



# Statewide Survey of California Opinions on Democracy



**Secretary Xavier Becerra**  
fmr CA Attorney General



**Dr. Shirley N. Weber**  
CA Secretary of State



**Sen. Scott Wiener**  
Chair, Sen. Elections Cmte.



**Asm. Gail Pellerin**  
Chair, Elections Cmte.

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**HAAS JR. fund**



**April 27, 2026**

Findings from the  
April 2026 *Berkeley*  
*IGS Poll* of California  
Registered Voters

Institute of Governmental Studies  
University of California, Berkeley

Conducted on behalf of the Evelyn  
and Water Haas, Jr. Fund



**Eric Schickler**  
**Co-Director, IGS**

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**UCLA**

**Voting Rights  
Project**

**Matt A. Barreto**  
**Faculty Director**

## About the *Berkeley IGS Poll's* April 2026 Survey

**Auspices:** Statewide survey of California registered voters conducted April 9-18 by the University of California, Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies (IGS).

**Methodology:** Self-administered surveys completed online in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean, by distributing email invitations to stratified random samples of registered voters whose email address was included on the California voter rolls with a link to the IGS website, where the survey is housed. Email and text follow-ups were sent to non-responding voters.

**Sample size:** A total of 5,962 California registered voters participated statewide.

**Weighting:** Weights were applied using statistical raking procedures to align the sample to known population characteristics of the registered voters statewide and within major regions of the state.



