

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Voters Support Ban on Non-Recyclable Plastic Bags**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Public Policy Polling’s latest survey finds that 47% of North Carolina voters would support a proposed ban on the use of non-recyclable plastic bags in major retail stores, with a few exceptions.

31% of respondents said they would not support the bill, which is sponsored by state Sen. Josh Stein, D-Raleigh, and 22% are not sure.

PPP also measured voters’ support for using money from the federal stimulus package to make low-income households in North Carolina more energy efficient and found that 48% of respondents support this measure while 35% do not.

Democrats were far more likely than Republicans to support either of these proposals. 51% of Democrats said they would support banning non-recyclable plastic bags, and 65% said they support using stimulus money to make homes energy efficient. Republicans were split 39/36 on the proposed plastic bag ban, and only 28% want federal funds allocated to make low-income homes green.

“The environment is something that Democrats typically care about more than Republicans,” said Katherine Rumbaugh, PPP Spring Fellow. “But it’s likely that Republicans are opposed to all parts of the federal stimulus package, not just the environment- and energy-specific parts of it.”

PPP’s poll also tested North Carolinians’ opinions of stem cell research and found that 54% of voters support it and 30% oppose.

These numbers are also highly differentiated along party lines. At 68/17, Democrats are highly in favor of stem cell research; 51% of Republicans oppose and 33% support it.

PPP surveyed 725 North Carolina voters from March 30<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.46%. 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 Katherine Rumbaugh at (919)-451-2694.

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## North Carolina Poll

**Q1** A bill was introduced in the state senate this week that would ban the use of non-recyclable plastic bags at major retail stores. Would you support this bill? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes .....47% Not Sure.....22%

No .....31%

**Q2** Do you support the use of stimulus package money to make low-income households in North Carolina more energy-efficient? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes.....48% Not Sure..... 17%

No ..... 35%

**Q3** Which do you think is more important for the government to deal with, environmental issues, or illegal immigration? If environmental issues, press 1. If illegal immigration, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Environmental Issues..... 34%

Illegal Immigration.....56%

Not Sure..... 10%

**Q4** Do you support stem cell research? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes .....54%

No .....30%

Not Sure..... 16%

**Q5** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman .....55%

Man.....45%

**Q6** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat ..... 48%

Republican..... 35%

Other..... 17%

**Q7** If you are white, press 1. If you are African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White ..... 74%

African American ..... 23%

Other..... 3%

**Q8** 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..... 15%

30 to 45.....25%

46 to 65.....40%

Older than 65.....20%

**Q9**

252..... 15%

336..... 16%

704.....21%

828..... 12%

910..... 14%

919.....21%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Plastic Bag Ban</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	47%	49%	46%
<b>No</b>	31%	27%	35%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	25%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Stimulus Funds</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	48%	51%	45%
<b>No</b>	35%	30%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	19%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Environment/Immigration</b>			
<b>Environmental Issues</b>	34%	36%	32%
<b>Illegal Immigration</b>	56%	52%	60%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	11%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Stem Cell Research</b>			
<b>Yes</b>	54%	55%	53%
<b>No</b>	30%	29%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	16%	15%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Plastic Bag Ban</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	47%	51%	39%	54%
<b>No</b>	31%	26%	36%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	23%	25%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Stimulus Funds</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	48%	65%	28%	43%
<b>No</b>	35%	21%	54%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	14%	18%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Environment/Immigration</b>				
<b>Environmental Issues</b>	34%	47%	18%	30%
<b>Illegal Immigration</b>	56%	43%	74%	57%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	10%	8%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Stem Cell Research</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	54%	68%	33%	59%
<b>No</b>	30%	17%	51%	24%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	15%	16%	16%





	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
<b>Plastic Bag Ban</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	47%	50%	38%	55%
<b>No</b>	31%	30%	33%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	20%	29%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
<b>Stimulus Funds</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	48%	41%	74%	45%
<b>No</b>	35%	40%	17%	33%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	19%	9%	22%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
<b>Environment/Immigration</b>				
<b>Environmental Issues</b>	34%	33%	38%	41%
<b>Illegal Immigration</b>	56%	59%	49%	40%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	8%	13%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
<b>Stem Cell Research</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	54%	55%	54%	45%
<b>No</b>	30%	33%	23%	25%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	13%	24%	30%





	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Plastic Bag Ban</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	47%	57%	52%	44%	42%
<b>No</b>	31%	21%	28%	37%	27%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	21%	20%	19%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Stimulus Funds</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	48%	63%	42%	47%	47%
<b>No</b>	35%	23%	43%	35%	33%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	14%	16%	17%	20%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Environment/Immigration</b>					
<b>Environmental Issues</b>	34%	49%	30%	33%	31%
<b>Illegal Immigration</b>	56%	40%	60%	59%	57%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	11%	11%	8%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Stem Cell Research</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	54%	61%	47%	57%	53%
<b>No</b>	30%	27%	37%	28%	28%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	13%	16%	14%	20%





	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Plastic Bag Ban</b>							
<b>Yes</b>	47%	40%	45%	51%	40%	47%	55%
<b>No</b>	31%	33%	35%	26%	36%	25%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	28%	21%	23%	24%	28%	13%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Stimulus Funds</b>							
<b>Yes</b>	48%	51%	38%	41%	53%	51%	56%
<b>No</b>	35%	28%	43%	42%	29%	32%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	17%	21%	19%	17%	18%	17%	12%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Environment/Immig- ration</b>							
<b>Environmental     Issues</b>	34%	30%	32%	31%	43%	26%	42%
<b>Illegal Immigration</b>	56%	55%	64%	56%	47%	60%	53%
<b>Not Sure</b>	10%	15%	4%	12%	10%	14%	5%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Stem Cell Research</b>							
<b>Yes</b>	54%	48%	47%	52%	58%	53%	65%
<b>No</b>	30%	37%	39%	32%	24%	27%	23%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	15%	14%	17%	17%	20%	12%

