

HOUSE BILL 36 IN THE EYES OF NC VOTERS

800 registered North Carolina voters were administered a survey via telephone from March 7 – 8, 2017

STUDY CONDUCTED BY: STRATEGIC PARTNERS SOLUTIONS, LLC

HOUSE BILL 36

- ✓ **HB36 IS A PIECE OF LEGISLATION THAT IS CURRENT BEFORE THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
- ✓ **THIS BILL AIMS TO ALLOW OPTOMETRISTS TO BEGIN PERFORMING EYE SURGERIES IN NORTH CAROLINA**

CURRENT LAW

- ✓ **ONLY OPHTHALMOLOGISTS PERFORM EYE SURGERIES IN NORTH CAROLINA AND 47 OTHER STATES**

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OPHTHALMOLOGISTS AND OPTOMETRISTS

OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

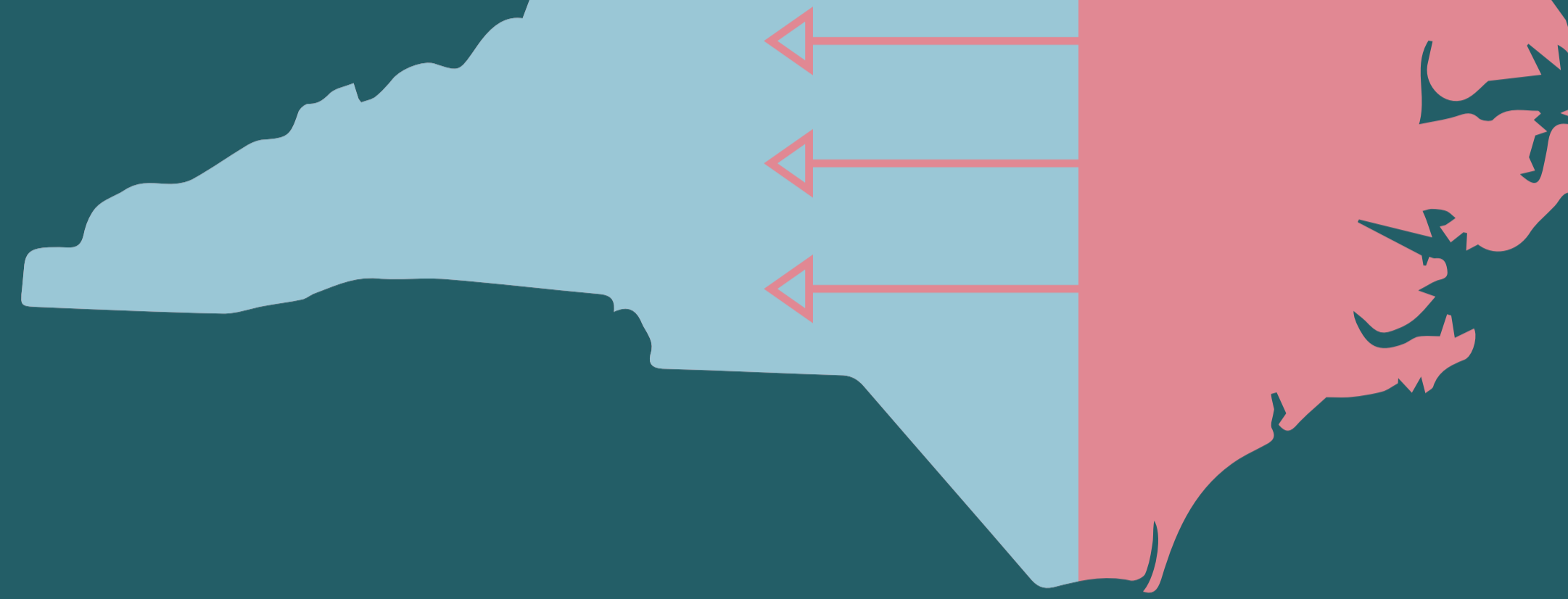
- Medical doctors and surgeons
- Specialize in the treatment of eye diseases and perform eye surgery
- Completed and graduated from a four-year medical school
- Completed a minimum of four years of additional clinical surgical training after medical school

