CA45th PUBLIC OPINION POLL #1

CA45th

As part of our goal to educate and inform voters, as well as encourage open discussion of issues that are important to constituents in the 45th Congressional District, we undertook a pilot study of public opinion in the district. This pilot study focused on registered voters and asked them what they thought were the most important problems facing the country, as well as whether they approved of the job their representative in Congress, Mimi Walters, was doing.

A CNN/ORC Poll was administered March 1-4, 2017 to 1,025 adult Americans. This poll asked respondents which one of the following issue topics they felt to be the most important facing the country. We asked registered voters in the 45th Congressional District the same question, and found some interesting differences compared to the national sample.

"Which of the following is the most important issue facing the country today?

Issue	CNN/ORC poll of adult Americans	Voters 45th Congressional District
The Economy	26%	17.2%
Healthcare	20%	28.8%
National Security	16%	11.1%
Immigration	13%	11.6%
Civil Rights	12%	9.1%
Foreign Policy	7%	10.6%
Other	6%	9.6%
No Opinion	*	2.0%

http://i2.cdn.turner.com/cnn/2017/images/03/05/rel4a.-.trump,russia.pdf

WHAT MATTERS TO THE DISTRICT

In addition to duplicating the CNN/ORC poll, we also asked voters to tell us what they personally thought was the most important problem facing the nation as an open-ended question. We then followed up by asking if there was another issue they cared deeply about. The top issue categories were as follows-

Issue	Most Important Issue	Other Issue cared deeply about
Most mentioned	Economy/Budget issues (18.1%)	Economy/Budget issues (12.3%)
Second most mentioned	Healthcare (15.6%)	Foreign Policy/National Security (11.8%)
Third most mentioned	The President (10.6%)	Healthcare (10.7%)
Fourth most mentioned	Political and Social Divisions in the Country (10.1)%	Civil Rights/Race (9.6%)

Issues not easily classified into distinct categories added up to 19.6% of the 'Most Important Issue' and 27.3% of the 'Other Issue cared deeply about'

HOW VOTERS EVALUATE WALTERS

We asked voters whether they approved of the job their Representative in Congress was doing. Before asking for their Representative's job approval rating, we asked voters if they knew who their Representative, Mimi Walters, was.

Of those **who were correctly able to identify Walters**; 10.5% approved of the job Walters was doing in Congress, 61.6% disapproved of the job Walters was doing in Congress, and 27.9% did not have enough information to evaluate her performance.

Overall, 8.3% of registered Democrats, 16.7% of registered Republicans, and 7.4% of registered NPP voters approved of the job Representative Walters is doing in Congress. These overall percentages **reflect both those who were and were not able to correctly identify Walters.**

Interestingly, **a higher percentage of registered Republicans disapproved** than approved of Walters' job performance, with 21.7%.

METHODOLOGY

Our sample was derived from a voter list obtained from the Orange County Registrar of Voters. The voter list consisted of all voters registered in the 45th Congressional District as of March 23, 2017. The total number of registered voters in the Orange County Registrar of Voters database for the 45th Congressional District on this day was 413,419 registered voters. The breakdown of party registration is: 39.6% Republican, 30.4% Democrat, 25.8% No Party Preference (NPP) and 4.2% Other party.

From this voter list we drew a random sample of 1% of the voters which was 4012 voters. The breakdown of party registration in this sample was: 40.0% Republican, 30% Democratic, 26.1% NPP, and 3.9% other party, which slightly over represents Republicans and NPP voters, and under represents Democrats and Other party voters.

The percent of our random sample that had contact information (telephone numbers) was 70%, or 2234 voters. The party registration of voters for whom we had telephone numbers was: 40.3% Republican, 30.6% Democrat, 25% NPP and 4.0% Other party. This slightly over represents Republican and Democrat voters and slightly underrepresents NPP and Other party voters. Each of the telephone numbers was called once during the time period April 28-May 1, 2017. We were able to complete 112 surveys during this time period. Of these respondents, the breakdown of party registration was: 27.8% Republican, 45.4% Democrat, 26.9% NPP and 1.8% other party.

We sent email links to a survey monkey version of the survey to voters for whom we have email addresses. Of those emails, 597 went to registered voters for whom we did not have phone numbers. These voters received an initial email and two follow-up emails between April 21, 2017 and May 11, 2017. We also sent the same survey monkey link to voters we called but couldn't reach during the time period May 2-May 11, 2017, which was 846 voters. We were able to complete an additional 97 surveys, with the party registration breakdown: 32.0% Republican, 39.2% Democrat, 26.8% No Party Preference, and 2.1% Other party.

Overall then the survey this underrepresents Republicans and Other party voters, and over represents Democrats and NPP voters. As such, the data should be considered suggestive rather than representative of voters in the 45th Congressional District.