# Section 1: Voter Concerns

# View of democracy in the United States today?

California Registered Voters, April 2026

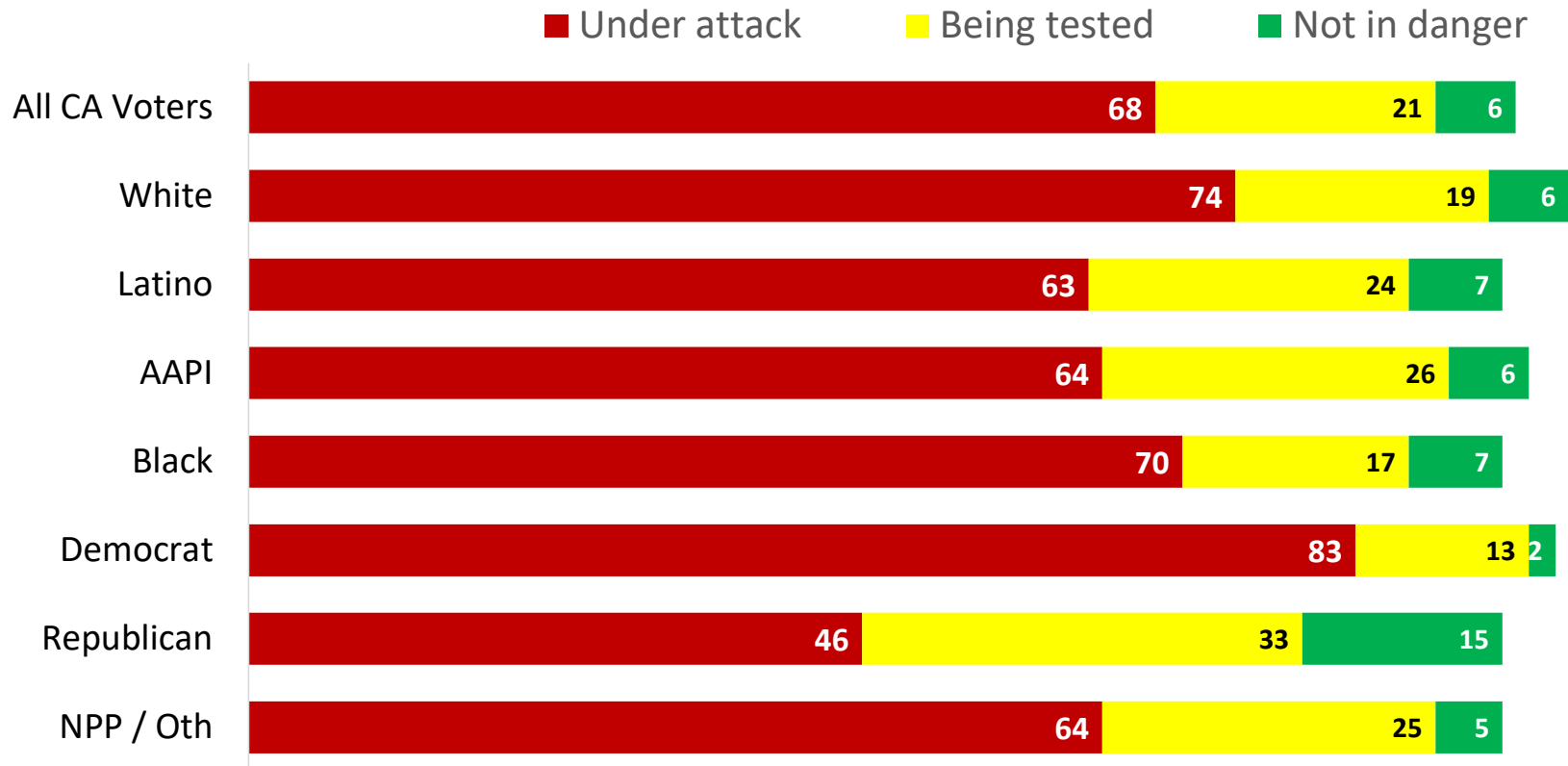


2 Berkeley IGS Poll April 2026, n=5,962 CA Reg voters +/- 1.3%



# View of democracy in the United States today?

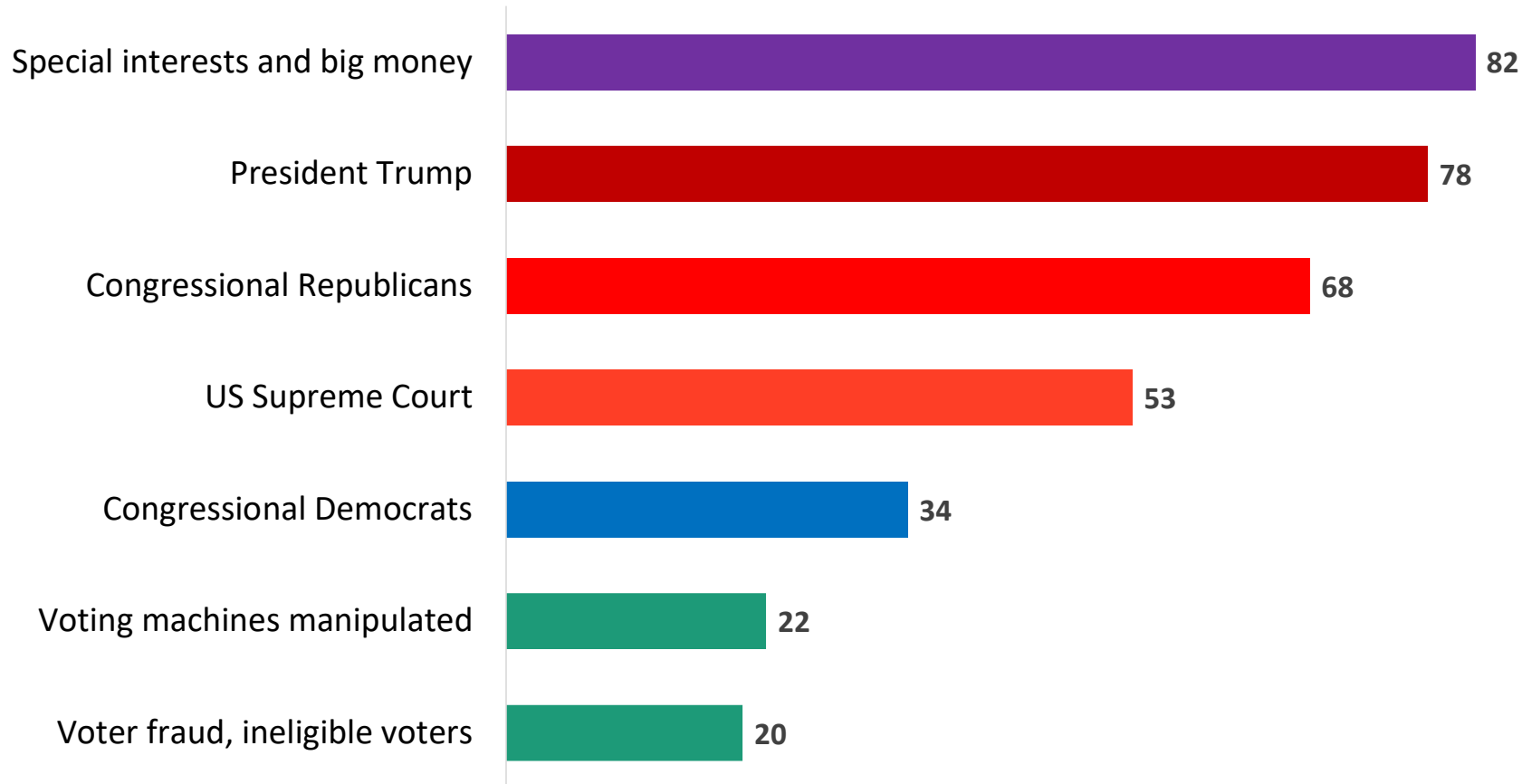
California Registered Voters, April 2026



