



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Health Care tough issue for Dems

Raleigh, N.C. – When it comes to health care, Public Policy Polling’s newest survey finds, Democrats are in a bit of a pickle no matter what they do.

On the generic Congressional ballot Democrats lead Republicans 46-38. However, when respondents were asked how they’d vote if a health care bill with a public option was passed, that margin tightened to a 46-41 Democratic lead. The political implications of that though are not nearly as bad as if no health care bill is passed. Asked how they would vote next year under that scenario the generic ballot is tied 40-40 between the two parties.

“Clearly Democrats need to pass a health care bill if they want to do well at the polls next year,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But they don’t need to take an all or nothing approach. Allowing the status quo to remain rather than accepting a bill without a public option would be a poor decision politically.”

Both parties’ Congressional delegations remain highly unpopular. 52% of voters disapprove of the job Congressional Democrats are doing, while 57% disapprove of Congressional Republicans. A majority of independents express unhappiness with both parties, an indication their votes next year may end up going to who they dislike less.

Part of the parties’ popularity issues may go back to the perception of ideological extremism. 52% of voters in the country think Congressional Democrats are too liberal while 44% believe Congressional Republicans are too conservative.

PPP will be releasing a Wisconsin poll over the course of this week.

PPP conducted a national survey of 1,066 registered voters from November 13th to 15th. 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.

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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National Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Democrats in Congress are doing? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 37%
Disapprove..... 52%
Not Sure..... 11%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job Republicans in Congress are doing? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 25%
Disapprove..... 57%
Not Sure..... 18%

Q3 If the election for Congress was today would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican? If a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Democrat 46%
Republican..... 38%
Undecided..... 16%

Q4 If Congress doesn't pass any health care reform bill, would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican for Congress next year? If a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Democrat 40%
Republican..... 40%
Undecided..... 20%

Q5 If Democrats in Congress pass a health care reform bill with a public option, would you vote for a Democrat or a Republican for Congress next year? If a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Democrat 46%
Republican..... 41%
Undecided..... 14%

Q6 Do you think the Democrats in Congress are too liberal, too conservative, or about right? If too liberal, press 1. If too conservative, press 2. If about right, press 3.

Too Liberal..... 52%
Too Conservative..... 11%
About Right..... 37%

Q7 Do you think the Republicans in Congress are too liberal, too conservative, or about right? If too liberal, press 1. If too conservative, press 2. If about right, press 3.

Too Liberal..... 20%
Too Conservative..... 44%
About Right..... 36%

Q8 Do you think Democrats in Washington have too much power right now? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 51%
No..... 43%
Not Sure..... 6%





