



# Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future: Maryland Food Citizen Poll

June 2022

## Methodology

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On behalf of the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future (CLF) as part of its Food Citizen Project, GQR conducted a Maryland statewide phone survey of 604 registered voters (500 weighted) plus 152 registered voters (40 weighted) in the Eastern Shore. The survey was conducted in late June 2022, and respondents were contacted through the voter file.

The data is subject to a margin of error of +/-3.99 percentage points (+/- 7.95 Eastern Shore OS) at the 95 percent confidence interval and the margin of error is higher among subgroups.

The data are statistically weighted to ensure the sample's regional, age, and gender composition reflects that of the estimated registered voter population in Maryland.

In this report, results are expressed as percentages unless otherwise noted. Results may not add to 100% due to rounding or multiple responses. Net results cited in the text may not exactly match individual results shown in the charts due to rounding.



# Government Role and Environment

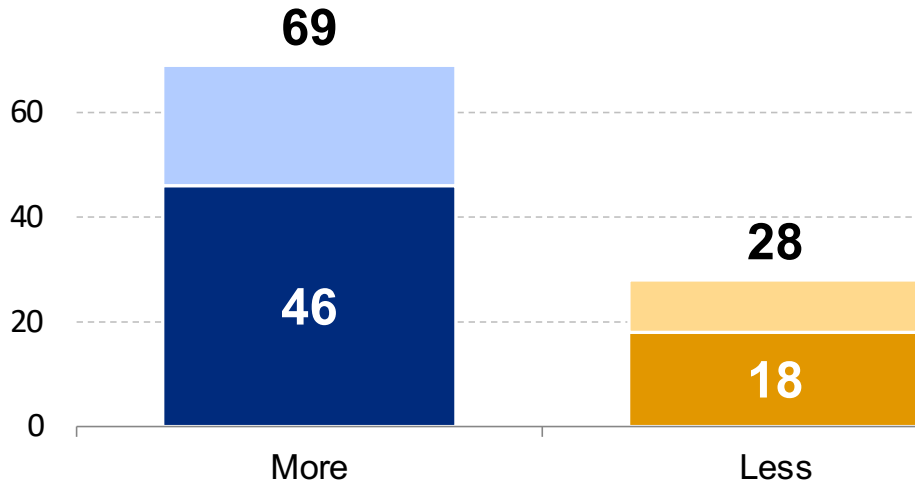
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# Voters want the government to do more

Please indicate which statement is closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.

Government should do more to solve problems and help meet the needs of people.

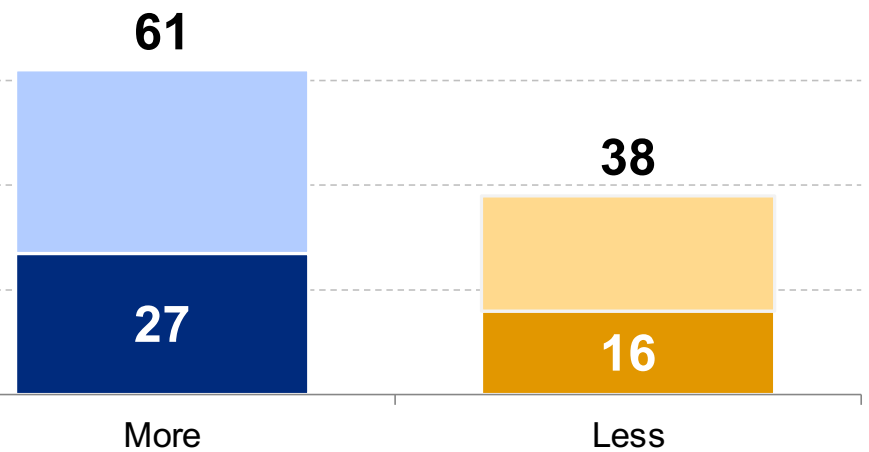
■ Gov, much more      ■ Gov, somewhat more



2022

Government is doing too many things better left to businesses and individuals.