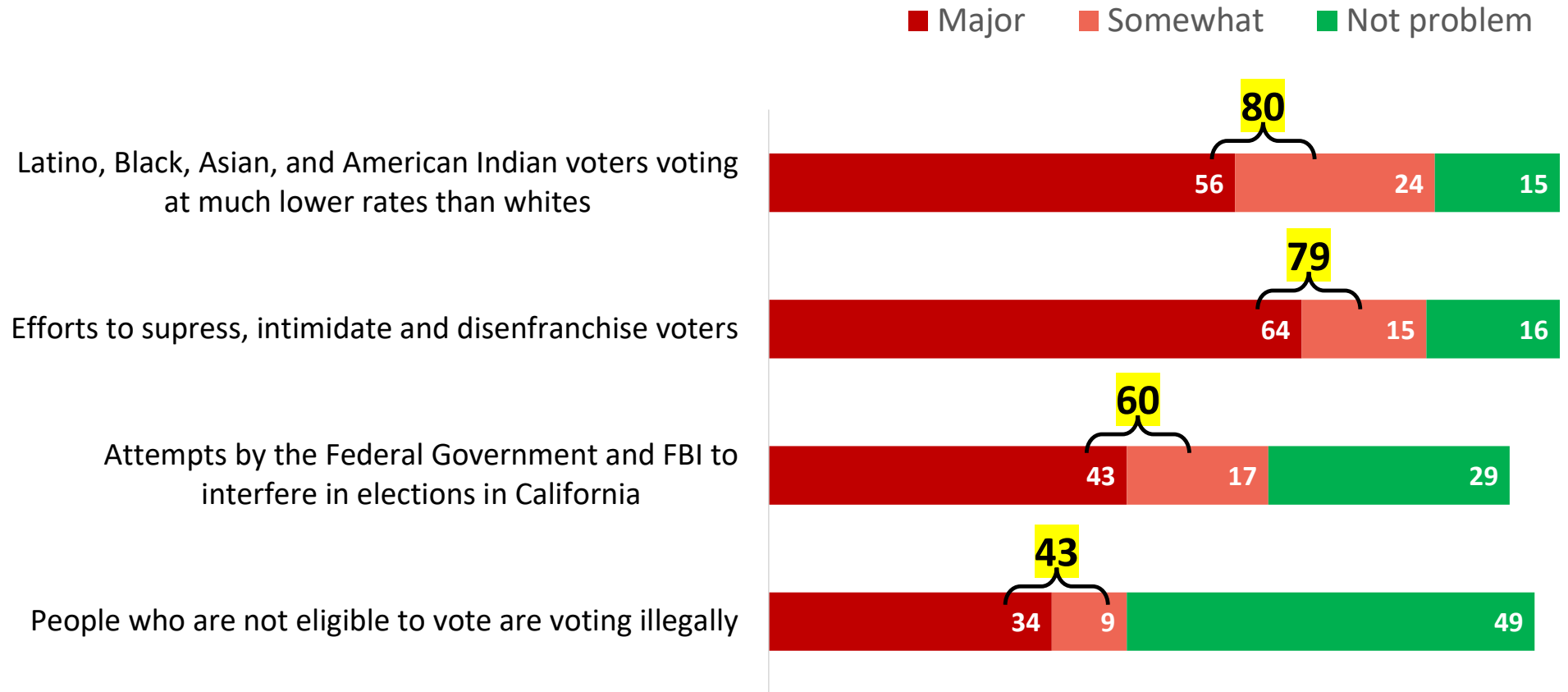
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# Which of are responsible for creating threats to democracy today?

(among the 68% who believe democracy is under attack)