Q9 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain..... 45%

Obama..... 47%

Someone else/don't remember..... 8%

Q10 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 16%

Moderate..... 50%

Conservative..... 34%

Q11 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 49%

Man..... 51%

Q12 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..... 41%

Republican..... 33%

Independent/Other..... 26%

Q13 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 8%

White 74%

African American 13%

Other..... 4%

Q14 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..... 16%

30 to 45..... 26%

46 to 65..... 44%

Older than 65..... 15%

Q15

Northeast..... 25%

South 29%

Midwest 31%

West 15%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Congressional Dems Approval				
Approve	37%	7%	69%	24%
Disapprove	52%	86%	17%	63%
Not Sure	11%	7%	14%	13%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Congressional GOP Approval				
Approve	25%	44%	9%	12%
Disapprove	57%	33%	77%	72%
Not Sure	18%	23%	14%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	46%	8%	86%	26%
Republican	38%	75%	5%	30%
Undecided	16%	18%	9%	44%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Generic Ballot w/o Health Care				
Democrat	40%	5%	77%	19%
Republican	40%	73%	10%	32%
Undecided	20%	22%	13%	49%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Generic Ballot w/Public Option				
Democrat	46%	7%	85%	28%
Republican	41%	75%	8%	48%
Undecided	14%	18%	7%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Ideology of Democrats in Congress				
Too Liberal	52%	86%	17%	65%
Too Conservative	11%	4%	19%	4%
About Right	37%	10%	64%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Ideology of Republicans in Congress				
Too Liberal	20%	31%	9%	28%
Too Conservative	44%	15%	75%	27%
About Right	36%	54%	17%	44%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone else/don't remember
Dems Too Much Power				
Yes	51%	89%	13%	63%
No	43%	7%	81%	24%
Not Sure	6%	5%	6%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congressional Dems Approval				
Approve	37%	85%	44%	7%
Disapprove	52%	7%	44%	84%
Not Sure	11%	8%	12%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Congressional GOP Approval				
Approve	25%	7%	20%	39%
Disapprove	57%	84%	63%	36%
Not Sure	18%	10%	17%	25%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	46%	95%	55%	11%
Republican	38%	4%	21%	80%
Undecided	16%	2%	25%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Ballot w/o Health Care				
Democrat	40%	92%	46%	7%
Republican	40%	5%	25%	78%
Undecided	20%	4%	29%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Ballot w/Public Option				
Democrat	46%	94%	55%	9%
Republican	41%	3%	28%	76%
Undecided	14%	2%	17%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Ideology of Democrats in Congress				
Too Liberal	52%	12%	41%	86%
Too Conservative	11%	37%	9%	2%
About Right	37%	50%	50%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Ideology of Republicans in Congress				
Too Liberal	20%	4%	11%	42%
Too Conservative	44%	90%	57%	4%
About Right	36%	7%	32%	54%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Dems Too Much Power				
Yes	51%	15%	38%	88%
No	43%	81%	57%	5%
Not Sure	6%	4%	5%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congressional Dems Approval			
Approve	37%	35%	40%
Disapprove	52%	49%	55%
Not Sure	11%	16%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Congressional GOP Approval			
Approve	25%	24%	25%
Disapprove	57%	56%	58%
Not Sure	18%	21%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Ballot			
Democrat	46%	47%	45%
Republican	38%	39%	37%
Undecided	16%	14%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Ballot w/o Health Care			
Democrat	40%	40%	40%
Republican	40%	40%	40%
Undecided	20%	20%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Ballot w/Public Option			
Democrat	46%	45%	46%
Republican	41%	37%	45%
Undecided	14%	18%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ideology of Democrats in Congress			
Too Liberal	52%	51%	53%
Too Conservative	11%	10%	12%
About Right	37%	39%	35%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ideology of Republicans in Congress			
Too Liberal	20%	18%	22%
Too Conservative	44%	45%	43%
About Right	36%	37%	35%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Dems Too Much Power			
Yes	51%	51%	52%
No	43%	40%	46%
Not Sure	6%	9%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congressional Dems Approval				
Approve	37%	68%	3%	35%
Disapprove	52%	21%	89%	52%
Not Sure	11%	11%	8%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Congressional GOP Approval				
Approve	25%	7%	47%	23%
Disapprove	57%	79%	25%	64%
Not Sure	18%	14%	28%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Ballot				
Democrat	46%	84%	6%	37%
Republican	38%	7%	83%	30%
Undecided	16%	9%	11%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Ballot w/o Health Care				