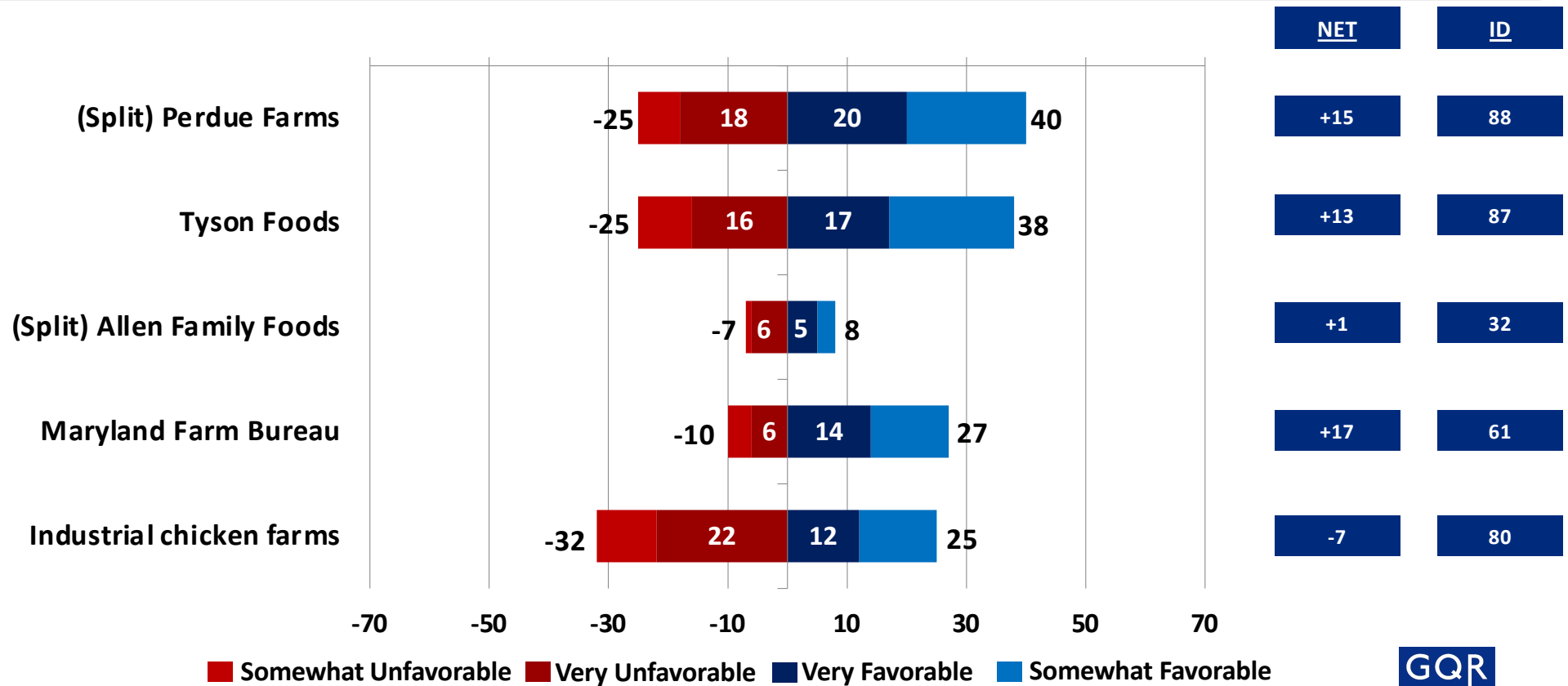
■ Less gov, much more      ■ Less gov, somewhat more



2016

# More favorable to big chicken processing companies

Now I'd like you to rate your feelings toward some people and groups, with one hundred meaning a VERY WARM, FAVORABLE feeling; zero meaning a VERY COLD, UNFAVORABLE feeling; and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold. You can use any number from zero to one hundred, the higher the number the more favorable your feelings are toward that person or group. If you have no opinion or have never heard of that person or group, please say so.



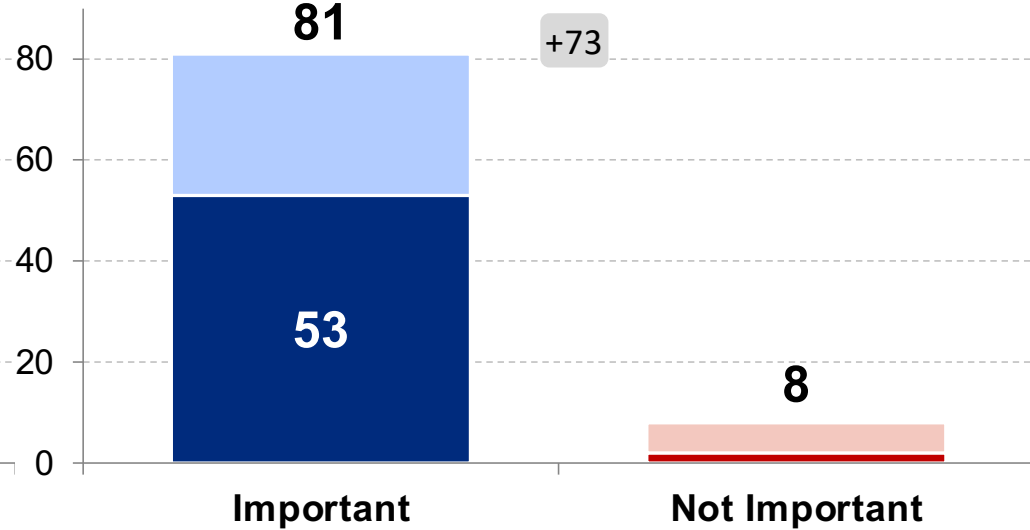
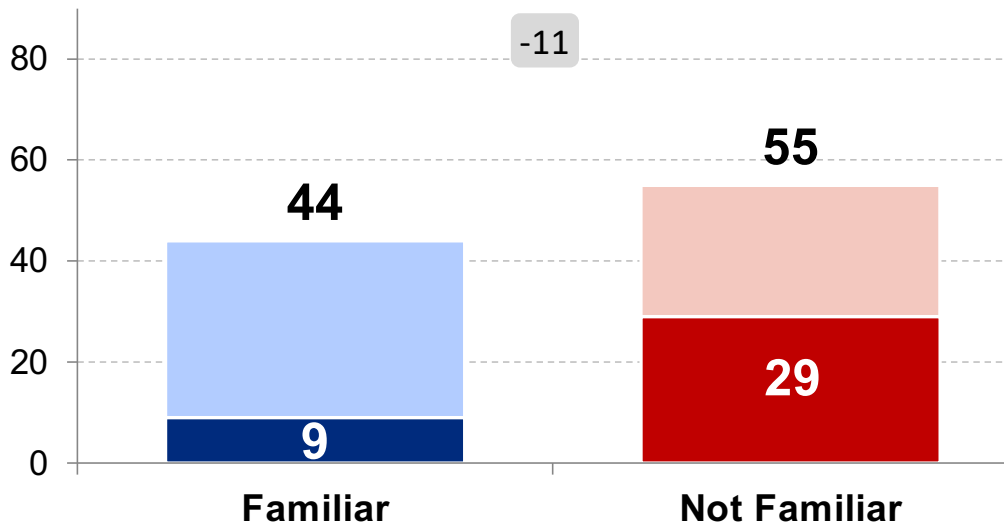
# Sentiments around Poultry Farms

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# Voters less familiar with poultry farming, but view them as important for economy

How familiar are you with industrial chicken farming, or farming that produces very large quantities of poultry for commercial sale, in Maryland?