OPTOMETRISTS

- Are NOT medical doctors
- Completed a course of study in Optometry
- Studied basic eye care services
 - Administers vision exams
 - Provides eyeglasses and contact lenses
- They DO NOT receive extensive surgical training
- They DO NOT attend medical school

UNDERSTANDING NC VOTER BASE

- ✓ NC is mostly a moderate state
- ✓ Shifting from further right to closer to the center
- ✓ Longer-term residents tending to the more conservative side



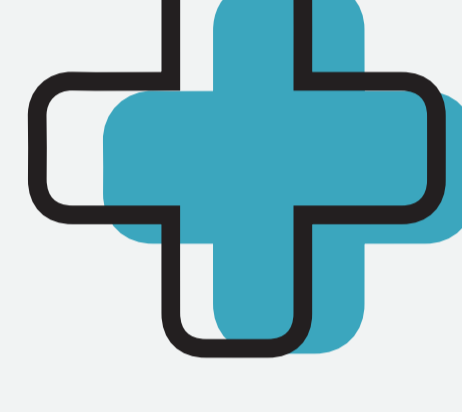
PROponents OF HB36 CLAIM THAT:

- 3 It will provide needed health care and eye care in rural and underserved areas across North Carolina
- 3 Optometrists have the training necessary to perform eye surgery
- 3 The Optometry board should decide who can and cannot perform surgery within their own ranks

LET'S REVIEW THE FACTS AND FIND OUT WHAT NORTH CAROLINIANS REALLY THINK ABOUT HB36.

