



# Most support expanding domestic violence law

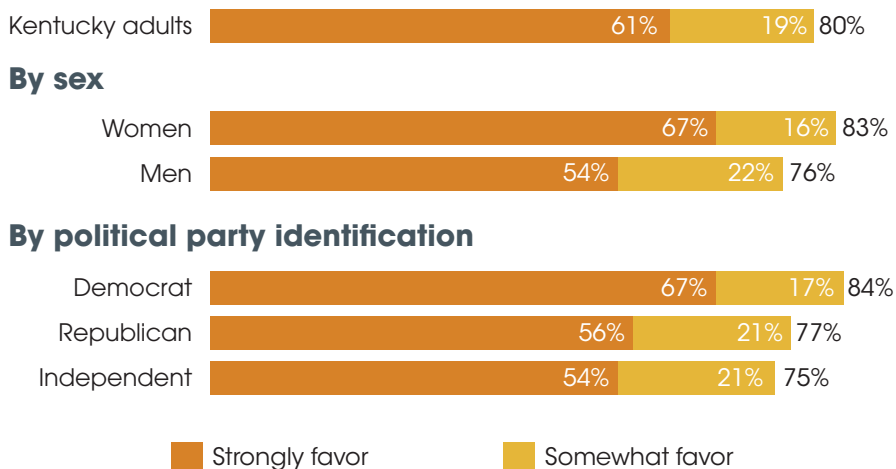
In Kentucky, dating partners are not included in domestic violence civil protection orders. Under current Kentucky law, protections cover family members, members of an unmarried couple with a child in common, and members of an unmarried couple who are living together or have formerly lived together.

The 2014 **Kentucky Health Issues Poll (KHIP)** asked Kentucky adults whether the law should be changed in order to include dating partners who do not share a child and have not lived together.<sup>1</sup>

Eight in 10 Kentucky adults (80%) favor changing Kentucky law to allow people to file a domestic violence protection order against a current or former dating partner with whom they have not lived or

<sup>1</sup> KHIP asks, "In Kentucky, a person may not file for a domestic violence protection order against a current or former dating partner unless they share a child with that person or they lived with that person at some point in time. A proposed change to Kentucky law would allow a person to file for a domestic violence protection order against a current or former dating partner in cases where they do not share a child and have not lived together. Some people favor this change to Kentucky law, others oppose this change to Kentucky law. How about you ... would you favor or oppose this change to Kentucky law?"

## Percentage of Kentucky adults who favor a change to Kentucky law about domestic violence protection orders



do not share a child. Majorities of both women (83%) and men (76%) favor this change.

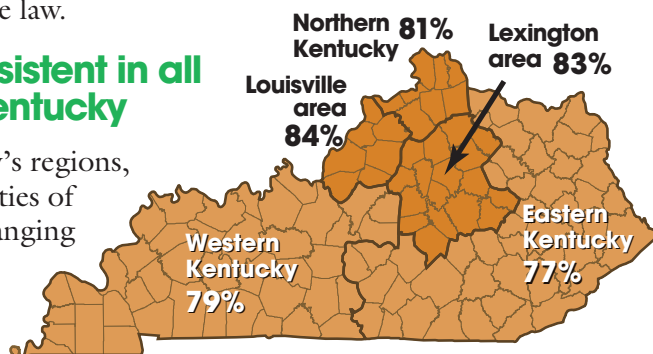
Likewise, substantial majorities of Democrats (84%), Republicans (77%) and Independents (75%) favor changing the law.

## Support consistent in all regions of Kentucky

In all of Kentucky's regions, substantial majorities of adults favored changing Kentucky law to allow people to file a domestic

violence protection order against a current or former dating partner with whom they have not lived or do not share a child.

## Percentage of Kentucky adults who favor a change to Kentucky law about domestic violence protection orders



These findings unless otherwise noted are from the Kentucky Health Issues Poll, funded by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky and Interact for Health. The Kentucky Health Issues Poll was conducted Oct. 8-Nov. 6, 2014, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 1,597 adults from throughout Kentucky was interviewed by telephone. This included 1,086 landline interviews and 511 cell phone interviews with cell phone users. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to ± 2.5%. There are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias. For more information about the Kentucky Health Issues Poll, please visit [www.healthy-ky.org](http://www.healthy-ky.org) or [www.interactforhealth.org/kentucky-health-issues-poll](http://www.interactforhealth.org/kentucky-health-issues-poll).