From what you know or have heard, how important is industrial chicken farming and the poultry industry to the Maryland economy?

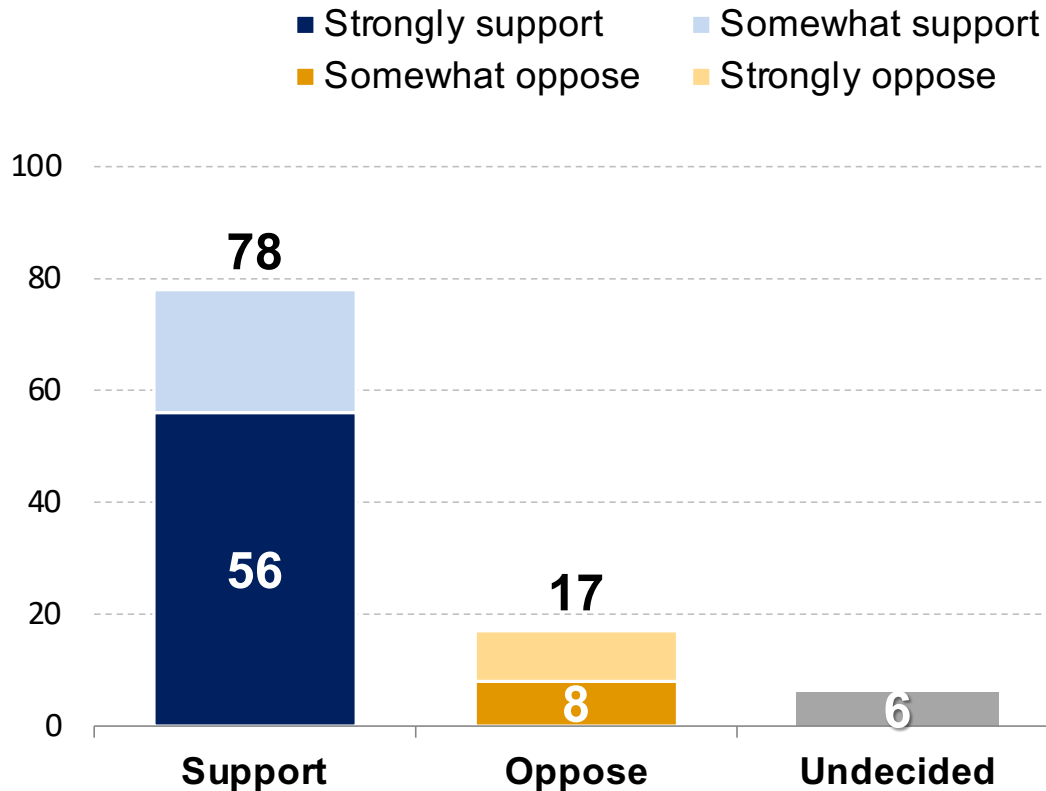


%	Familiar	Not Familiar
Total 2022	44	55
Eastern Shore	57	43
<b>Net Difference</b>	<b>+13</b>	<b>-12</b>

%	Important	Not Important
Total 2022	81	8
Eastern Shore	92	5
<b>Net Difference</b>	<b>+11</b>	<b>-3</b>

# Overwhelming support of integrators sharing liability with growers

Most farms in Maryland that raise chickens' contract with larger companies like Perdue and Tyson. In these contracts, the companies, known as integrators, own the chickens. They supply growers with chicks and feed, then return to claim the birds for slaughter. The growers, or small farmers own the waste and dead birds, and they are legally responsible when they are not handled properly. Do you support or oppose the idea that integrators should share liability with the growers for disposing waste?



Partisanship: Huge support from Democrats (78 percent), independents (77 percent), and Republicans (80 percent)

Region: No big regional differences.

Age: Younger voters slightly higher intensity than older voters. But difference is marginal.