NC VOTERS SAY

HEALTHCARE NEEDS ARE COVERED



92.4%

Have access to the medical care we need

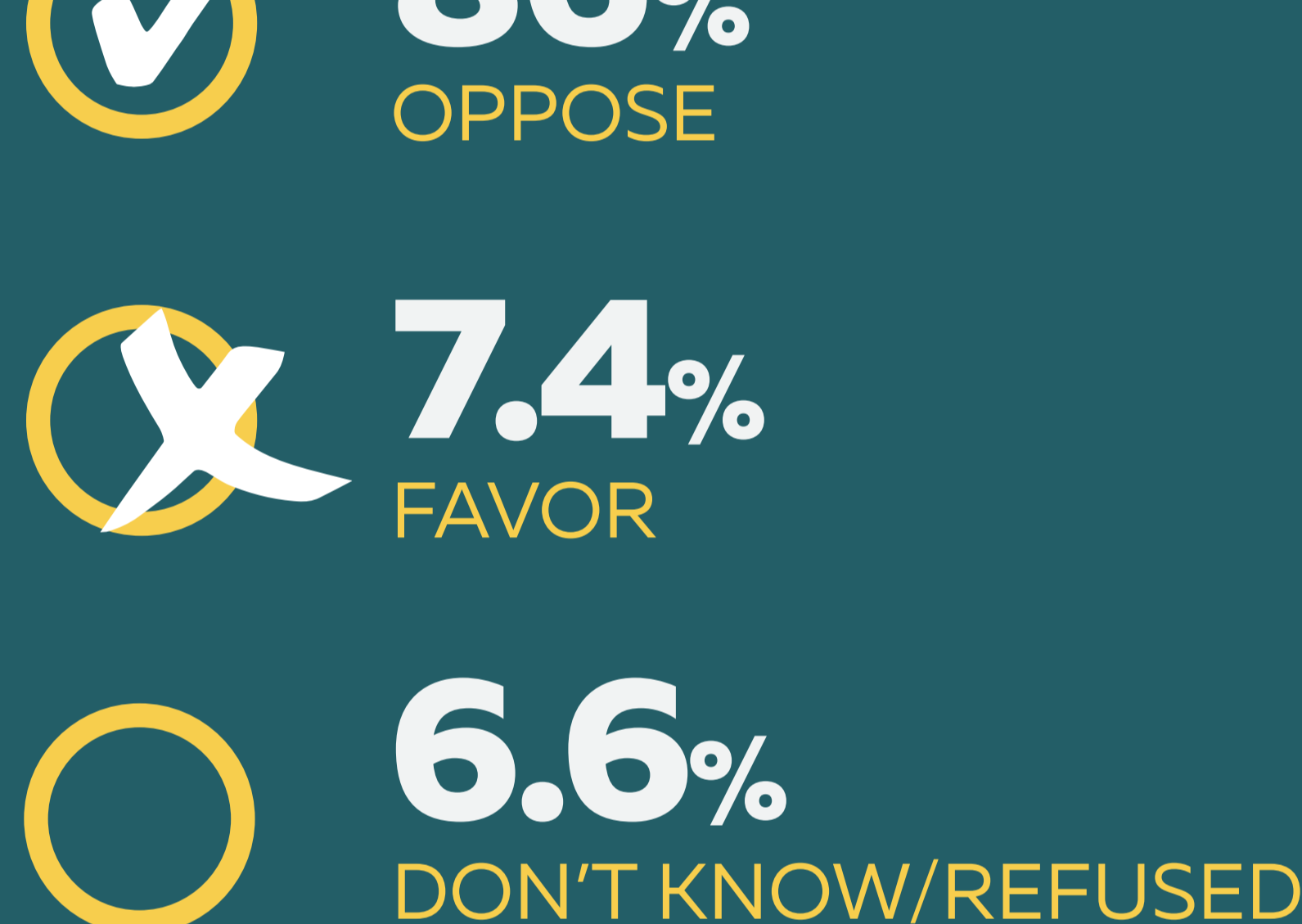


89.6%

Have access to the eye care we need

OVERALL VOTER OPINION OF HB36

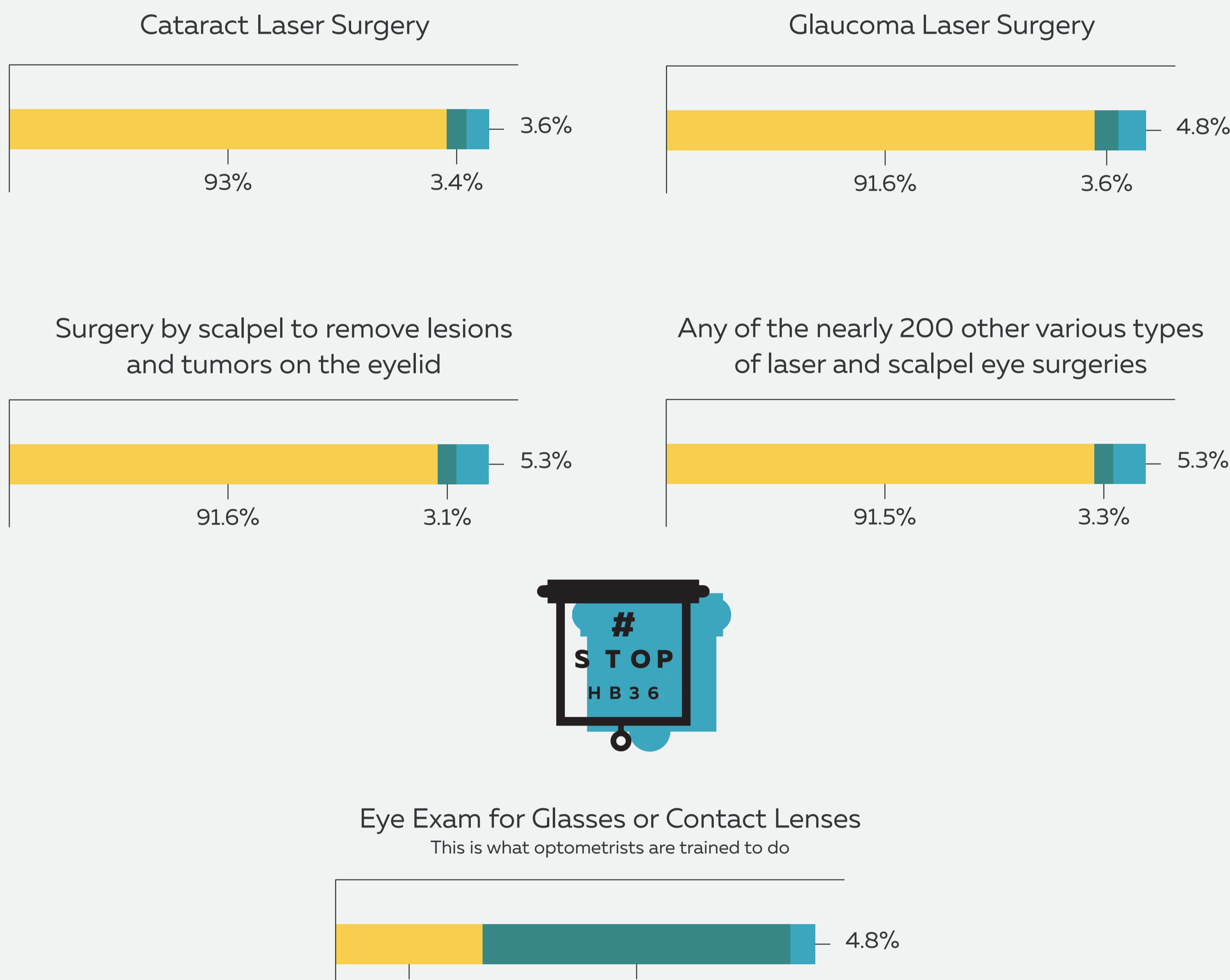
How do voters feel about allowing **Optometrists** to perform eye surgeries?



