



**From: Tom Jensen, Director of Public Policy Polling**

**To: Interested Parties**

**Subject: North Carolina Races Tight; Gun Legislation Popular**

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A new Public Policy Polling survey of North Carolina voters finds that Hillary Clinton leads the Presidential race in the state 49/47, and Richard Burr leads the Senate race in the state 48/45. Key findings from the survey include:

-84% of voters in the state support requiring background checks on all gun sales, to only 11% who are opposed to them. 79% of voters support prohibiting individuals convicted of committing a hate crime from buying a gun, to just 13% opposed to that. And 78% support prohibiting anyone convicted of stalking or domestic abuse from buying a gun, to only 11% opposed to that. Each of these measures has strong bipartisan support, with 83-91% of Democrats in support, 70-83% of independents, and even 74-76% of Republicans.

-His record on gun issues is contributing to Richard Burr's vulnerability in the US Senate race. By an 18 point margin voters say his opposition to background checks legislation makes them less likely to vote for him- only 20% say that position makes them more likely to vote for him to 38% who say it makes them less likely to. Among critical independent voters, it's 15% more likely and 37% less likely.

-Voters are uncomfortable with the efforts of the gun lobby to try to influence the results of the election this fall on behalf of Richard Burr. Voters say by a 25-point spread (43% less likely to 18% more likely) that the \$4.5 million dollars spent by the gun lobby to elect Richard Burr makes them less likely to vote for him in the fall.

-Common sense gun legislation is very popular among the voters who remain undecided for President and Senate. Undecideds for President support expanded background checks 76/5, and undecideds for Senate support them 73/3.

-North Carolina voters support the state's current law requiring a permit and background check before a handgun sale, 85/8. By a 20 point margin voters say they'd be less likely to vote for a legislator who voted to repeal the law- only 23% would be more likely to vote for someone who did that, compared to 43% less likely.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 1,169 likely voters on October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. The margin of error is +/-2.9%. 80% of participants, selected through a list based sample, responded via the phone, while 20% of respondents who did not have landlines conducted the survey over the internet through an opt-in internet panel.

