



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **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 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://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.

*Democrat* ..... 43%  
*Republican*..... 33%  
*Independent/Other*..... 24%

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

*White* ..... 75%  
*African American* ..... 22%  
*Other*..... 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.

*18 to 29*..... 7%  
*30 to 45*..... 29%  
*46 to 65*..... 42%  
*Older than 65*..... 22%





**Crosstabs**

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

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

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

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





**Crosstabs**

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

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

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

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





**Crosstabs**

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

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

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

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





**Crosstabs**

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

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

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

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





**Crosstabs**

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

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

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

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







**Crosstabs**

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

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

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

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





**Crosstabs**

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

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

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

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