FOCUSING ON SPECIFIC SURGERIES

Who do you want to conduct eye surgeries on you?

Legend: Ophthalmologist (Yellow), Optometrist (Green), Don't Know/Refused (Blue)

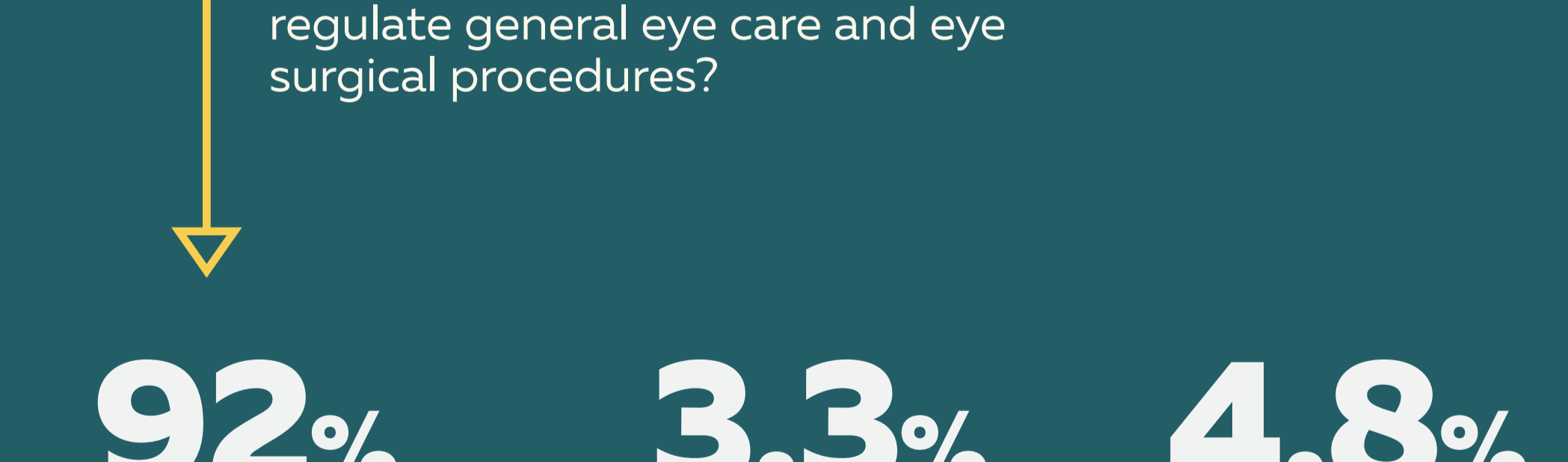


SAFETY VERSUS ACCESS TO CARE ARGUMENT

When asked, 91% of voters said they would prefer the best and safest access to eye care.

