



From: Tom Jensen, Director of Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

**Subject: Swing District GOP Members of Congress Would Pay Price For Defunding
Planned Parenthood; Attacks on Planned Parenthood Energize Voters for 2018**

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A new Public Policy Polling survey of voters in 13 key swing Congressional districts held by Republicans finds strong opposition to defunding Planned Parenthood, which would mean taking away funds from Planned Parenthood that are used for birth control, well-woman care, and cancer screenings for low-income women. Members of Congress who vote to defund Planned Parenthood are likely to pay a price at the polls next November- and are also helping to energize grassroots activity among those who support the health care organization.

Key findings from the surveys include:

-Only 35% of voters in these swing Congressional districts support defunding Planned Parenthood, to 59% who are opposed. Defunding Planned Parenthood is an issue that voters in these districts say they will vote on next fall. 54% say they're less likely to vote to reelect their Republican member of Congress if they support defunding the organization, to only 30% who say they'd be more likely to vote for their member if they do that. A big part of why defunding Planned Parenthood is such a political liability is





that the health care organization is popular in these districts- 57% of voters see it favorably to only 34% who have a negative opinion of it.

-The prospect of defunding Planned Parenthood is something that makes voters in these districts more motivated to participate in grassroots activities, like attending a march or rally, calling their member of Congress, or writing a letter to the editor. 50% of voters across the 13 districts say attempts to target Planned Parenthood make them more inclined to get involved in grassroots action with only 24% each saying it makes them less likely to or that it doesn't make a difference.

-The Affordable Care Act is popular across these districts, with 53% of voters supporting it to only 36% who are opposed. Meanwhile there continues to be minimal support for the American Health Care Act- just 31% of voters support it, with 55% opposed. Partially because of the unpopularity of his health care efforts Paul Ryan has a miserable image in these districts, with only 28% of voters approving of him to 58% who disapprove.

These results make it clear that targeting Planned Parenthood- or trying to replace the Affordable Care Act with the American Health Care Act more generally- is politically perilous for these swing district Republican members of Congress. Voters in these districts like Planned Parenthood, they like the Affordable Care Act, and efforts to hurt those things will imperil the Republicans in these districts as they look toward reelection next year.





Public Policy Polling surveyed 7,488 registered voters across AZ-2 (Martha McSally), CA-21 (David Valadao), CA-49 (Darrell Issa), CO-6 (Mike Coffman), FL-26 (Carlos Curbelo), FL-27 (Ileana Ros-Lehtinen), IL-6 (Peter Roskam), KS-3 (Kevin Yoder), MN-3 (Erik Paulsen), NJ-7 (Leonard Lance), NY-19 (John Faso), PA-7 (Pat Meehan), and VA-10 (Barbara Comstock) on April 26th and 27th. The margin of error is +/-1.1%. These surveys were conducted on behalf of Planned Parenthood.