# Pose a threat to equitable democracy in California

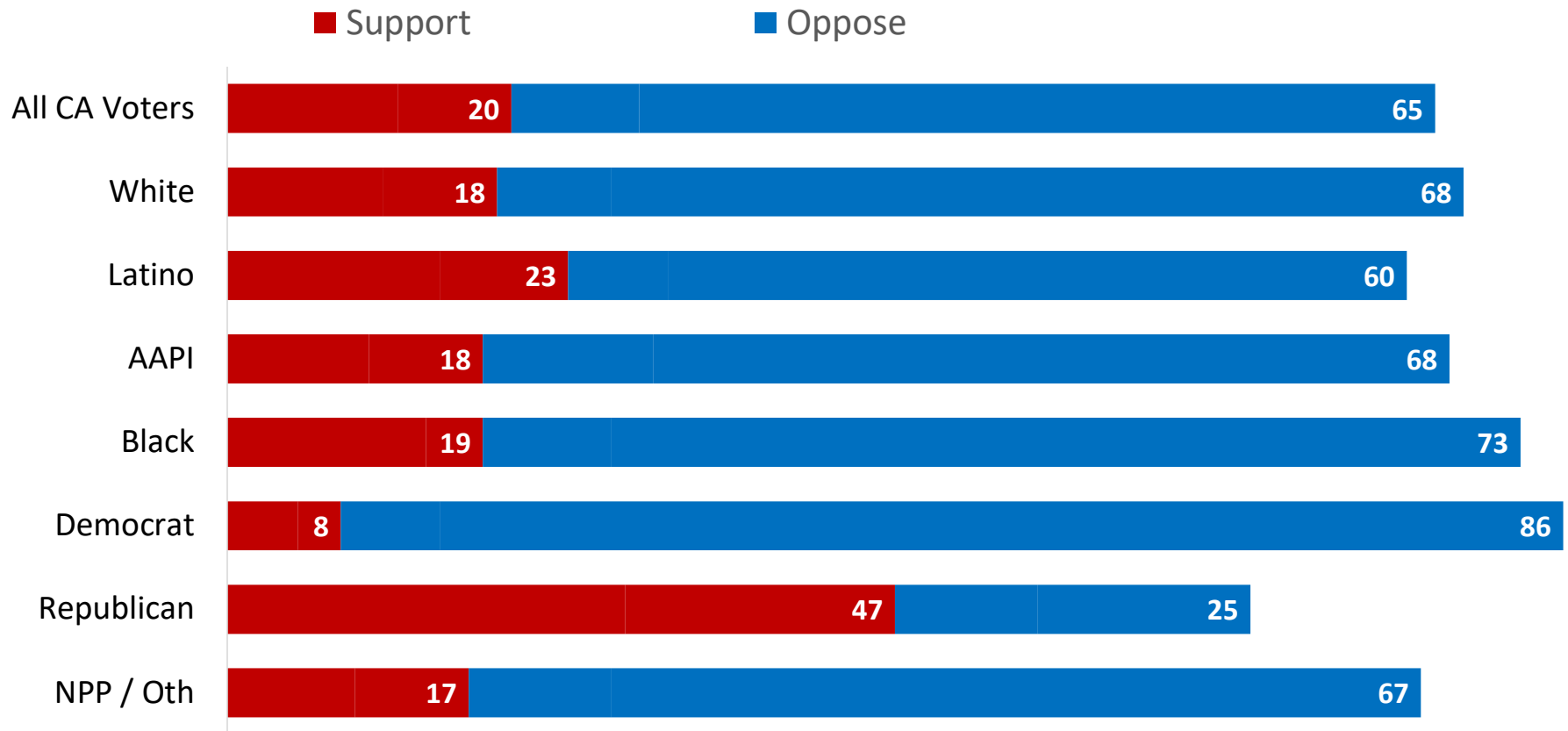


## *Louisiana v. Callais 2026*

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 provided voters with strong protections against voting discrimination and unequal access to the ballot among voters of color. Over the past 15 years the United States Supreme Court has issued rulings that have