

February 23, 2012

**To: American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois**  
**From: Fako & Associates, Inc.**  
**Re: Illinois Statewide Reproductive Issues Survey**

The following contains a summary of the key findings of an Illinois statewide issues survey that was conducted for the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois (ACLU) February 20 – 22, 2012.

**Opinions of Ultrasound Examination Requirements**

**Figure 1**  
**Initial Ask of Ultrasound Examination**

Now, would you **Support** or **Oppose** [Rotate Choices] a proposed law that that would require a woman seeking an abortion to undergo and view the results of an ultrasound examination prior to receiving an abortion?

The majority of Illinois' likely General Election voters oppose a proposed law that would require a woman seeking an abortion to undergo and view the results of an ultrasound examination prior to receiving an abortion (55% Total Opposed).

- The plurality of the electorate is Strongly Opposed (40%) to these requirements.
- The majority of both men (57% Total Opposed) and women (53%) are opposed.
- The majority of Independent voters (59% Total Opposed) and Democrats (62%) oppose the requirements, along with a plurality of the State's Republicans (45%).

Opposition to the requirements is most significant among those voting in the City of Chicago (60% Total Opposed, 47% Strongly) and Suburban Cook County (61%).

The majority of Collar County likely General Election voters (53% Total Opposed) also oppose these ultrasound requirements, with matched intensity as the overall population (41% Strongly Opposed).

**Table 1**  
**Opinions of Ultrasound Examination Requirements**  
**by Illinois Region**

<b>Ultrasound Requirements</b>	<b>All Voters</b>	<b>Chicago</b>	<b>Suburban Cook</b>	<b>Collar Counties</b>	<b>Northern Illinois</b>	<b>Southern Illinois</b>
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Total Opposed</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Unsure</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>11%</b>

The voters were offered an informed version of this initial question, with balanced arguments in support and in opposition to these requirements, designed to simulate an engaged debate.

**(See Figure 2, Following Page)**

**Figure 2**  
**Informed Ask of Ultrasound Examination**

And, I would like to provide you some more information from supporters and opponents [Rotate] of the legislation that would require a woman seeking an abortion to undergo and view the results of an ultrasound examination prior to receiving an abortion. [Rotate Statements]

Supporters say the law should be changed to require all Doctors who perform abortions to do an ultrasound before the procedure and require a woman to view the results. They say that a mandatory ultrasound could identify health risks if an abortion is performed.

Opponents say that doctors, consistent with medical standards, should decide if a patient requires an ultrasound prior to undergoing any procedure and mandating a woman undergo and review the results of a medically unnecessary ultrasound interferes with the doctor-patient relationship and can harm women.

Now, knowing this information, would you Support or Oppose [Rotate Choices] the legislation currently pending in the Illinois State Legislature that would require a woman seeking an abortion to undergo and view the results of an ultrasound examination prior to receiving an abortion?

**Table 2**  
**Opinions of Informed Ultrasound Examination Requirements by Illinois Region**

Ultrasound Requirements	All Voters	Chicago	Suburban Cook	Collar Counties	Northern Illinois	Southern Illinois
Total Support	38%	31%	32%	34%	41%	55%
Total Opposed	55%	62%	62%	59%	49%	38%
Unsure	7%	7%	6%	7%	10%	7%

- Opinions about the requirements shift only slightly and within the margin of error of the survey.
- The clear majority of the Illinois General Election voters oppose these requirements and the degree of opposition (41% Strongly Opposed) remains intense and unchanged.

**Appropriateness of Agriculture & Conservation Committee Consideration**

A strong majority of the electorate feels it is inappropriate (74% Total Inappropriate, 60% Very Inappropriate) for the Agriculture and Conservation Committee to be assigned to consider legislation regarding women's health care.

**Table 3**  
**Appropriateness of Agriculture & Conservation Committee Consideration by Illinois Region**

Appropriateness	All Voters	Chicago	Suburban Cook	Collar Counties	Northern Illinois	Southern Illinois
Total Appropriate	11%	19%	11%	6%	9%	11%
Total Inappropriate	74%	63%	78%	76%	76%	78%

## **Survey Methodology:**

The American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois (ACLU) commissioned the survey. Fako & Associates, Inc., of Lisle, Illinois conducted the survey by telephone on February 20 – 22, 2012 using professional live interviewers. F&A interviewed a random sample of 602 registered voters within the State of Illinois.

A strict screening process was used to ensure that only registered voters who were likely to vote in the November 6, 2012 General Election participated in the survey. The interviews lasted an average of 6 minutes. Scientific sampling techniques using a listing of registered voters were employed to give all registered voters living in a telephone-equipped household within the State of Illinois an equal chance of being interviewed. Cellular interviews were also included within the sample and accounted for approximately 13% of total weighted interviews.

The interviews were conducted in proportion to gender and regional shares of the vote based on past election data and known demographics. Weighting was applied to Age and Race to bring these groups into closer proportion to known demographics. The survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.99% at the 95% level of confidence. This means that if the survey were replicated the results would be consistent for 95 out of 100 cases. The margin of error is higher among the various sub-groups.