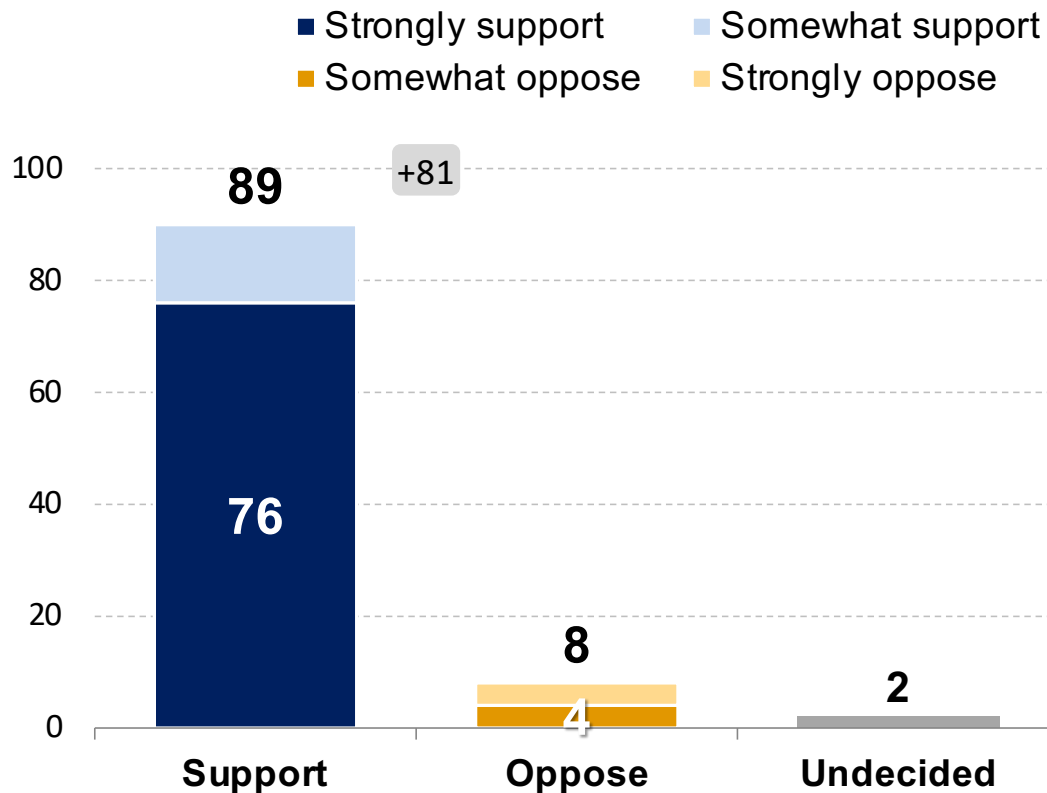
Race: White voters support net 67 points, Black voters net 52 points.

Education/Gender: Slightly more intensity support among non-college voters. Driven equally among non-college men and women.



# Overwhelming support for monitoring and enforcement of Clean Water Act on CAFOs

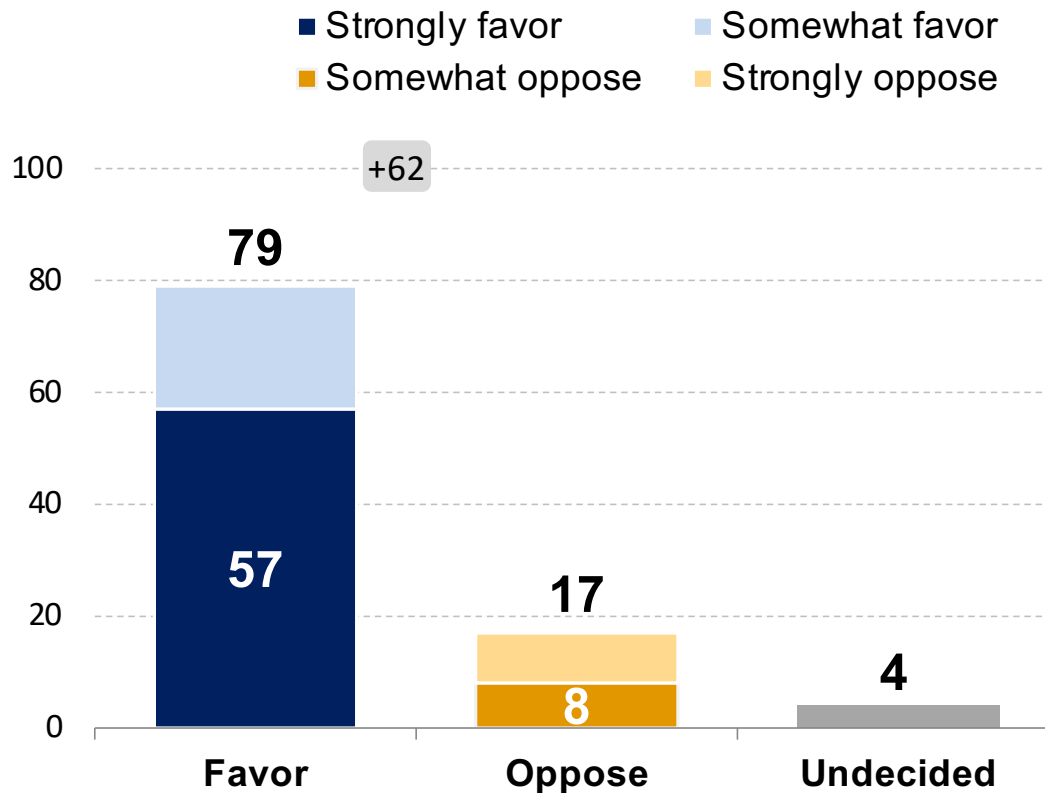
The Clean Water Act requires Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, or CAFOs to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit before they are allowed to discharge pollutants into water bodies. Do you support or oppose the monitoring and enforcement of the Clean Water Act on Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, or CAFOs?



- Partisanship: Broad support across the board, with Democrats at a higher intensity of support (93 percent) vs. Republicans (86 percent).
- Region: Broad support, but Eastern shore has lowest amount of intensity of support (56 percent).
- Age: Broad support, differences within MOE.
- Education/Gender: Higher intensity of support among college men and college women.

# Majority favor implementing tougher environmental standards even on CAFOS with fewer birds

CAFOs with fewer than 37,500 birds do not need to receive a permit before they are allowed to discharge pollutants into bodies of water. Do you favor or oppose implementing tougher environmental impact standards that apply to all CAFOs, including ones that are smaller in size?

