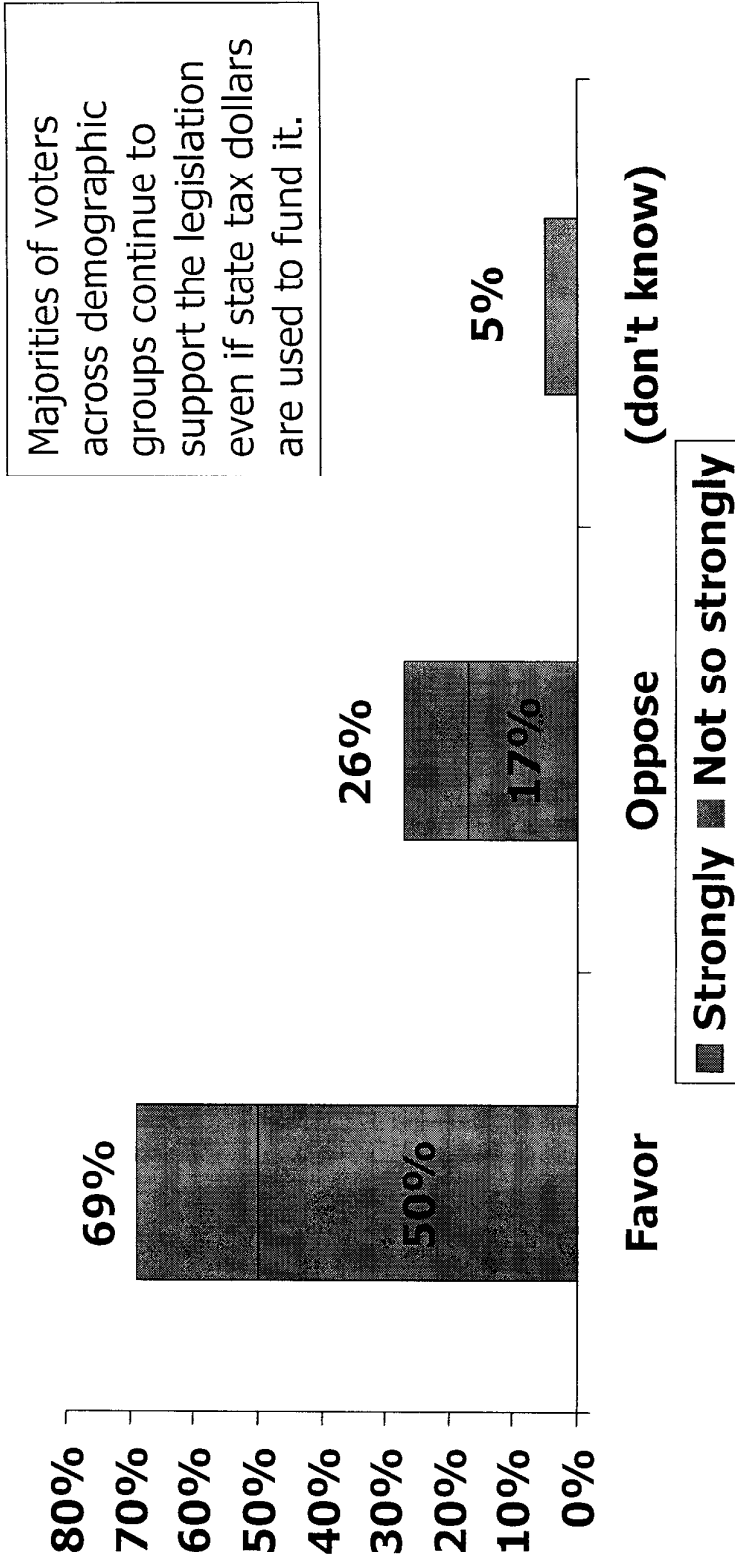


**Support is only somewhat diminished when voters hear that state tax dollars may be used to fund this legislation.**

Would you favor or oppose this legislation even if state tax dollars are used to fund it?

