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

Majority of Iowans oppose gay marriage but also impeachment

Raleigh, N.C. – After successfully campaigning to get three of them ousted from office by election last fall, Republicans in Iowa are now campaigning to get the remaining four justices who voted to legalize gay marriage in the state booted by impeachment. But a majority of Iowans think that move inappropriate, despite the fact that a majority also do not favor same-sex marriage itself.

52% think same-sex marriage should not be legal, as it is now in the Hawkeye State, with 41% supporting the new status quo. It is mainly Republicans driving the animosity. 82% of them think same-sex marriage should be illegal, but two-thirds of Democrats are on the legal side, with independents splitting just 46-44 toward it being illegal.

On the impeachment issue, however, Republicans are not as gung-ho as some of their state legislators are. Still twice (60%) as many of them favor impeachment as oppose it, but that is far below the 82-10 margin of Republicans who oppose same-sex marriage itself. Overall, 55% of Iowa voters oppose impeachment, and only 38% support it. At 54-38 against, independents mirror the overall electorate, while Democrats' 79-16 margin against impeachment approaches Republicans' fervor against equal marriage rights.

“This is one of those classic issues where voters agree with Republicans but don’t want the party to overplay its hand,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “They’re on the same page with wanting same sex marriage to be illegal, but they think it’s going too far to impeach the judges who made the ruling to legalize it.”

Despite defeating Chet Culver and returning to office by a 53-43 margin in November, Terry Branstad is no more popular than his predecessor. Iowans disapprove of Culver’s four-year record, 41-46, but they are also down on Branstad, 40-44. The two post almost identical numbers with independents, and are equally polarizing across party lines.

Chuck Grassley is now the sixth most popular of 74 senators whose job performance ratings have been gauged by PPP in the last year, with a 54-31 approval mark. Junior colleague Tom Harkin is far below Grassley, but still quite healthy, at a 48-38 grade.

PPP surveyed 1,077 Iowa voters from January 7th to 9th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.0%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.



Iowa Survey Results

<p>Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the work Chet Culver did during his four years as Governor?</p> <p><i>Approve</i> 41%</p> <p><i>Disapprove</i>..... 46%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 13%</p>	<p>Q6 Do you think same sex marriage should be legal or not?</p> <p><i>Should be legal</i> 41%</p> <p><i>Should not be legal</i> 52%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 8%</p>
<p>Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Terry Branstad?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 40%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 44%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 16%</p>	<p>Q7 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?</p> <p><i>Liberal</i>..... 18%</p> <p><i>Moderate</i>..... 47%</p> <p><i>Conservative</i>..... 35%</p>
<p>Q3 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Charles Grassley's job performance?</p> <p><i>Approve</i> 54%</p> <p><i>Disapprove</i>..... 31%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 15%</p>	<p>Q8 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.</p> <p><i>Woman</i> 54%</p> <p><i>Man</i>..... 46%</p>
<p>Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Tom Harkin's job performance?</p> <p><i>Approve</i> 48%</p> <p><i>Disapprove</i>..... 38%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 14%</p>	<p>Q9 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.</p> <p><i>Democrat</i> 37%</p> <p><i>Republican</i>..... 37%</p> <p><i>Independent/Other</i>..... 25%</p>
<p>Q5 Do you think the justices who wrote the ruling legalizing same-sex marriage should be impeached or not?</p> <p><i>Should be impeached</i> 38%</p> <p><i>Should not be impeached</i> 55%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 7%</p>	<p>Q10 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.</p> <p><i>White</i> 94%</p> <p><i>Other</i>..... 6%</p>
	<p>Q11 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.</p> <p><i>18 to 29</i>..... 10%</p> <p><i>30 to 45</i>..... 28%</p> <p><i>46 to 65</i>..... 44%</p> <p><i>Older than 65</i>..... 18%</p>