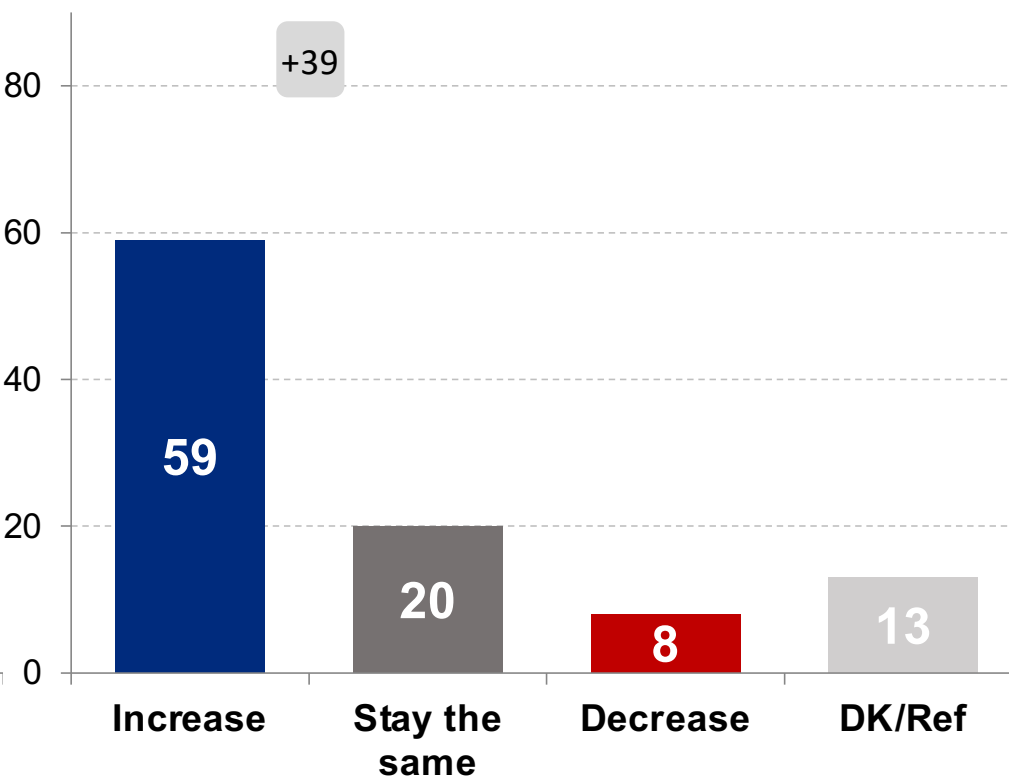
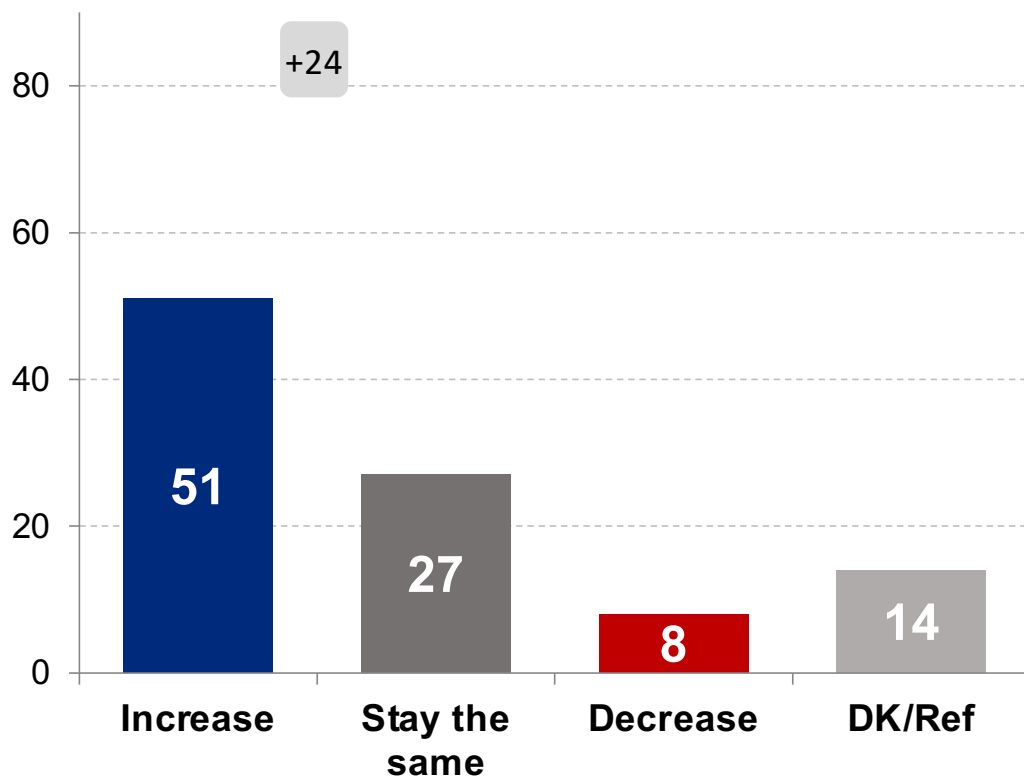


- Partisanship: Republicans show high support, but popularity driven by Democrats and independents.
  - Region: Strongest support in the Prince George's/Montgomery county (85 percent favor).
- Age: Support driven by younger voters (82 percent support), compared to older voters (75 percent).
- Education/Gender: College educated voters have higher level of support (83 percent) than non-college (74 percent). Driven by college men (82 percent).

