



MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties

From: Matthew Shelter
Kiley & Company

Date: June 1, 2015

RE: Statewide Voter Attitudes Toward NY SAFE Act

Introduction

This memo discusses specific questions related to the SAFE Act that were included in our previously-released survey of 604 registered voters in New York State. Interviews for the survey were conducted by telephone between April 14-16, 2015. The sample of respondents was selected randomly from an up-to-date file of all registered voters in New York State, and was contacted using a mix of both landline and cell phone telephone numbers. The data was statistically adjusted by age, region and race to ensure representativeness. The margin of error for the survey is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Overview

More than two years after its passage, the New York SAFE Act continues to be supported by a clear majority of statewide voters. In addition, all six specific elements of the legislation that we tested win the support of even wider majorities of the electorate. Even among gun-owners themselves, four of six specific aspects of the SAFE Act generate majority support.

Key Findings

- By a two-to-one margin (61% to 31%), New York State voters support passage of the SAFE Act. Voters are significantly more likely to “strongly support” (42%) the legislation than “strongly oppose it” (23%).

- Support for the SAFE Act is especially strong among: New York City voters (77%), Suburban voters (65%), women (68%) and voters in non-firearm households (75%), which comprise more than two-thirds of the statewide electorate.
- All six specific elements of the SAFE Act that we tested generate even stronger support:

	<i>Support among:</i>			
	<u>All voters</u>	<u>Non-gun household</u>	<u>Gun household</u>	<u>Gun owners</u>
— Background checks are now required for all gun sales.	89%	93%	82%	80%
— Pistol permits are now revoked for anyone who has an order of protection against them.	81	84	77	76
— Pistol permits are now required to be renewed every five years, just like driver's licenses.	79	88	60	53
— The state's ban on military-style assault weapons has been strengthened.	75	80	67	60
— Background checks will be required for ammunition sales.	72	84	45	37
— High-capacity ammunition magazines, meaning those containing more than seven bullets, are banned in New York State.	68	79	45	36

Q. New York State enacted a new set of gun laws in 2013 known as the SAFE Act. This legislation was passed in response to the Newtown, Connecticut school shooting. It created or toughened a number of firearm regulations in the state. All things considered, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose passage of the SAFE Act?

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total support	61%	77	65	44	54	68	68	53	59	66	57	68	77	77	52	41	34	24	75
Total oppose	31%	16	26	48	41	22	22	38	36	26	36	19	23	17	38	51	56	67	18
Strongly support	42%	59	48	23	37	46	39	33	41	51	39	43	58	55	33	25	16	10	55
Somewhat support	19%	19	18	21	17	21	29	20	17	15	18	25	18	22	18	16	19	14	20
Somewhat oppose	8%	8	6	10	9	8	12	10	7	6	8	2	14	5	15	9	10	12	7
Strongly oppose	23%	9	20	38	32	14	10	28	29	20	27	17	9	12	23	42	47	55	11

Now let me mention some specific changes that have been made to New York's gun laws. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose that particular change.

Q. Background checks are now required for all gun sales

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total support	89%	94	93	81	84	93	87	90	87	91	89	86	93	92	90	82	82	80	93
Total oppose	11%	5	7	18	16	6	13	10	12	9	11	14	4	8	9	16	18	20	7
Strongly support	81%	90	87	70	72	89	87	77	78	84	79	86	85	88	83	68	69	63	88
Somewhat support	8%	4	6	12	11	4	0	13	9	6	9	0	8	4	8	14	13	17	5
Somewhat oppose	5%	2	4	8	6	3	9	4	4	3	5	6	0	4	6	5	9	9	3
Strongly oppose	6%	4	3	11	10	3	4	6	8	6	6	8	4	5	3	12	9	11	4

Q. Pistol permits are now revoked for anyone who has an order of protection against them

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total support	81%	83	84	78	78	84	78	83	83	80	83	75	77	84	81	77	77	76	84
Total oppose	14%	11	13	18	17	12	16	12	15	15	14	18	13	12	15	19	21	23	11
Strongly support	65%	71	70	56	55	75	54	70	67	67	66	71	60	72	60	57	50	45	73
Somewhat support	16%	12	14	22	23	10	24	13	16	13	18	4	17	12	21	20	28	30	11
Somewhat oppose	6%	2	6	10	7	6	8	6	8	4	7	5	2	5	8	8	8	8	5
Strongly oppose	8%	9	7	8	10	6	8	6	7	11	7	14	11	7	7	11	13	15	6

