

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

NC Sends Mixed Messages on Health Care Bill

Raleigh, N.C. – North Carolina voters are opposed to the health care bill being discussed in Congress right now, yet they simultaneously support many of its provisions.

58% of voters initially say they're against the bill with 35% in support. But those numbers shift by nine points after they're asked about a number of the key components of the bill, to just 53% opposed and 39% in support.

North Carolinians are particularly supportive of the bill's preventing children from being denied care due to preexisting conditions. 59% say they support that provision to only 33% opposed. Also very popular is giving small businesses tax credits for providing their employees with health insurance. 57% of voters are in favor of that to 37% opposed.

Other aspects of the plan gaining more than 50% support are preventing health care companies from placing caps on how much they will cover, at 52%, and closing the 'doughnut hole' in Medicare at 51%.

"These numbers are a good example of how Republicans have outmaneuvered Democrats in shaping public opinion on this issue," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Voters support many of the provisions of the bill, but aren't necessarily aware of what they are. They become more supportive when they get a better handle on what the bill would actually do."

Democrats in particular become more supportive on the informed question, going from 58% favor for the bill to 67%.

PPP surveyed 529 North Carolina voters from on March 17th and 18th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.3%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 Do you support or oppose the health care bill being discussed in Congress right now? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3

Support 35%
Oppose 58%
Not Sure..... 7%

Q2 If the health care bill being discussed right now is passed the 'doughnut hole' in Medicare will be filled, making prescriptions more affordable for seniors. Does this make you more or less supportive of the health care bill? If more supportive, press 1. If less supportive, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Supportive 51%
Less Supportive..... 38%
No Difference..... 11%

Q3 If the health care bill being discussed right now is passed children could not be excluded from health care because of pre-existing conditions. Does that make you more or less supportive of the health care bill? If more supportive, press 1. If less supportive, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Supportive 59%
Less Supportive 33%
No Difference..... 8%

Q4 If the health care bill being discussed right now is passed children would be able to stay on their parents' policies until they're 26 years old. Does that make you more or less supportive of the health care bill? If more supportive, press 1. If less supportive, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Supportive 42%
Less Supportive 49%
No Difference..... 10%

Q5 If the health care bill being discussed right now is passed small businesses will be given tax credits if they provide their employees with health insurance. Does that make you more or less supportive of the health care bill? If more supportive, press 1. If less supportive, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Supportive 57%
Less Supportive 37%
No Difference..... 6%

Q6 If the health care bill being discussed right now is passed health care companies will not be able to place caps on how much they will cover. Does that make you more or less supportive of the health care bill? If more supportive, press 1. If less supportive, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Supportive 52%
Less Supportive 38%
No Difference..... 9%

Q7 Based on the provisions of the health care bill you have heard about in this poll, would you say you support or oppose the health care bill being discussed in Congress right now? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Support 39%
Oppose 53%
Not Sure..... 8%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%





Q9 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i>	43%
<i>Republican</i>	33%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	24%

Q10 If you are white, press 1. If African American, press 2. If other, press 3.

<i>White</i>	75%
<i>African American</i>	22%
<i>Other</i>	3%

Q11 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

<i>18 to 29</i>	7%
<i>30 to 45</i>	29%
<i>46 to 65</i>	42%
<i>Older than 65</i>	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Health Care Bill			
Support	35%	31%	39%
Oppose	58%	58%	59%
Not Sure	7%	12%	2%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Close Donut Hole			
More Supportive	51%	54%	47%
Less Supportive	38%	32%	45%
No Difference	11%	14%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Children/Pre-existing Conditions			
More Supportive	59%	65%	53%
Less Supportive	33%	27%	39%
No Difference	8%	8%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Young Adults on Parent Policies			
More Supportive	42%	44%	39%
Less Supportive	49%	44%	53%
No Difference	10%	12%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Small Business Tax Incentives			
More Supportive	57%	57%	56%
Less Supportive	37%	34%	41%
No Difference	6%	9%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Elimination of Coverage Caps			
More Supportive	52%	54%	50%
Less Supportive	38%	34%	43%
No Difference	9%	11%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Informed Health Care Support			
Support	39%	38%	39%
Oppose	53%	48%	58%
Not Sure	8%	14%	3%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Health Care Bill				
Support	35%	58%	12%	23%
Oppose	58%	32%	84%	72%
Not Sure	7%	11%	3%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Close Donut Hole				
More Supportive	51%	72%	25%	47%
Less Supportive	38%	24%	55%	41%
No Difference	11%	4%	20%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Children/Pre-existing Conditions				
More Supportive	59%	78%	36%	56%
Less Supportive	33%	19%	48%	36%
No Difference	8%	3%	16%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Young Adults on Parent Policies				
More Supportive	42%	66%	19%	29%
Less Supportive	49%	28%	69%	57%
No Difference	10%	6%	12%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Small Business Tax Incentives				
More Supportive	57%	72%	41%	50%
Less Supportive	37%	27%	48%	41%
No Difference	6%	1%	11%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Elimination of Coverage Caps				
More Supportive	52%	67%	26%	61%
Less Supportive	38%	26%	57%	35%
No Difference	9%	7%	17%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Informed Health Care Support				
Support	39%	67%	11%	26%
Oppose	53%	27%	76%	67%
Not Sure	8%	6%	12%	7%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Health Care Bill				
Support	35%	28%	60%	10%
Oppose	58%	66%	34%	54%
Not Sure	7%	6%	6%	35%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Close Donut Hole				
More Supportive	51%	46%	69%	27%
Less Supportive	38%	40%	29%	54%
No Difference	11%	13%	3%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Children/Pre-existing Conditions				
More Supportive	59%	55%	74%	56%
Less Supportive	33%	35%	23%	44%
No Difference	8%	11%	3%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Young Adults on Parent Policies				
More Supportive	42%	36%	64%	27%
Less Supportive	49%	52%	34%	73%
No Difference	10%	12%	2%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Small Business Tax Incentives				
More Supportive	57%	53%	69%	46%
Less Supportive	37%	38%	31%	54%
No Difference	6%	8%	-	-

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Elimination of Coverage Caps				
More Supportive	52%	49%	61%	56%
Less Supportive	38%	40%	31%	44%
No Difference	9%	10%	8%	-





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Informed Health Care Support				
Support	39%	31%	66%	27%
Oppose	53%	59%	31%	54%
Not Sure	8%	10%	2%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Health Care Bill					
Support	35%	29%	36%	35%	35%
Oppose	58%	57%	56%	59%	60%
Not Sure	7%	14%	8%	6%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Close Donut Hole					
More Supportive	51%	57%	44%	57%	45%
Less Supportive	38%	43%	30%	37%	50%
No Difference	11%	-	26%	6%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Children/Pre-existing Conditions					
More Supportive	59%	57%	56%	62%	58%
Less Supportive	33%	29%	26%	35%	39%
No Difference	8%	14%	18%	4%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Young Adults on Parent Policies					
More Supportive	42%	57%	44%	42%	32%
Less Supportive	49%	29%	40%	52%	60%
No Difference	10%	14%	16%	6%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Small Business Tax Incentives					
More Supportive	57%	71%	52%	60%	50%
Less Supportive	37%	29%	38%	35%	44%
No Difference	6%	-	10%	5%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Elimination of Coverage Caps					
More Supportive	52%	71%	56%	50%	46%
Less Supportive	38%	29%	30%	41%	47%
No Difference	9%	-	14%	9%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Informed Health Care Support					
Support	39%	43%	40%	37%	40%
Oppose	53%	43%	52%	53%	56%
Not Sure	8%	14%	8%	10%	4%