## Majority support an increase in oversight to industrial chicken farming industries

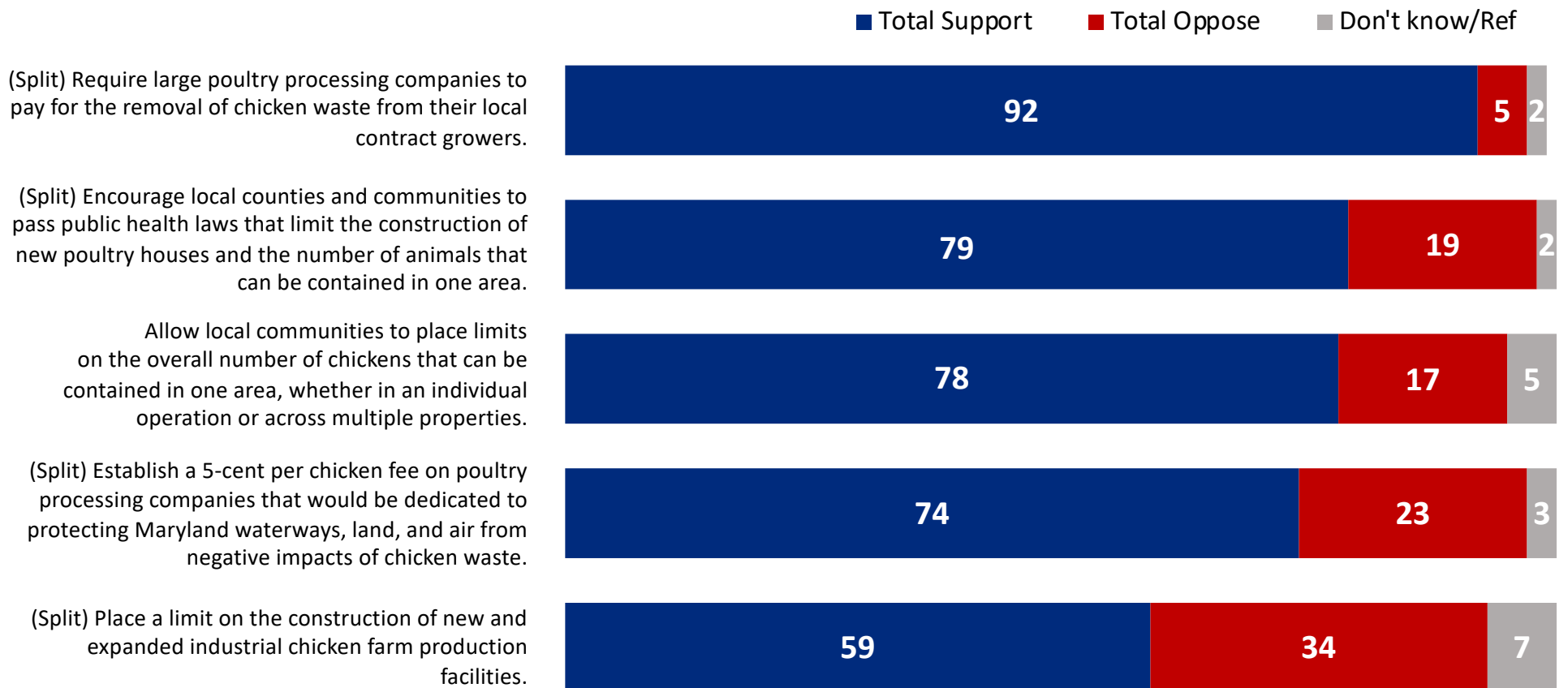
*In your view, should oversight of the way the industrial chicken farming industries operate be increased, decreased, or stay the same?*

*In your view, should oversight of the way the industrial chicken farming industries handle waste be [ROTATE] increased, decreased, or stay the same?*



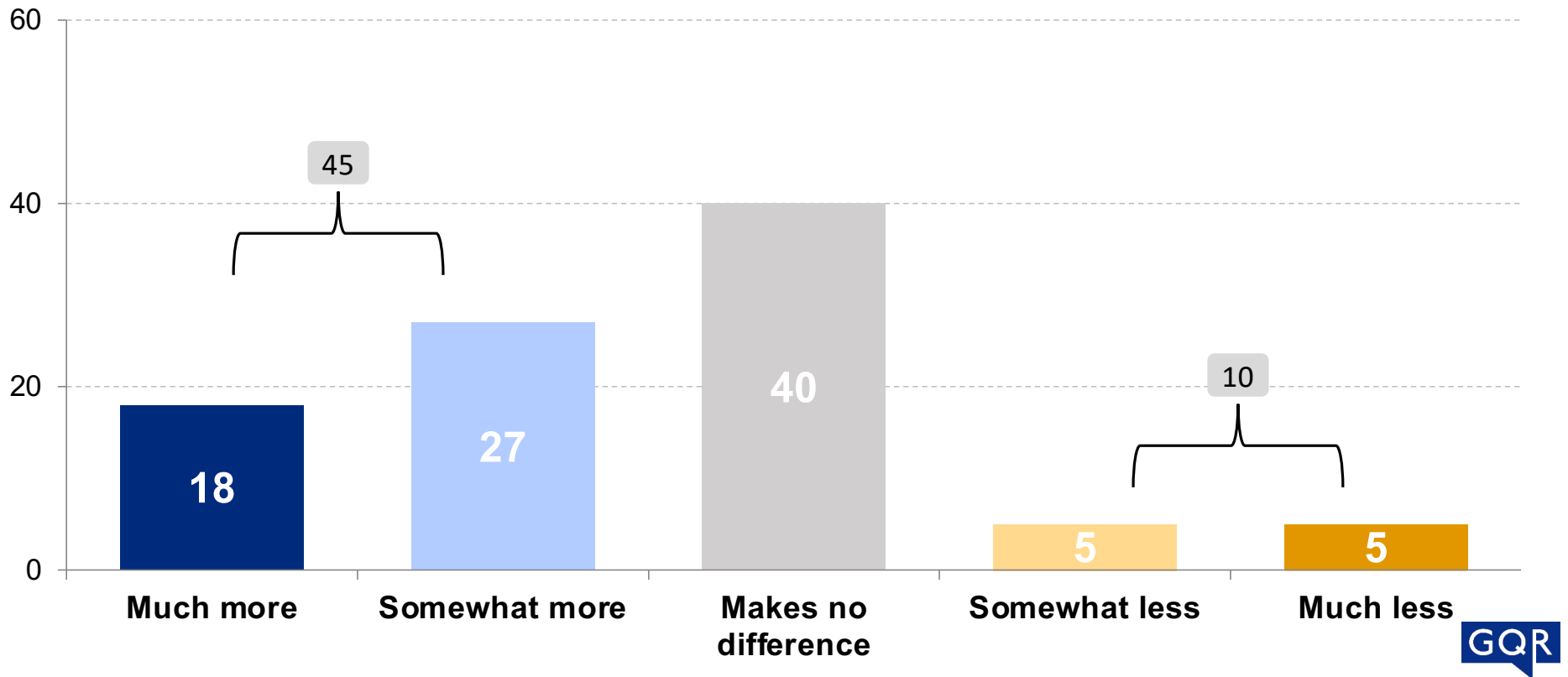
# Strong support for proposals overseeing the chicken farming industry