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Culver 4 Years Approval				
Approve	41%	75%	51%	11%
Disapprove	46%	15%	34%	78%
Not sure	13%	11%	15%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Branstad Favorability				
Favorable	40%	21%	30%	64%
Unfavorable	44%	67%	54%	18%
Not sure	16%	12%	16%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Grassley Approval				
Approve	54%	38%	48%	72%
Disapprove	31%	50%	35%	14%
Not sure	15%	12%	17%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Harkin Approval				
Approve	48%	84%	58%	16%
Disapprove	38%	9%	25%	70%
Not sure	14%	7%	18%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Impeach Gay Marriage Judges?				
Should be impeached	38%	9%	27%	67%
Should not be impeached	55%	87%	67%	22%
Not sure	7%	4%	6%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Gay Marriage				
Should be legal	41%	79%	48%	11%
Should not be legal	52%	15%	42%	83%
Not sure	8%	6%	10%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Culver 4 Years Approval			
Approve	41%	48%	34%
Disapprove	46%	37%	57%
Not sure	13%	15%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Branstad Favorability			
Favorable	40%	39%	40%
Unfavorable	44%	42%	46%
Not sure	16%	18%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Grassley Approval			
Approve	54%	54%	55%
Disapprove	31%	29%	33%
Not sure	15%	18%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Harkin Approval			
Approve	48%	55%	40%
Disapprove	38%	27%	50%
Not sure	14%	18%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Impeach Gay Marriage Judges ?			
Should be impeached	38%	32%	45%
Should not be impeached	55%	62%	47%
Not sure	7%	6%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gay Marriage			
Should be legal	41%	50%	30%
Should not be legal	52%	43%	62%
Not sure	8%	7%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Culver 4 Years Approval				
Approve	41%	72%	13%	38%
Disapprove	46%	15%	77%	46%
Not sure	13%	13%	11%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Branstad Favorability				
Favorable	40%	18%	64%	35%
Unfavorable	44%	66%	21%	45%
Not sure	16%	16%	14%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Grassley Approval				
Approve	54%	36%	73%	54%
Disapprove	31%	48%	13%	31%
Not sure	15%	17%	14%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Harkin Approval				
Approve	48%	77%	18%	50%
Disapprove	38%	9%	68%	35%
Not sure	14%	14%	14%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Impeach Gay Marriage Judges?				
Should be impeached	38%	16%	60%	38%
Should not be impeached	55%	79%	31%	54%
Not sure	7%	5%	9%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gay Marriage				
Should be legal	41%	66%	13%	44%
Should not be legal	52%	25%	82%	46%
Not sure	8%	9%	4%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Culver 4 Years Approval			
Approve	41%	41%	43%
Disapprove	46%	47%	37%
Not sure	13%	12%	20%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Branstad Favorability			
Favorable	40%	41%	27%
Unfavorable	44%	43%	52%
Not sure	16%	16%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Grassley Approval			
Approve	54%	55%	47%
Disapprove	31%	31%	31%
Not sure	15%	15%	23%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Harkin Approval			
Approve	48%	49%	37%
Disapprove	38%	37%	42%
Not sure	14%	14%	21%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Impeach Gay Marriage Judges ?			
Should be impeached	38%	39%	15%
Should not be impeached	55%	53%	77%
Not sure	7%	7%	8%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gay Marriage			
Should be legal	41%	40%	49%
Should not be legal	52%	52%	48%
Not sure	8%	8%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Culver 4 Years Approval					
Approve	41%	47%	38%	41%	44%
Disapprove	46%	32%	46%	50%	45%
Not sure	13%	21%	16%	10%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Branstad Favorability					
Favorable	40%	42%	37%	41%	41%
Unfavorable	44%	47%	49%	42%	38%
Not sure	16%	11%	14%	17%	21%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Grassley Approval					
Approve	54%	58%	50%	55%	56%
Disapprove	31%	21%	31%	31%	33%
Not sure	15%	21%	19%	13%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Harkin Approval					
Approve	48%	47%	51%	47%	48%
Disapprove	38%	26%	33%	42%	41%
Not sure	14%	26%	16%	12%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Impeach Gay Marriage Judges?					
Should be impeached	38%	47%	29%	40%	40%
Should not be impeached	55%	53%	65%	52%	46%
Not sure	7%	-	6%	8%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gay Marriage					
Should be legal	41%	53%	50%	38%	27%
Should not be legal	52%	47%	42%	55%	62%
Not sure	8%	-	8%	8%	12%