rolled back some of these protections and is currently considering another case that could roll back these protections further.

Do you support or oppose the Supreme Court's acting to further limit the provisions of the Voting Rights Act?

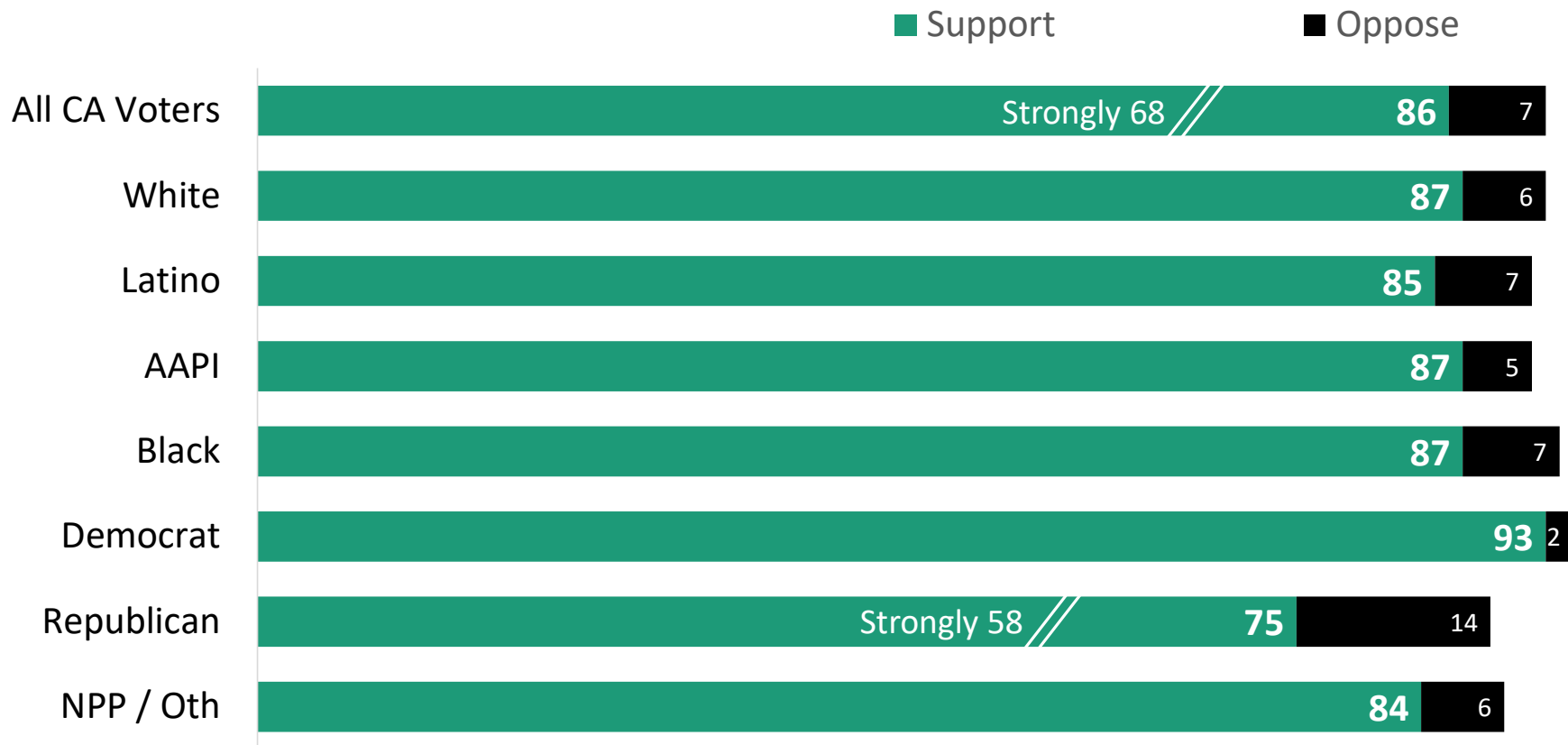
# Do you support or oppose the Supreme Court's acting to further limit the provisions of the Voting Rights Act?