Now here are some specific proposals related to the industrial chicken farming industry. For each, please indicate whether you support or oppose that proposal.



## Nearly half say gubernatorial candidates support to increase oversight makes them more favorable

*Thinking about everything you have heard, if a gubernatorial candidate supported proposals to increase oversight on the industrial farming industry, would that make you more or less favorable toward him or her, or would it make no difference?*

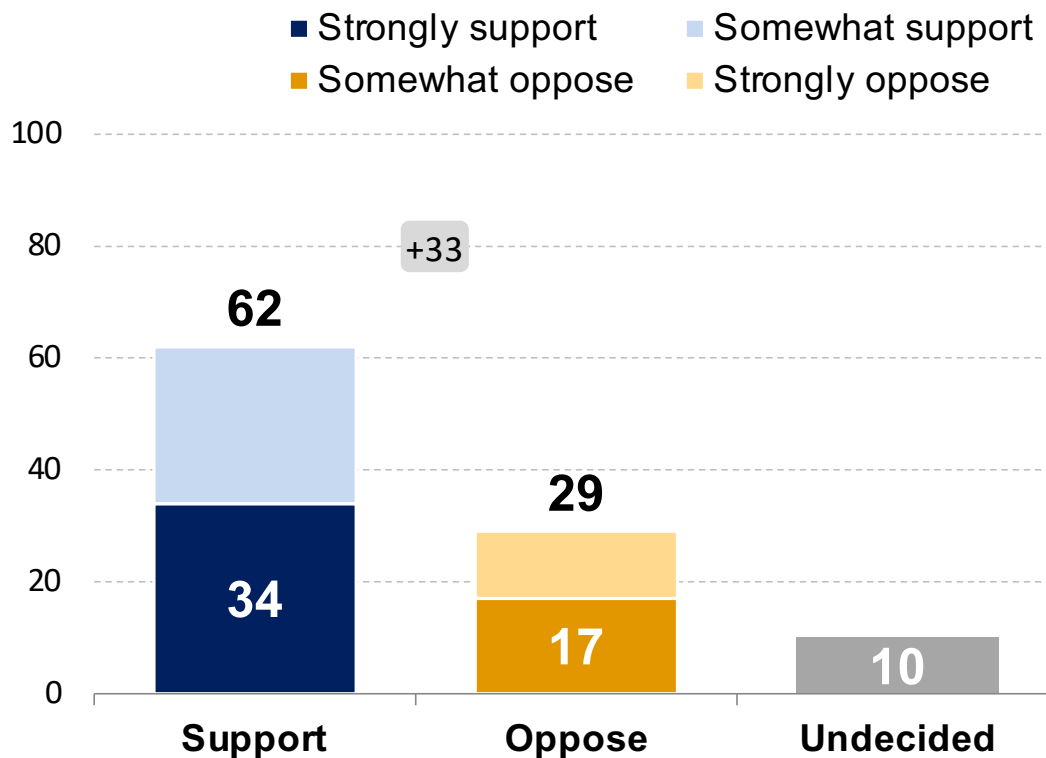


# Pesticides and Plant-Based Foods

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# Strong support for a moving away from factory farmed animal products and towards lower-carbon, plant-based foods in state food procurement

Do you (SUPPORT/OPPOSE) Maryland shifting the state's food procurement away from factory farmed animal products toward lower-carbon, plant-based food in alignment with greenhouse gas reduction targets?



