

9 September 2013

To: Interested Parties
Fr: Anzalone Liszt Grove Research
Re: Summary of Statewide Polling in Vermont

Likely 2014 voters in Vermont strongly support the bill that would give all workers the ability to earn sick days that they can use to care for themselves or sick relatives. Nearly three-quarters of the electorate supports the bill (72% favor) and just 23% oppose it. Voters also believe that it is important that legislators pass a law like this and are willing to make voting decisions based on how a legislator votes. The following are key findings from a statewide poll of likely 2014 Vermont voters conducted by Anzalone Liszt Grove Research.

Nearly three-quarters of voters support the paid sick days bill

- Voters are incredibly supportive of the bill that gives workers in Vermont the ability to earn sick time to use for themselves or to care for sick family members. Support begins at 72% favor / 23% oppose, including 39% of voters who strongly favor the bill.
- Support cuts across demographic lines and earns strong support among men and women, across all age groups, and is popular in every region of the state.
- Independent voters are incredibly supportive of the bill – 74% favor / 21% oppose.

Even after attack, more voters strongly believe this will be good for small businesses than bad

- After hearing balanced positive and negative information (which specifically attacked the bill for being bad for small businesses), voters are divided on the impact this bill will have on small businesses – 44% believe it will be GOOD for small businesses, and 40% believe it will be bad for small businesses. However, more voters strongly agree with the idea that it will be good for small businesses (26%) while only 17% strongly believe it will be bad for small business.

Voters believe it is important that legislators pass this bill

- Beyond simply offering support for the bill, 65% of voters also say it is important that legislators pass this law, including 31% who believe it is very important legislators pass it. Among voters who support the law, this number grows to 88%.

Voters are willing to base voting decisions on how legislators vote on the bill

- Voters want to see their legislator pass this bill, and are willing to use this issue to determine how they vote in the next legislative election. More than half of voters (53%) are more likely to vote for a legislator who votes in favor of the bill, including 70% of voters who support the bill.
- Voters are also willing to vote out a legislator who opposes the bill – overall 35% of voters would vote against a legislator with whom *they agree on most other issues* if that lawmaker opposed this. This rises to 44% when looking only at voters who favor the law.

Anzalone Liszt Grove Research a statewide survey among likely 2014 voters in Vermont. The survey was among N=500 likely voters conducted August 22-27, 2013 including an oversample of N=75 voters in Rutland County. The margin of error for the sample as a whole is plus or minus 4.4 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.

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