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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Voters in Key Senate Battlegrounds Overwhelmingly Support Common Sense Gun Legislation

Date: 11-3-16

New Public Policy Polling surveys in 6 key Senate battleground states find strong support for common sense gun legislation from voters across the aisle, and that candidates who endorse these policies are set to perform well in next week's election. There is overwhelming support in Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin for:

- Expanding background checks on gun purchases
- Barring those convicted of a hate crime from buying a gun
- Prohibiting those convicted of stalking or domestic abuse from buying guns:

	MO	NV	NH	NC	PA	WI
Support for Expanding Background Checks	79/15	65/30	85/9	84/11	83/12	84/11
Support for Barring Those Convicted of Hate Crime From Buying Gun	73/14	74/17	78/12	79/13	78/14	76/13
Support for Prohibiting Those Convicted of Stalking or Domestic Abuse From Buying Guns	69/16	73/17	78/12	78/11	78/11	74/15

What's striking in all of the states is how strong the support is across party lines for each of these measures. Anywhere from 80-93% of Democrats in these states support them, along with 58-86% of critical independent voters, and even 64-80% of Republicans.

Republican Senate candidates who have opposed expanding background checks could see that issue hurt them in their elections this fall. By margins of anywhere from 18 to 28 points, voters say they're less likely to vote for Roy Blunt, Joe Heck, Kelly Ayotte,



Richard Burr, and Ron Johnson because of their opposition to expanded background checks:

Opposition to Background Check Make You More/Less Likely to Vote For:	Roy Blunt	Joe Heck	Kelly Ayotte	Richard Burr	Ron Johnson
	18/39 (-21)	21/41 (-20)	14/42 (-28)	20/38 (-18)	19/43 (-24)

In Pennsylvania, on the other hand, where Pat Toomey has supported background checks on all gun purchases, voters are rewarding him for that stance. 36% say his sponsorship of legislation to deal with the issue makes them more likely to vote for him, to only 15% who consider it to be a negative.

Voters are similarly disinclined to vote for Senate candidates who oppose keeping guns out of the hands of people on the FBI's Terror Watch List. Again, by margins of anywhere from nine to 30 points, voters say they're less likely to vote for Roy Blunt, Joe Heck, Richard Burr, and Ron Johnson because of their opposition to prohibiting known terror suspects from buying guns:

Opposition to Terror Gap Make You More/Less Likely to Vote For:	Roy Blunt	Joe Heck	Richard Burr	Ron Johnson
	27/40 (-13)	16/46 (-30)	27/36 (-9)	22/42 (-20)

Voters are uncomfortable with the efforts of the gun lobby- especially in Missouri, Nevada, and North Carolina- to try to influence the results of the election this fall on behalf of the candidates they support. Voters say by a 20 point spread in each of those states that gun groups' efforts actually make them less likely to support the Republican candidate:

More/Less Likely to Vote For, Knowing How Much Gun Lobby Has Spent on Campaign	Roy Blunt	Joe Heck	Richard Burr
	18/39 (-21)	17/39 (-22)	18/43 (-25)

We find that among those voters who remain on the fence in the Presidential race and these Senate races, expanded background checks are a popular proposition. Undecided voters favor them overwhelming:

Undecideds Position on Background Checks:	MO	NV	NH	NC	PA	WI
President	80/2	67/20	85/9	76/5	78/11	88/2
Senate	78/7	75/11	65/16	73/3	72/7	86/5

Finally, we find races for President and Senate in all of these states to be tight, with Hillary Clinton holding modest leads in five of the six states polled and Democratic Senate candidates holding leads in four.

Horse Race Numbers	MO	NV	NH	NC	PA	WI
President (Clinton/Trump)	41/52	48/45	48/43	49/47	48/44	48/41
Senate (Dem/GOP)	44/46	47/44	48/45	45/48	46/44	49/44

On October 31st and November 1st Public Policy Polling surveyed 1,083 likely voters in Missouri, 1,169 in North Carolina, 781 in New Hampshire, 688 in Nevada, 1,050 in Pennsylvania, and 891 in Wisconsin. The margins of error for the surveys are +/-3.0%, +/-2.9%, +/-3.5%, +/-3.7%, +/-3.0%, and +/-3.3% respectively. 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.