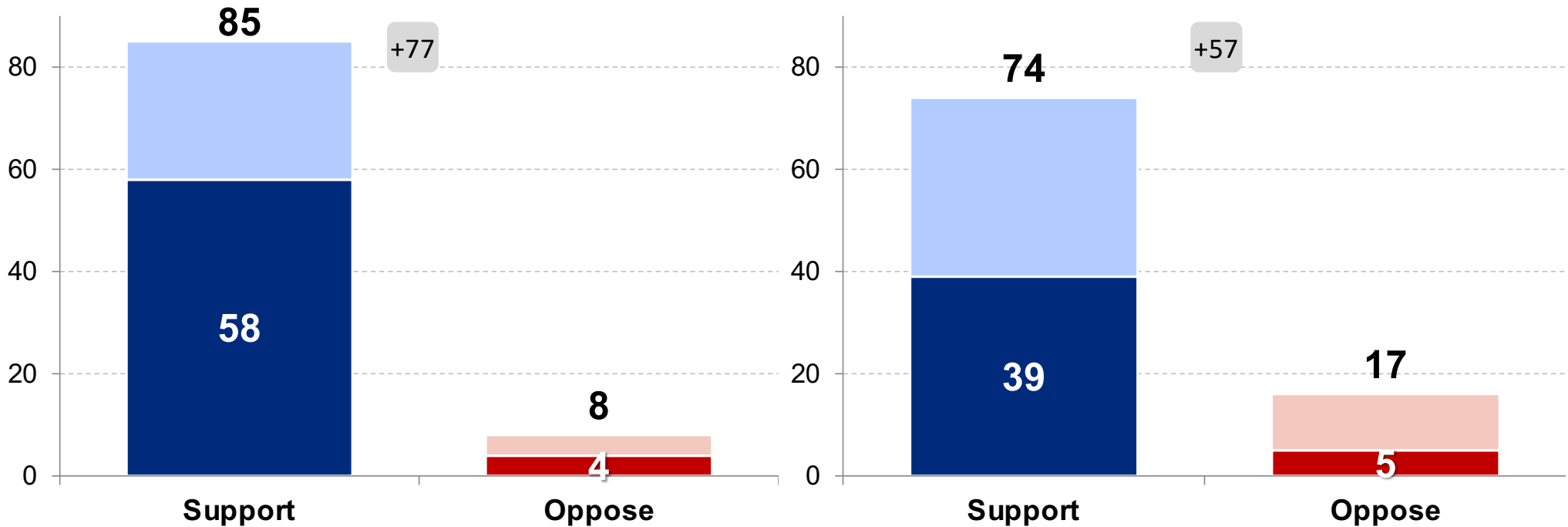
- Partisanship: Democrats support 78-14, independents support 63-29, but Republicans oppose 28-56.
- Region: Eastern shore is split 49-39, Border is split 51-37. Broad approval in other regions.
- Age: Younger voters support by net 51 points, older voters only support by net 19 points.
- Race: Black voters support at higher levels than white voters.
- Education/Gender: Lowest support among non-college men

# Overwhelming support for pesticide-related policies

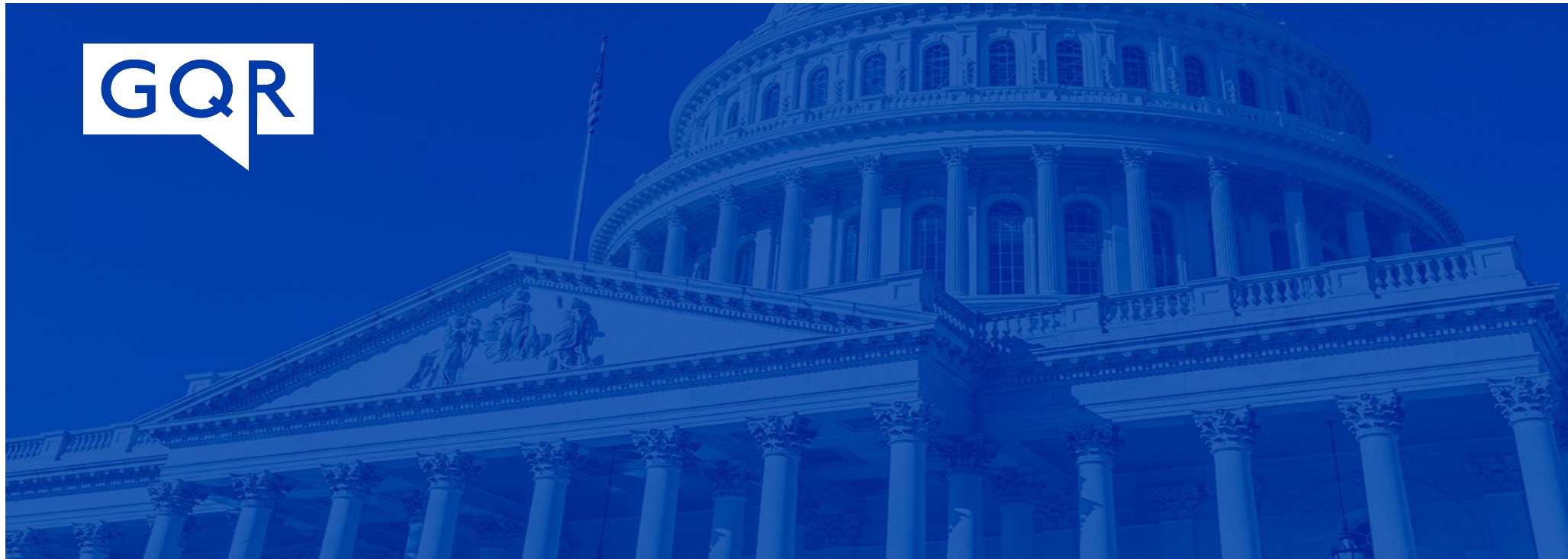
Now switching topics slightly, I'm going to read you some policies related to pesticide use in Maryland. For each, please indicate whether you support or oppose that policy.

Requiring that any mosquito pesticide sprayed in Maryland must be tested for P-F-A-S, sometimes called 'forever chemicals', to ensure they are P-F-A-S-free.

Adding input by the Department of Health and the Department of Environment to the Department of Agriculture's decisions on the use of pesticides of concern.







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