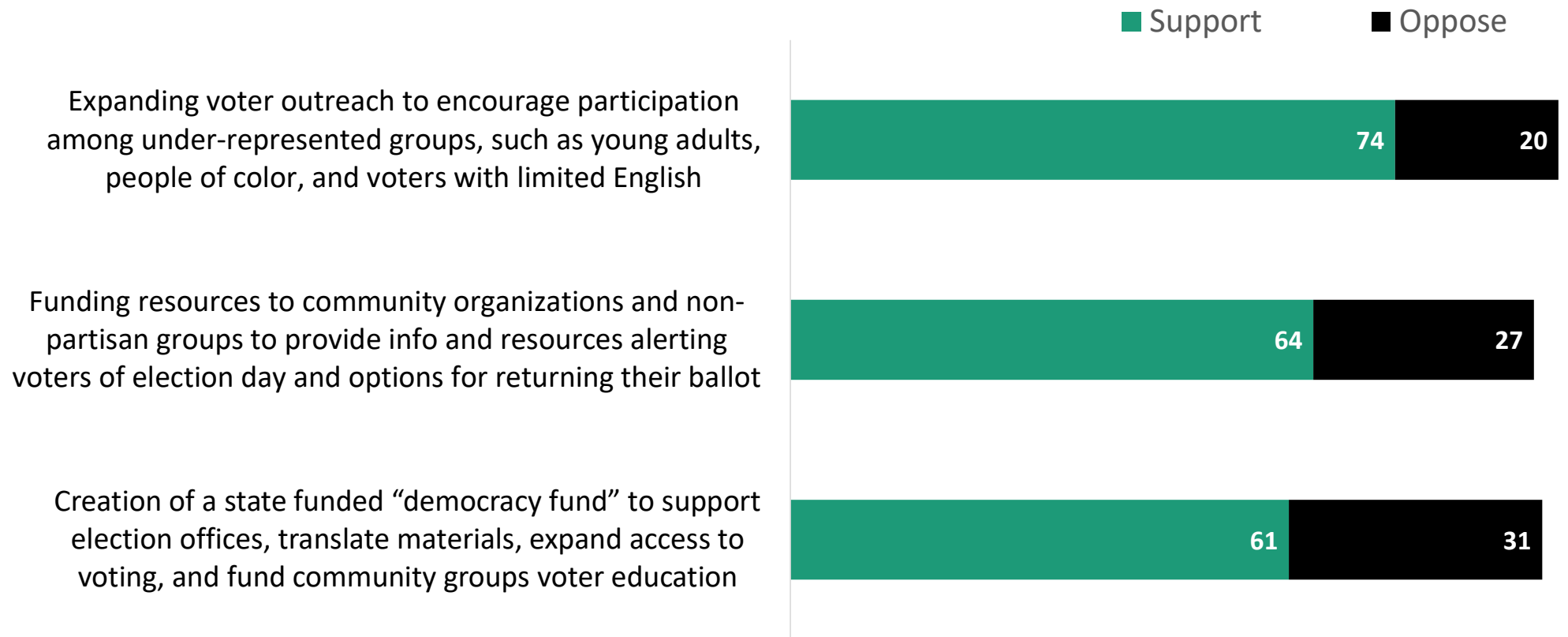


# Section 2: What Voters Want

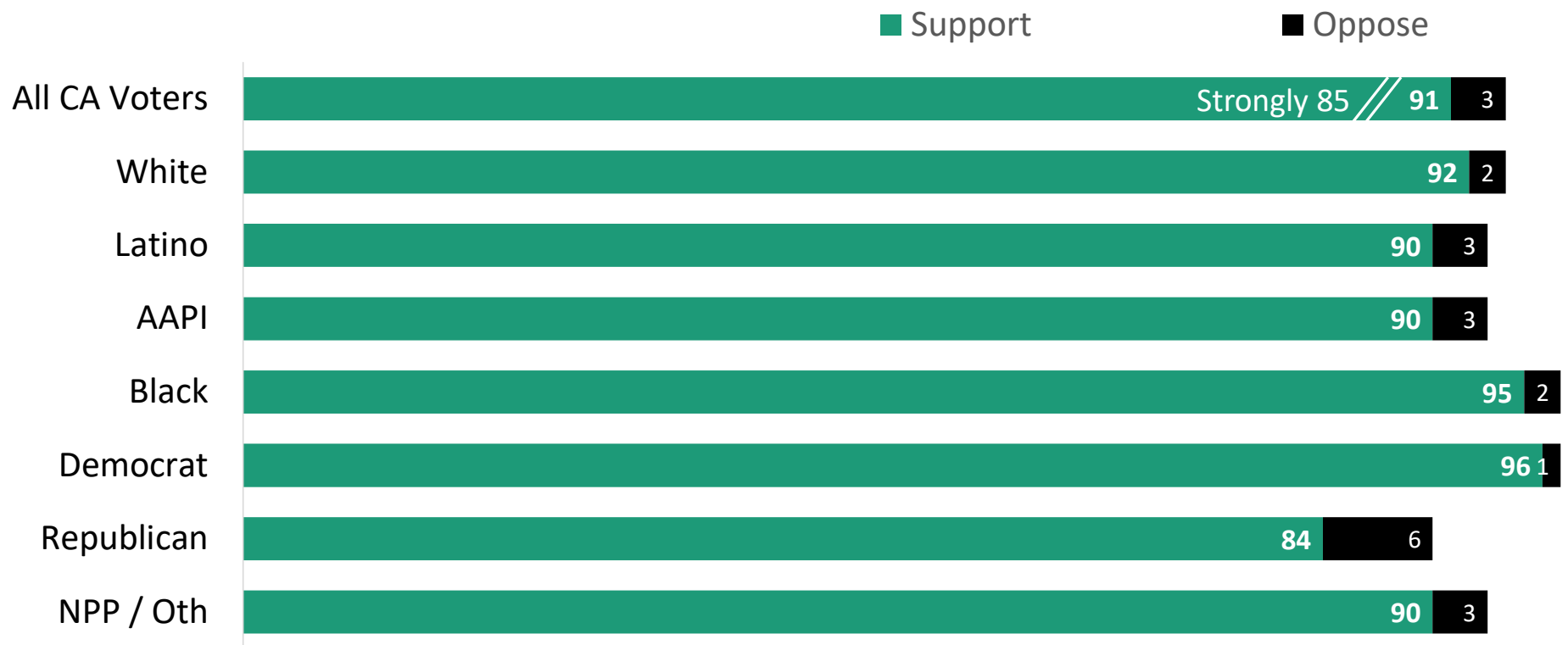
# Do you support or oppose taking steps to strengthen democracy and voting rights in California?



