	Number	County	Number
Adair	10	Harrison		Phelps	3
Andrew	1	Henry	2	Pike	1
Atchison	1	Hickory	2	Platte	12
Audrain	1	Holt		Polk	1
Barry		Howard	2	Pulaski	4
Barton		Howell	1	Putnam	
Bates	1	Iron	1	Ralls	1
Benton		Jackson	71	Randolph	1
Bollinger		Jasper	9	Ray	3
Boone	29	Jefferson	16	Reynolds	
Buchanan	10	Johnson	8	Ripley	2
Butler	4	Knox		St. Charles	28
Caldwell		Laclede	7	St. Clair	2
Callaway	6	Lafayette	4	Ste. Genevieve	2
Camden	9	Lawrence	2	St. Francois	1
Cape Girardeau	14	Lewis	2	St. Louis	81
Carroll	1	Lincoln	2	St. Louis City	31
Carter	1	Linn		Saline	3
Cass	3	Livingston		Schuyler	
Cedar	2	Macon		Scotland	
Chariton		Madison		Scott	
Christian	6	Maries		Shannon	
Clark	1	Marion	1	Shelby	1
Clay	22	McDonald		Stoddard	
Clinton	1	Mercer	1	Stone	2
Cole	19	Miller	4	Sullivan	
Cooper	2	Mississippi	2	Taney	
Crawford	1	Moniteau		Texas	1
Dade		Monroe		Vernon	8
Dallas	2	Montgomery	1	Warren	4
Daviess	1	Morgan	5	Washington	2
De Kalb	1	New Madrid	1	Wayne	1
Dent	3	Newton	3	Webster	2
Douglas	1	Nodaway	5	Worth	
Dunklin	2	Oregon		Wright	1
Franklin	8	Osage	2		
Gasconade	1	Ozark			
Gentry	1	Pemiscot			
Greene	23	Perry	1		
Grundy		Pettis	3		