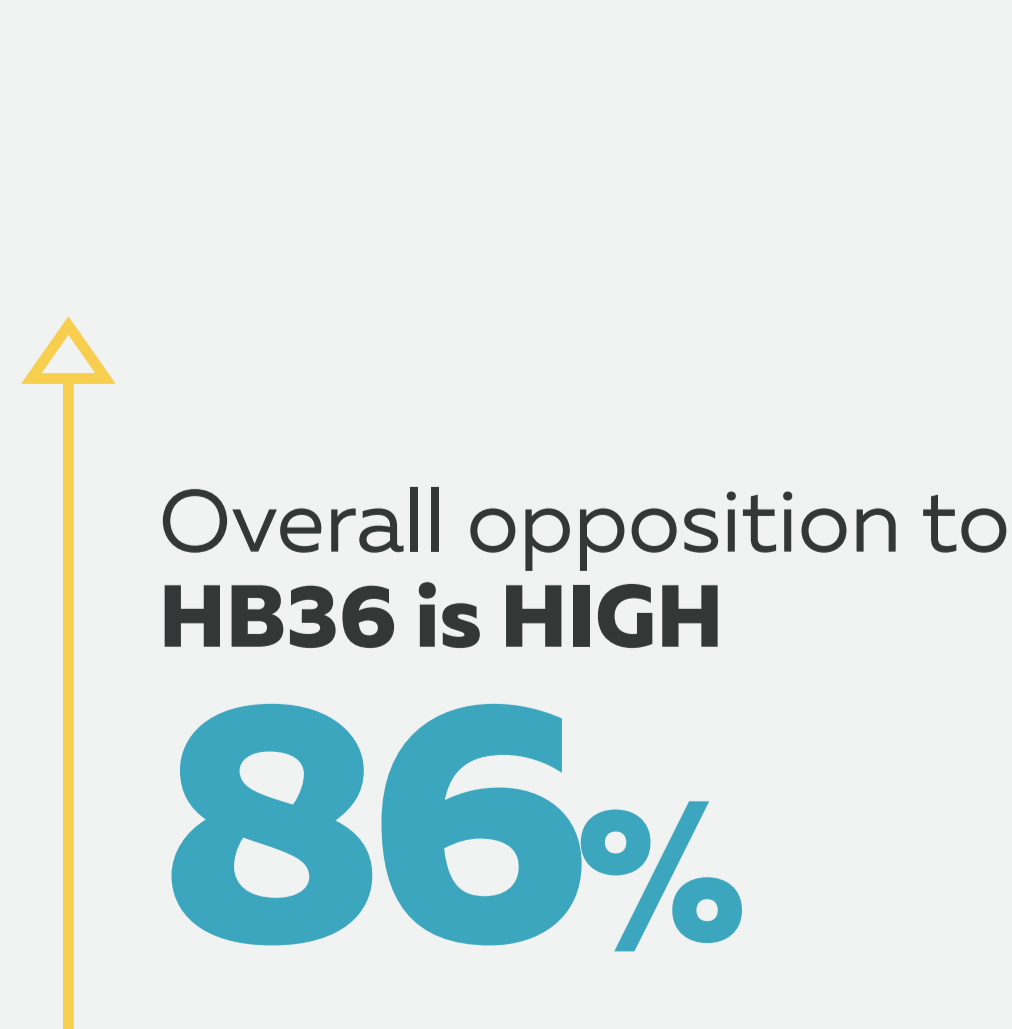
WHO MAKES THE RULES?

Whom do voters think should regulate general eye care and eye surgical procedures?