Q. Pistol permits are now required to be renewed every five years, just like driver's licenses

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total support	79%	91	82	66	73	85	85	75	75	83	77	80	89	87	80	64	60	53	88
Total oppose	19%	8	17	32	26	14	13	24	24	15	22	17	8	11	19	35	39	46	10
Strongly support	66%	80	69	51	55	76	66	62	64	71	65	66	70	77	61	51	40	32	79
Somewhat support	13%	11	13	15	18	9	19	13	11	12	12	14	20	10	19	13	20	21	10
Somewhat oppose	5%	2	4	9	5	5	6	7	5	4	7	3	0	2	6	10	10	11	3
Strongly oppose	14%	6	13	23	21	8	7	18	20	11	15	15	8	9	14	25	29	35	7

Q. The state's ban on military-style assault weapons has been strengthened

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total support	75%	81	81	67	69	81	78	75	74	76	76	68	79	81	76	65	67	60	80
Total oppose	21%	16	15	29	28	14	15	25	23	19	21	26	17	16	19	32	32	39	15
Strongly support	59%	67	63	49	50	68	56	55	60	64	61	55	53	69	50	49	39	29	69
Somewhat support	16%	13	18	17	20	13	22	20	13	12	15	13	25	11	26	16	28	30	11
Somewhat oppose	5%	3	3	7	5	4	0	9	5	5	5	3	4	3	6	7	7	9	3
Strongly oppose	16%	13	11	22	23	10	15	16	19	14	16	23	13	13	25	24	24	31	12

Q. Background checks will be required for ammunition sales

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total support	72%	87	75	56	59	83	68	68	70	79	70	70	81	82	64	61	45	37	84
Total oppose	28%	13	24	44	41	16	32	32	30	20	29	30	19	18	36	39	55	63	16
Strongly support	62%	82	69	40	50	73	63	55	62	68	59	68	78	75	51	49	28	19	79
Somewhat support	9%	5	6	16	9	10	5	13	8	10	11	2	3	7	13	12	17	18	5
Somewhat oppose	7%	4	4	12	10	5	7	13	6	3	8	5	4	5	10	8	14	15	4
Strongly oppose	21%	9	20	32	31	12	25	19	23	17	21	25	15	13	26	30	40	48	12

Q. High-capacity ammunition magazines, meaning those containing more than seven bullets, are banned in New York State

	Total	Region			Gender		Age				Race			Party			Gun Ownership		
		NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	M	F	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	A-A/Black	Latino	Dem	Ind/oth	Rep	HH w/ gun	Gun Owner	Non-gun HH
Total support	68%	82	72	52	56	79	69	60	54	76	66	71	74	81	59	52	45	36	79
Total oppose	30%	17	23	45	42	18	28	37	33	21	31	27	24	17	38	45	52	62	19
Strongly support	61%	77	70	40	50	70	58	52	58	71	58	66	72	75	49	45	34	25	73
Somewhat support	7%	5	3	12	5	9	11	7	7	5	8	5	2	6	10	8	10	10	6
Somewhat oppose	8%	4	5	13	11	5	6	10	9	7	10	2	4	3	14	12	14	16	6
Strongly oppose	22%	13	18	32	31	13	22	27	24	15	22	25	21	15	24	33	38	46	13

Profile of the Sample	
New York State Registered Voters	
Region	
NYC	36%
Suburbs*	25%
Upstate	39%
Gender	
Male	47%
Female	53%
Age	
18-34	19%
35-49	22%
50-64	30%
65+	29%
Race	
White	69%
African-American/Black	15%
Latino	10%
Party	
Democrat	49%
Independent/other	25%
Republican	23%
Conservative	3%
Gun Ownership	
Gun-owning household	29%
<i>(Gun owner)</i>	20%
Household without gun	67%

*Suburbs = Suffolk, Nassau, Westchester, Rockland, and Orange Counties