



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Susan Serino

## 2021 Constituent Survey Results

SUSAN SERINO March 29, 2021

| ISSUE: **2021-22 STATE BUDGET**

# 2021 CONSTITUENT SURVEY RESULTS

- Senator Sue Serino -

\* Due to challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's survey was only administered online. In past years, it has been administered both online and via postal mail.

SENATOR SERINO'S  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

**LEGALIZING RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA**

With the State facing a \$15 billion budget deficit, supporters of the legalization of recreational marijuana have projected that it will generate over \$300 million in revenue annually, while opponents argue that it may present a danger to public health and safety.

**Do you support or oppose the legalization of adult-use recreational marijuana?**

**Support: 1,309**

**Oppose: 1,028**

SENATOR SERINO'S  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

**MOBILE SPORTS BETTING**

Officials are predicting that New York State could generate \$500 million annually if mobile sports betting is passed and operated by the State. Supporters argue that the State is losing revenue due to the increase in people traveling to neighboring states where sports betting is legal, while opponents argue against an increase in gambling opportunities in the state.

**Do you support or oppose the legalization of mobile sports betting in New York?**

**Support: 1,529**

**Oppose: 808**

SENATOR SERINO'S  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

## DMV FEES

With New York State facing the largest budget deficit in its history, the Governor's Budget proposal includes a plan to implement a \$1 fee on online DMV transactions to help fill the state's budget hole, which would exist for a period of five years. According to the proposal, the fee's goal is to boost and increase the number of services the DMV is able to offer residents online and improve the online DMV experience.

**Do you support or oppose the implementation of this fee?**

**Support: 1,169**

**Oppose: 1,168**

SENATOR SERINO'S  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

**BUDGET ASSISTANCE**

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced many small businesses to close their doors in an effort to limit the spread of the virus and protect public health.

**Do you support or oppose proposals that would provide financial support to struggling small businesses in this year's budget?**

**Support: 2,074**  
**Oppose: 263**

SENATOR SERINO'S  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

**LYME AND TICK-BORNE DISEASES**

Despite new data from the CDC announcing that each year almost 500,000 Americans are diagnosed and treated for Lyme disease, the state has allocated zero dollars in funding for research or prevention initiatives in this year's proposed budget.

**Do you support or oppose adding funding to combat Lyme and tick-borne diseases in the state's budget?**

**Support: 1,828**

**Oppose: 509**

— SENATOR SERINO'S —  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

## MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUT

In an effort to balance New York State's budget, a proposal has been included to postpone the implementation of a \$400 million middle class tax cut that Senator Serino and her colleagues fought to implement in 2016 and continue to phase-in each year since. The proposed tax cut had been projected to provide relief to 6 million New Yorkers and thousands of small businesses.

**Do you support or oppose efforts to postpone the middle-class tax cut?**

**Support: 908**

**Oppose: 1,429**

— SENATOR SERINO'S —  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

**MEDICAL AID IN DYING**

**Do you support or oppose Medical Aid in Dying legislation, which would allow terminally ill patients to make the choice to end their own life?**

**Support: 1,721**  
**Oppose: 616**



— SENATOR SERINO'S —  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

**To fill its unprecedented  
budget gap, do you  
believe New York  
should cut spending or  
raise taxes?**

**Cut Spending: 1,705**  
**Raise Taxes: 260**  
**Other: 372**

— SENATOR SERINO'S —  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

In his State of the State Address, Governor Cuomo put significant emphasis on the need for the state to look toward reopening.

**Do you support or oppose reopening  
New York businesses?**

- **Support an incremental reopening:** 1,116
- **Support a full reopening and end to pandemic shutdowns:** 1,116
- **Do not support any reopening at this time:** 105

— SENATOR SERINO'S —  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

This year, the Legislature is expected to consider many proposals to meet the pressing challenges facing our state.

**Please select from the following issues the ones most important to you and your family:**

- **Reducing costs on hard working families:** 1,424
- **Cutting wasteful spending:** 1,931
- **Creating more jobs:** 1,290
- **Delivering tax relief:** 1,420
- **Increasing school aid:** 694
- **Improving health care:** 998
- **Making college more affordable:** 650

— SENATOR SERINO'S —  
2021 LEGISLATIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

**During the pandemic,  
have you experienced one  
or more of the following  
hardships?**

- **Unemployment: 388**
- **Inability to Pay Rent: 48**
- **Inability to Pay Mortgage: 81**
- **Inability to Pay Utilities: 105**
- **Inability to afford childcare: 51**
- **Other: 693**