



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

**To: Interested Parties**

**Subject: Northam Popular in GOP Held Swing Districts; Overwhelming Bipartisan Support For Many Democratic Policy Initiatives**

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A new Public Policy Polling survey of Virginia legislative districts that have a Republican Delegate or State Senator, but also voted for Ralph Northam, finds that the Governor-elect continues to be popular in these districts and that there's strong support for Democratic policy proposals. \*The sample included the two House districts that are still being contested.

A majority of voters in these districts represented by Republican legislators view Ralph Northam favorably. And they show strong support for Democratic policy solutions. In these polarized times it's unusual to see majority support for a Governor and his party's policy proposals in districts represented by the opposite party.

Key findings from the survey include:

- 50% of voters in these districts — which are cumulatively more Republican than the state as a whole- view Northam favorably to only 35% with an unfavorable opinion of him.

**There is strong bipartisan support in these districts for Democratic policy proposals:**

- 84% of voters support background checks on all gun sales, including at gun shows. That includes 96% of Democrats, 77% of independents, and 77% of Republicans.
- 80% of voters support raising teacher pay by 2%. That includes 95% of Democrats, 75% of independents, and 69% of Republicans.
- 67% of voters support increasing the felony threshold for stealing from \$200 to \$500. That includes 84% of Democrats, 60% of independents, and 56% of Republicans.
- 65% of voters support free job training and workforce credentialing for jobs that are available today. That includes 88% of Democrats, 55% of independents, and 48% of Republicans.
- 63% of voters support a health program that makes all forms of birth control available to Virginia women upon their request. That includes 93% of Democrats and 57% of independents.
- 62% of voters support an additional tax on gasoline and hotels dedicated to improving the Metro system. That includes 66% of Democrats, 65% of independents, and 54% of Republicans.
- 60% of voters support expanding Medicaid compared to only 33% who oppose. Support includes 93% of Democrats and 53% of independents.

Public Policy Polling interviewed 1,106 voters in Virginia SD 7, SD 8, SD 10, SD 12, SD 13, HD 27, HD 28, HD 40, HD 62, HD 76, HD 83, HD 84, HD 94, and HD 100 on December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.0%. This research was conducted on behalf of the Virginia Democratic Party.