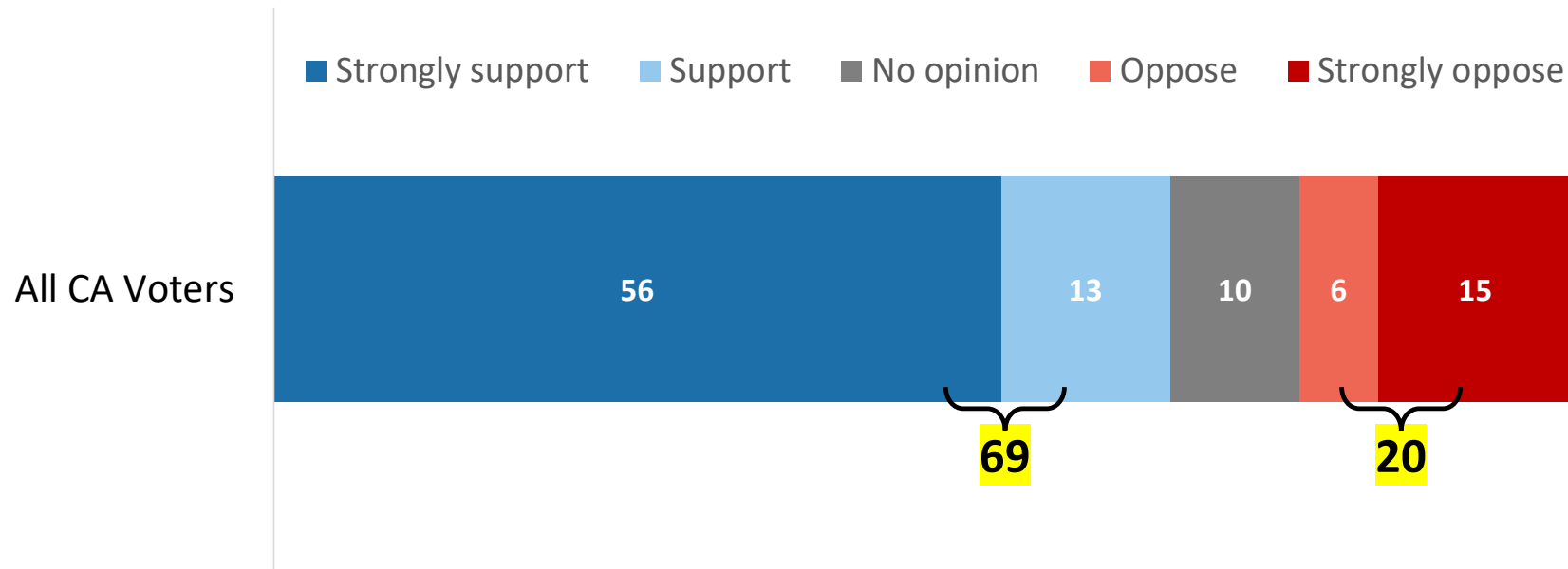
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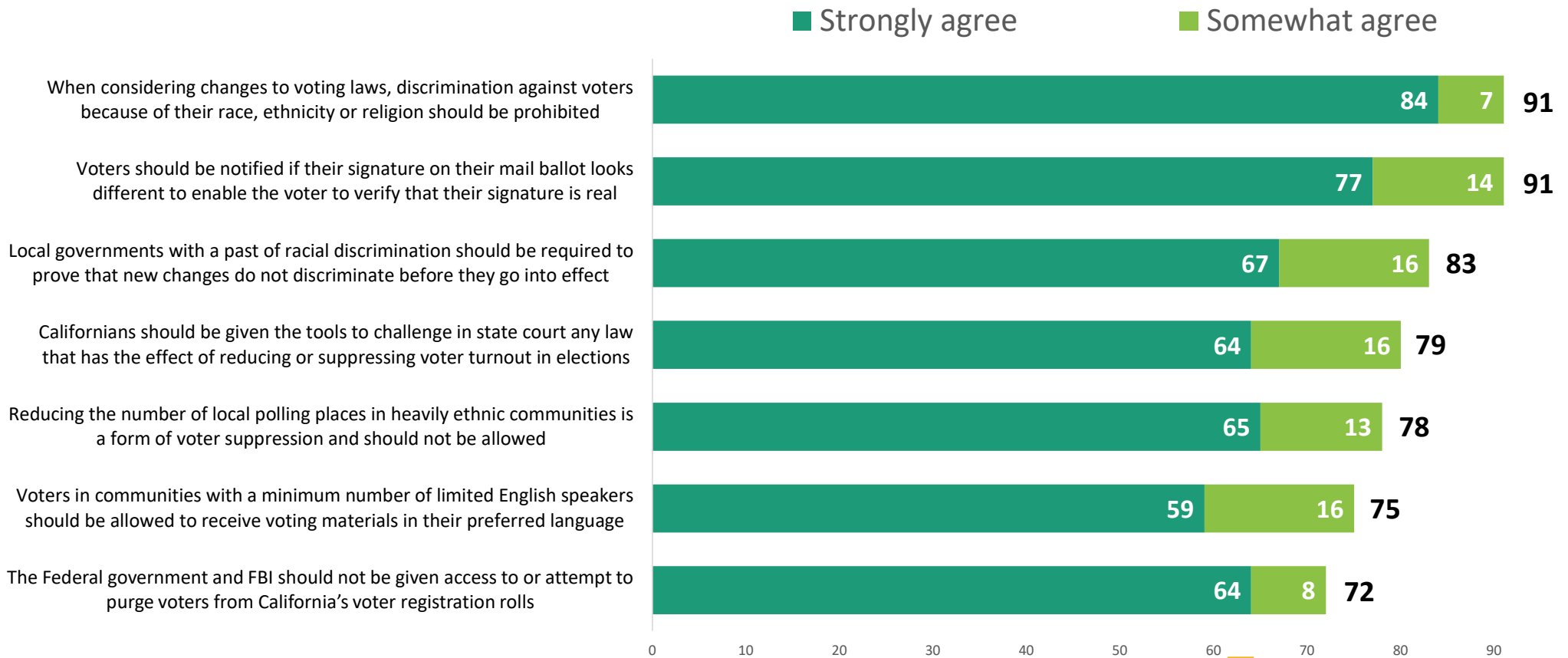
Do you support or oppose the Federal Voting Rights, enacted in 1965 to reduce racial discrimination in voting and ensure all citizens have the right to vote regardless of race?



