

GETTING THE JOB DONE: PROCESS AND POLITICS IN THE MIDWESTERN STATE LEGISLATURE

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Trivia That Isn't Trivial

- Which Midwestern legislature guarantees that every bill gets a hearing a committee and then a vote on the floor, and makes caucus meetings open to the public

Discussion Breakout #1:

What Shapes How Your Institution Works?

- If you had to pick one **rule** – a constitutional provision or chamber rule – that characterizes how your legislature operates, what would it be?

or

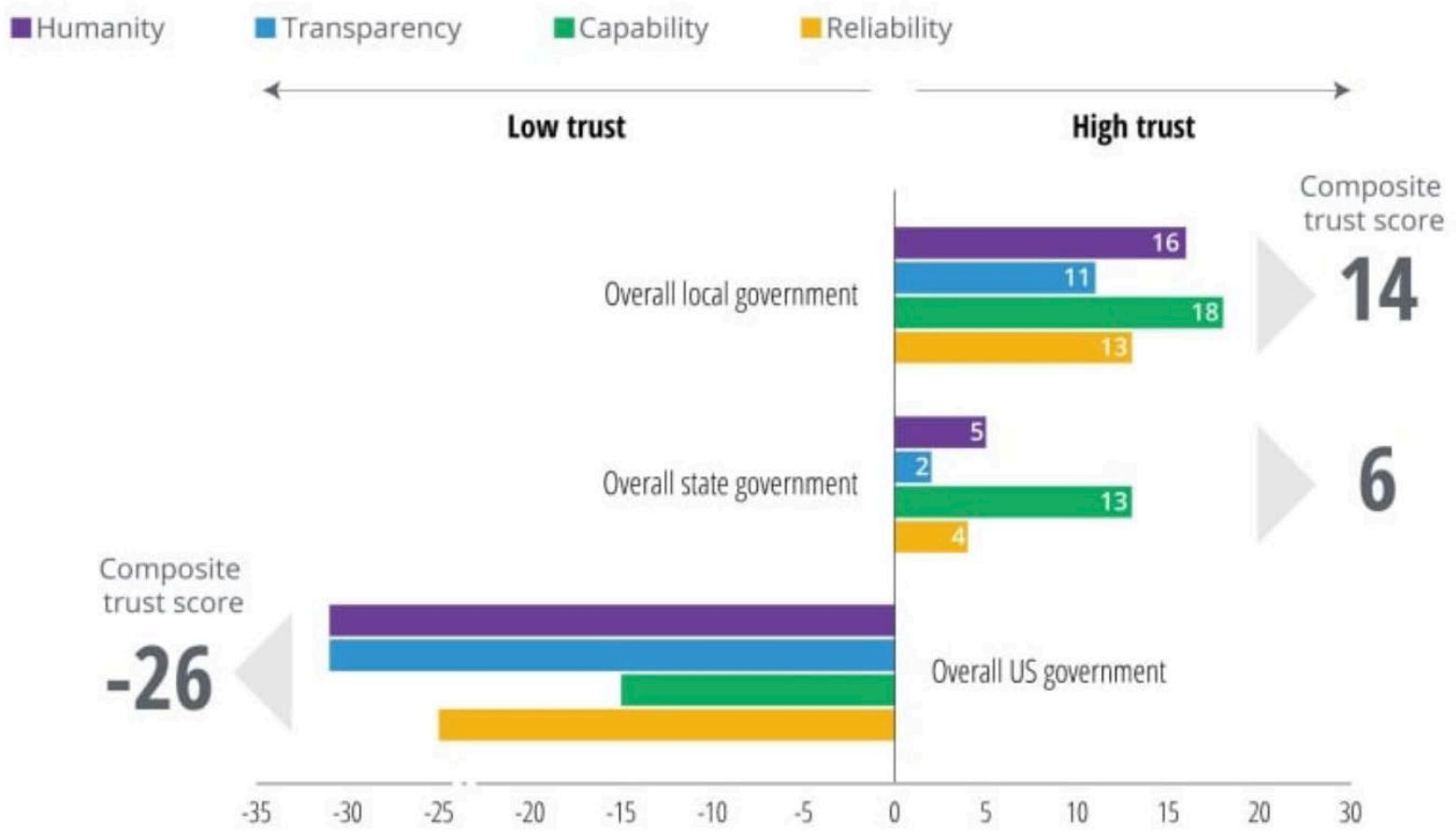
- What is one **norm** – a practice, not formally required but followed based on consensus or history – that exemplifies how your state does things?

Discussion Breakout #2:

How Will You Build Your Institution?

- From your experience or from what you have learned today, what is a rule or your norm that you would consider changing in your chamber?
 - ▣ Reforming an existing rule?
 - ▣ Importing and adapting an idea from another state?
 - ▣ Changing one aspect of the culture?

Building Trust Within Your Institution And With Your Voters



Note: The score for overall US government is based on the Deloitte federal trust survey conducted in November 2020 and taken from William D. Eggers et al., *Rebuilding trust in government: Four signals that can help improve citizen trust and engagement*, Deloitte Insights, March 9, 2021.
 Source: Deloitte analysis.

Building Trust Within Your Institution And With Your Voters

- **Institution.** When legislators take part in “public goods games,” trust and cooperation is highest when information is shared equitably across players.
- **Voters.** Cooperative randomized studies show that when state legislators let voters know about positions that constituents disagree with:
 - ▣ Voters are more likely to adopt these positions, and
 - ▣ More likely to approve of their legislators

Discussion Breakout #3:

How Will You Protect Your Institution?

- How do you build trust with your constituents and trust in the institution, especially when you have to deliver bad news?
 - ▣ What approaches do you adopt when you talk with constituents and groups that are unlikely to agree with you, in our polarized era?

or

- ▣ How do you talk about the state legislature to your constituents, especially when as an individual you do not agree with collective decisions?