

Pulse Opinion Research
South Dakota
Survey of 500 Likely Voters
February 9, 2009

1* Last fall, 76% of people in South Dakota voted to keep term limits of eight years on state legislators. Now, those legislators are trying to extend the limits so they can stay in office longer. How angry does that make you?

35% Very angry
28% Somewhat angry
20% Not very angry
12% Not at all angry
5% Not sure

2* In November a measure may be on the ballot that would extend term limits for state legislators from 8 years to 12 years. If the election were held today would you vote for or against increasing term limits from 8 years to 12 years?

23% For
68% Against
9% Not sure

3* Do state legislators want to extend term limits from eight years to twelve years because they believe it's better policy or so they can stay in office longer?

21% Because they believe it's better policy
63% So they can stay in office longer
16% Not sure

4* If your state representative tried to remove term limits, would that make you more or less likely to vote for him?

16% More likely
57% Less likely
22% It would have no impact
5% Not sure

5* Some people say that term limits have decimated the legislative process by replacing experienced lawmakers with rookies, other say that term limits encourage fresh perspectives and force a government that is representative of the people. Which is closest to your view?

17% Term limits have decimated the legislative process
64% Term limits encourage fresh perspectives
19% Not sure

6* Do you agree or disagree with this statement..." Once someone is in office too long, they start looking out for themselves and their friends more than the interests of the people

68% Agree

16% Disagree

16% Not sure

NOTE: Margin of Sampling Error, +/- 4.5 percentage points with a 95% level of confidence