

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Maine split on gay marriage question

Raleigh, N.C. – Two weeks out from election day Maine voters are divided right down the middle when it comes to whether they will reject the state’s law allowing same sex couples to marry.

48% say they will vote to over turn the law while 48% say they will vote to keep it with only 4% of the electorate still undecided.

Opinion on the issue predictably breaks heavily along party lines. 74% of Republicans are planning to vote yes while only 25% of Democrats are. Independents may end up deciding which way it goes- presently 50% of them support rejecting the law with 44% in opposition.

Older voters are strongest in their support of cutting off gay marriage. 54% are in support with 40% opposed. Senior citizens can often dominate the electorate in low turnout elections so the ultimate fate of this measure may lie in how many younger people get out to the polls and vote.

There is a strong gender gap on the issue with 53% of men but only 43% of women wanting to reject the law. It’s also interesting to note that while white voters oppose undoing the law by a thin 47-45 margin, nonwhite voters in the state support rejection by a 55-35 margin, creating the overall tie.

“The fate of Question 1 is going to be decided by which side does a better job of mobilizing their supporters to get out and vote,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Voters in the state know where they stand on the issue and now it’s just an issue of who shows up.”

PPP surveyed 1,130 likely voters from October 16th to 19th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-2.9%. 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.



Maine Poll

Q1 Question 1 for the upcoming Maine Referendum Election reads ‘Do you want to reject the new law that lets same-sex couples marry and allows individuals and religious groups to refuse to perform these marriages?’ Do you intend to vote yes or no on Question 1, which would undo the law that lets same sex couples marry? If you will vote yes on Question 1, press 1. If you will vote no, press 2. If you’re not sure, press 3.

Yes48% Not Sure..... 5%

No.....48%

Q2 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 22%

Moderate..... 44%

Conservative..... 33%

Q3 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 53%

Man..... 47%

Q4 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 38%

Republican..... 30%

Other..... 32%

Q5 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White 93%

Other..... 7%

Q6 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.

18 to 29..... 10%

30 to 45..... 22%

46 to 65..... 46%

Older than 65..... 22%





	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Question 1				
Yes	48%	16%	40%	79%
No	48%	82%	54%	16%
Not Sure	5%	2%	6%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Question 1			
Yes	48%	43%	53%
No	48%	52%	42%
Not Sure	5%	5%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Question 1				
Yes	48%	25%	74%	50%
No	48%	70%	23%	44%
Not Sure	5%	5%	3%	6%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Question 1			
Yes	48%	47%	55%
No	48%	49%	35%
Not Sure	5%	4%	10%





	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Question 1					
Yes	48%	45%	53%	43%	54%
No	48%	47%	44%	53%	40%
Not Sure	5%	8%	3%	4%	7%