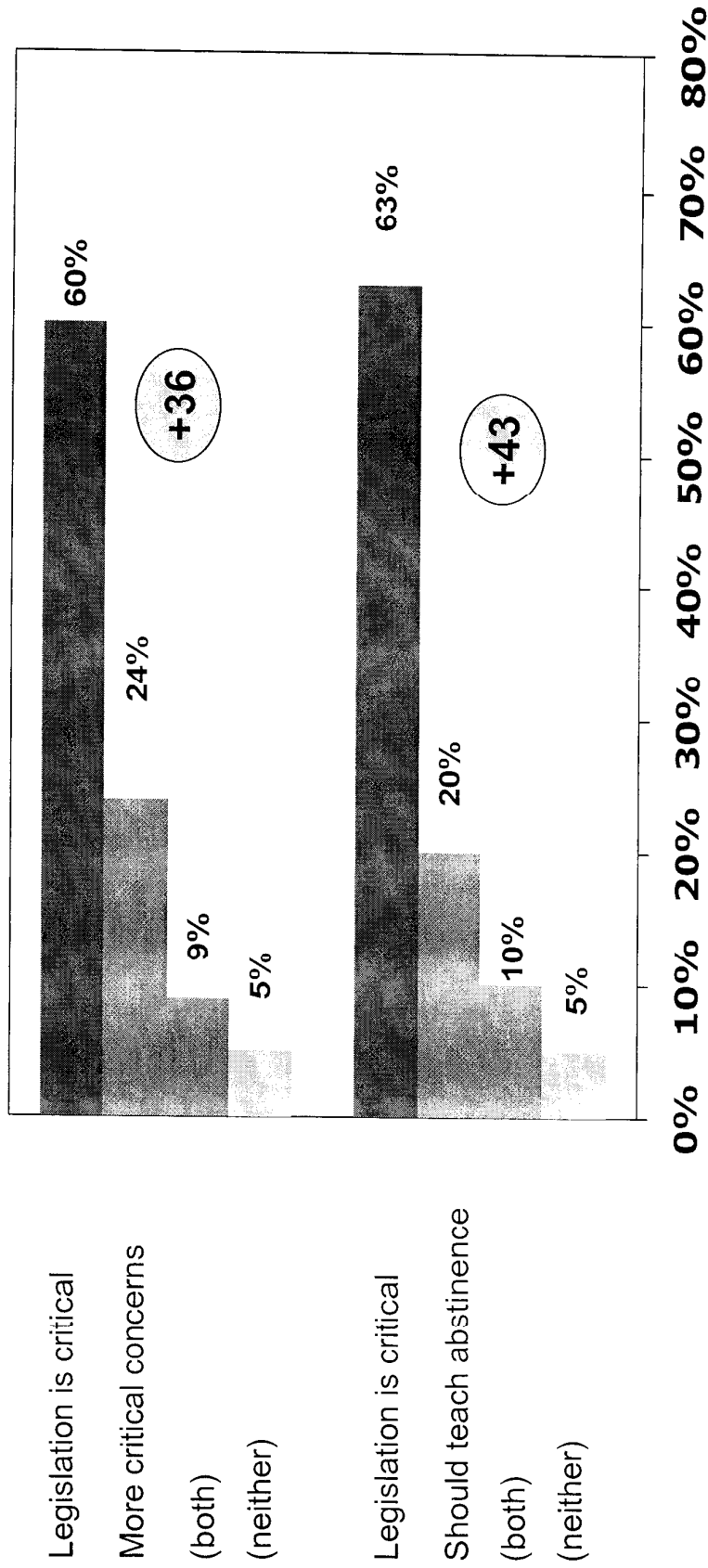


# **Positioning the Healthy Teens Act in an Engaged Debate**

*In an engaged debate with arguments on both sides, the statement in support of the Healthy Teens Act handily beats the opposition's claims by wide margins.*

**In an engaged debate, the statement in support of the Healthy Teens Act handily beats the opposition's claims by wide margins. The pro-legislation argument is particularly strong against the statement around teaching more abstinence rather than information on contraception which increases teens' desire to have sex.**

Now I am going to read you two statements about the Healthy Teens Act, which would award grants to communities to implement comprehensive, medically accurate sex education programs. Please tell me which one comes closer to your point of view.\*



\*Split sampled questions

## Text of Statements

**Legislation is critical:** Supporters of this legislation say that it is critical because public schools in Connecticut are not required to teach sex education currently, and many teens are not getting the information they need to protect themselves against sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy.

**More critical concerns:** Opponents of this legislation say we have more critical concerns with education than funding sex education classes. The state Department of Education should focus their funds on teacher quality and smaller class sizes, not using limited funds to put sex education in schools. We have other priorities that must take precedence at this time.

**Should teach abstinence:** Opponents of this legislation say that if we really wanted to address concerns around teens and sex then schools should only be teaching abstinence, not increasing their desire to have sex by giving them information about contraceptives. Parents do not want their public school classes turned into preparatory courses on casual sexual intercourse, with encouragement to use birth control and experiment with sexual decision-making.