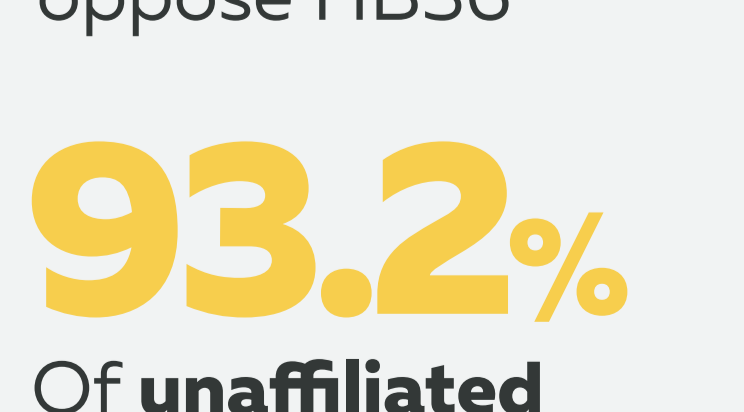
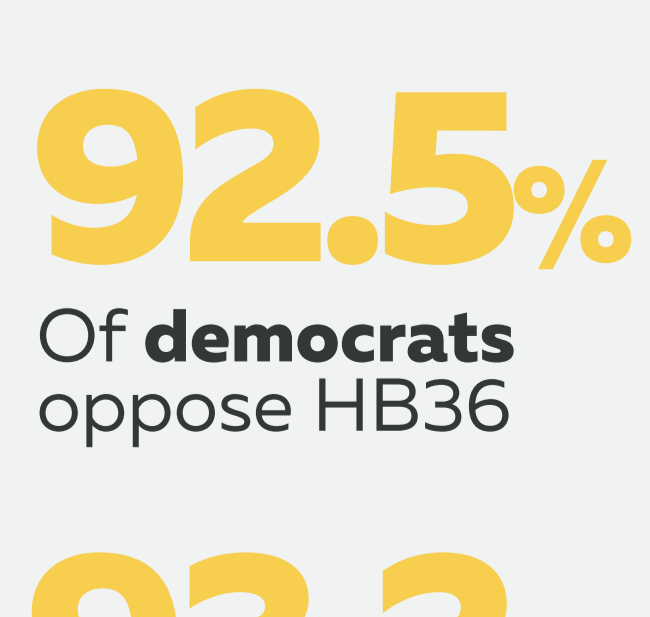
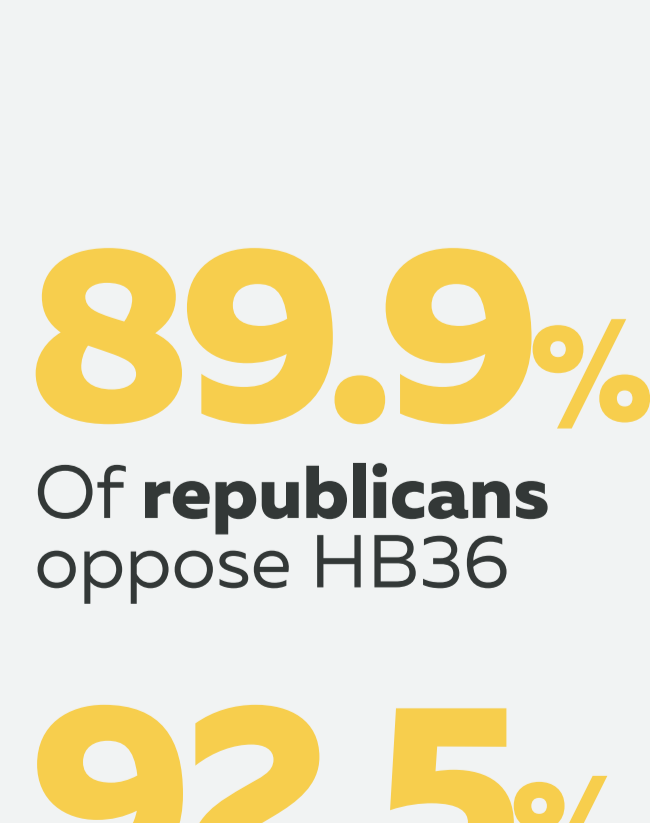


CONCLUSIONS:

VOTERS DO NOT WANT TO SACRIFICE QUALITY OF CARE



OPPOSITION INCREASES AS VOTERS GET MORE OF THE FACTS.



THERE IS NO PARTISAN DIVIDE ON THIS ISSUE. **HB36 IS BAD FOR NORTH CAROLINA.**

Let your legislator know that you **oppose HB36**: <http://safesurgerync.com/hb36/>