# Would you support or oppose California expanding its own Voting Rights Act to guarantee that state voters are guaranteed protections included in the Federal Voting Right Act?



# Please indicate if you agree or disagree with each proposals related to voting regulations and protections

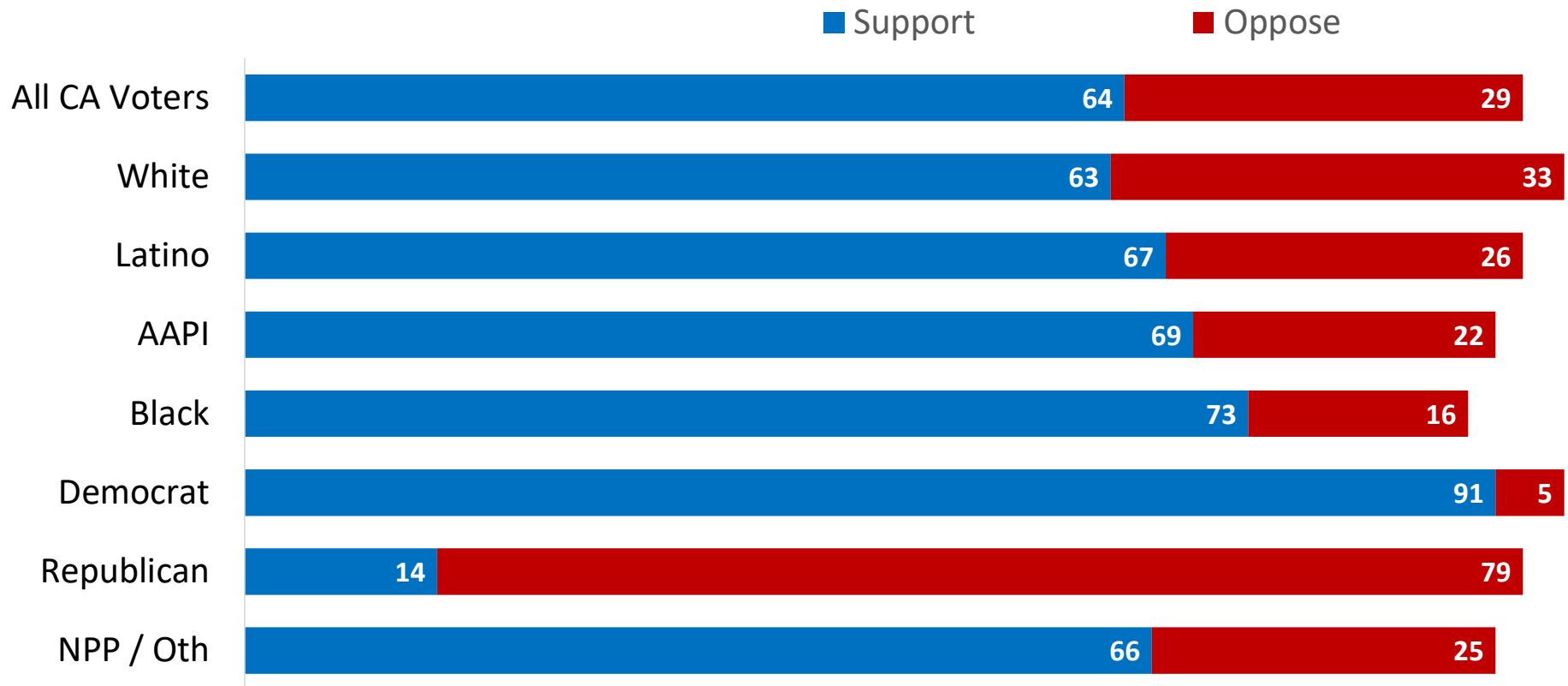


## *Trump v. Newsom 2026*

This year President Trump is proposing to change the nation's election laws by imposing more restrictions that would make it harder for some citizens to vote in the nation's elections. In response, Governor Newsom is proposing to pass additional state laws that he feels will add greater protections to voting rights.

Do you support or oppose Governor Newsom's efforts to counter the President's efforts to change the nation's election laws?

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## Audience Q&A

# Panel 2: Policy Expert Reactions to the Poll Findings



Moderated by: Cynthia Buiza



CALIFORNIA  
DEMOCRACY  
PARTNERSHIP

Panelists:

Aaron Robertson, Catalyst

Angelica Salceda, ACLU

Ditas Katague, The Ditas Group



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