Democrat	40%	75%	4%	31%
Republican	40%	13%	79%	31%
Undecided	20%	11%	17%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Ballot w/Public Option				
Democrat	46%	86%	3%	37%
Republican	41%	8%	78%	44%
Undecided	14%	6%	19%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ideology of Democrats in Congress				
Too Liberal	52%	20%	90%	51%
Too Conservative	11%	16%	2%	15%
About Right	37%	64%	7%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ideology of Republicans in Congress				
Too Liberal	20%	11%	30%	23%
Too Conservative	44%	74%	10%	40%
About Right	36%	14%	60%	37%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Dems Too Much Power				
Yes	51%	18%	93%	50%
No	43%	77%	2%	43%
Not Sure	6%	6%	5%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Congressional Dems Approval					
Approve	37%	54%	30%	64%	47%
Disapprove	52%	37%	60%	22%	44%
Not Sure	11%	9%	10%	14%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Congressional GOP Approval					
Approve	25%	37%	26%	11%	20%
Disapprove	57%	46%	54%	79%	71%
Not Sure	18%	17%	21%	9%	9%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	46%	53%	40%	72%	51%
Republican	38%	28%	46%	3%	38%
Undecided	16%	19%	14%	25%	11%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Generic Ballot w/o Health Care					
Democrat	40%	51%	33%	65%	54%
Republican	40%	28%	48%	4%	31%
Undecided	20%	21%	18%	30%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Generic Ballot w/Public Option					
Democrat	46%	40%	39%	83%	51%
Republican	41%	39%	46%	13%	33%
Undecided	14%	21%	14%	4%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Ideology of Democrats in Congress					
Too Liberal	52%	29%	58%	31%	51%
Too Conservative	11%	12%	11%	12%	17%
About Right	37%	59%	31%	57%	32%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Ideology of Republicans in Congress					
Too Liberal	20%	14%	23%	10%	23%
Too Conservative	44%	34%	40%	68%	56%
About Right	36%	52%	37%	22%	22%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Dems Too Much Power					
Yes	51%	45%	57%	27%	40%
No	43%	46%	40%	60%	44%
Not Sure	6%	9%	4%	12%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congressional Dems Approval					
Approve	37%	58%	32%	37%	26%
Disapprove	52%	33%	54%	53%	65%
Not Sure	11%	8%	14%	10%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Congressional GOP Approval					
Approve	25%	25%	26%	21%	32%
Disapprove	57%	42%	54%	67%	51%
Not Sure	18%	33%	20%	12%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	46%	50%	47%	46%	39%
Republican	38%	17%	39%	43%	45%
Undecided	16%	33%	14%	11%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Ballot w/o Health Care					
Democrat	40%	42%	41%	40%	34%
Republican	40%	25%	39%	42%	53%
Undecided	20%	33%	20%	18%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Ballot w/Public Option					
Democrat	46%	58%	44%	45%	36%
Republican	41%	25%	36%	44%	55%
Undecided	14%	17%	19%	11%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ideology of Democrats in Congress					
Too Liberal	52%	50%	52%	50%	59%
Too Conservative	11%	8%	9%	14%	11%
About Right	37%	42%	39%	37%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ideology of Republicans in Congress					
Too Liberal	20%	8%	23%	23%	22%
Too Conservative	44%	58%	40%	43%	40%
About Right	36%	33%	38%	34%	38%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Dems Too Much Power					
Yes	51%	42%	50%	52%	60%
No	43%	58%	42%	41%	34%
Not Sure	6%	-	8%	6%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Congressional Dems Approval					
Approve	37%	45%	33%	32%	43%
Disapprove	52%	47%	52%	60%	45%
Not Sure	11%	8%	15%	8%	12%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Congressional GOP Approval					
Approve	25%	18%	26%	31%	20%
Disapprove	57%	57%	53%	54%	69%
Not Sure	18%	25%	20%	15%	11%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Generic Ballot					
Democrat	46%	50%	41%	43%	53%
Republican	38%	35%	35%	48%	31%
Undecided	16%	15%	24%	9%	16%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Generic Ballot w/o Health Care					
Democrat	40%	45%	33%	39%	45%
Republican	40%	36%	40%	49%	28%
Undecided	20%	19%	27%	11%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Generic Ballot w/Public Option					
Democrat	46%	52%	44%	42%	44%
Republican	41%	35%	38%	49%	40%
Undecided	14%	13%	18%	9%	16%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Ideology of Democrats in Congress					
Too Liberal	52%	43%	62%	57%	36%
Too Conservative	11%	13%	7%	9%	22%
About Right	37%	44%	31%	35%	42%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Ideology of Republicans in Congress					
Too Liberal	20%	16%	21%	22%	24%
Too Conservative	44%	55%	41%	34%	53%
About Right	36%	29%	38%	45%	23%

	Base	Region			
		Northeast	South	Midwest	West
Dems Too Much Power					
Yes	51%	46%	56%	55%	43%
No	43%	51%	40%	35%	51%
Not Sure	6%	3%	4%	10%	6%

