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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Missouri Senate Race Tight; Gun Legislation Popular

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A new Public Policy Polling survey of Missouri voters finds that the Senate race remains a toss up, with Roy Blunt leading Jason Kander only 46-44. Donald Trump leads Hillary Clinton 52-41 in the Presidential race.

79% of voters in the state support requiring background checks on all gun sales, to only 15% who are opposed to them. 73% of voters support prohibiting individuals convicted of committing a hate crime from buying a gun, to just 14% opposed to that. And 69% support prohibiting anyone convicted of stalking or domestic abuse from buying a gun, to only 16% opposed to that. Each of these measures has strong bipartisan support, with 82-92% of Democrats in support, 58-75% of independents, and even 64-71% of Republicans.

-His record on gun issues is contributing to Roy Blunt's vulnerability in the US Senate race. By a 21 point margin voters say his opposition to background checks legislation makes them less likely to vote for him- only 18% say that position makes them more likely to vote for him to 39% who say it makes them less likely to. Among critical independent voters, it's 19% more likely and 41% less likely.

-Jason Kander's ad that showed him assembling a rifle blindfolded while talking about his support for gun legislation like background checks and preventing known terror suspects from buying guns helped him in the race. By an 11 point margin voters say it made them more likely to vote for him. The ad has also been seen by the vast majority of voters – only 20% of voters say they haven't seen the ad, suggesting an unusually high level of memorability for a political ad.

- Voters also don't like the efforts of the gun lobby to influence the Missouri Senate race on Roy Blunt's behalf. Only 18% of voters say their support makes them more likely to vote for Blunt, compared to 39% who say the gun lobby's support makes them less likely to vote for him.





-Common sense gun legislation is very popular among the voters who remain undecided for President and Senate. Undecideds for Senate support expanded background checks 78/7, and undecideds for President support them 80/2.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 1,083 likely voters on October 31st and November 1st. The margin of error is +/-3.0%. 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.

