



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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North Carolina Voters Strongly Support Agenda for Education, the Environment, and Working

Raleigh, N.C. – Likely voters in North Carolina are overwhelmingly in favor of several public policy proposals regarding education, the environment, and working families, according to an OnPoint Polling and Research survey conducted February 8. The survey was commissioned by AARP North Carolina, the NC Academy of Trial Lawyers, the Conservation Council of NC, Equality NC, the Planned Parenthood Action Fund of Central NC, and the North Carolina AFL-CIO.

- 87% of likely Tar Heel voters favor requiring chemical plants to publicize lists of the dangerous products they contain.
- 69% percent support giving counties the authority to charge impact fees on developers to help pay for new school construction.
- 64% percent support a children's health insurance program to help cover uninsured children.
- 64% want the state income tax deduction for people who save money through the North Carolina college savings plan to be made permanent.
- 62% of likely voters support requiring hog farmers to use new technology to replace hog lagoons.
- 61% of North Carolina voters favor an annual cost-of-living adjustment for the minimum wage.
- 61% favor a plan to provide health insurance for all North Carolinians where the costs are shared by all parties.

These are not partisan issues, either. Five of the seven issues have majority support from both Democrats and Republicans, and all of them have significant support across party lines.

OnPoint completed two surveys on February 8, 2007. Complete results of the survey, including exact question wording and crosstabs, are attached to this release. For information about OnPoint Polling and Research please visit our website at www.onpointpolling.com.

If you have questions about this release or would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Justin Guillory at (888) 707-5390.

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NC Survey Results -- A

Q1 For the first time in 10 years, in 2006, the state legislature increased the minimum wage, but because of inflation, the minimum wage doesn't buy as much today as it did in 1995. In your opinion, should the legislature put an annual cost-of-living adjustment on the minimum wage, so that the minimum wage will keep up with inflation? If you favor automatic cost-of-living adjustments to the minimum wage, press 1 on your keypad now. If you oppose, press 2 now. If you don't know, press 3 now.

Favor..... 61% *Don't know* 6%
Oppose 33%

Q2 Would you favor or oppose a plan to provide health insurance for all North Carolinians, with costs to be shared by taxpayers, businesses, insurance companies, doctors, hospitals, and the uninsured themselves? If you favor having state government sponsor a plan to provide health insurance for everyone, press 1 now. If you oppose, press 2 now. If you don't know, press 3 now.

Favor..... 61% *Don't know* 6%
Oppose 33%

Q3 The state legislature has banned hog farmers in North Carolina from building any new lagoons that hold hog waste. The ban on new lagoons will expire this year. Some people say that the lagoons pollute rivers, lakes, streams, and the air, and that farmers should find another way to deal with hog waste. Other people say it would be much too expensive for farmers to change the way they deal with hog waste. Would you favor or oppose a plan to replace the current ban on new lagoons with a requirement that farmers clean up existing lagoons and switch to new technology to deal with hog waste? If you favor requiring farmers to use new technology to replace hog lagoons, press 1 on your keypad now. If you oppose, press 2 now. If you don't know, press 3 now.

Favor..... 62% *Don't know* 10%
Oppose 28%

Q4 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Women 53% *Men*..... 47%

Q5 If you are a Democrat, press 1. A Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 44% *Other*..... 15%
Republican..... 41%

Q6 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 77% *Other*..... 6%
Black..... 17%

Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Minimum wage adjustment			
Favor	60%	63%	57%
Oppose	33%	29%	39%
Don't know	6%	8%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Health Insurance for all			
Favor	61%	65%	57%
Oppose	33%	27%	39%
Don't know	6%	8%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
New technology for hog lagoons			
Favor	62%	65%	58%
Oppose	28%	23%	34%
Don't know	10%	12%	8%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Minimum wage adjustment				
Favor	61%	79%	41%	62%
Oppose	33%	17%	51%	33%
Don't know	6%	4%	9%	5%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Health Insurance for all				
Favor	61%	78%	42%	63%
Oppose	33%	16%	51%	30%
Don't know	6%	6%	7%	6%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
New technology for hog lagoons				
Favor	62%	74%	53%	52%
Oppose	28%	18%	38%	29%
Don't know	10%	8%	9%	19%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Minimum wage adjustment				
Favor	61%	56%	75%	76%
Oppose	33%	39%	13%	24%
Don't know	6%	5%	13%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Health Insurance for all				
Favor	61%	58%	72%	65%
Oppose	33%	36%	16%	35%
Don't know	6%	5%	13%	-

Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
New technology for hog lagoons				
Favor	62%	60%	73%	59%
Oppose	28%	30%	17%	24%
Don't know	10%	10%	10%	18%

NC Survey Results -- B

- Q1** The state legislature will soon consider providing affordable health insurance for all children in North Carolina. About 87,000 children in North Carolina currently do not have health insurance and would qualify for this plan. Creating a plan like this would cost millions of dollars. If you think North Carolina should create a children's health insurance plan, press 1. If you think North Carolina should not create such a plan, press 2.
- Favor*..... 64% *Don't know* 4%
Oppose 32%
- Q2** Local governments have to build new schools when developers build subdivisions. Currently these new schools are paid for with property taxes paid by current homeowners. In your opinion, should the state legislature allow local governments to require developers to help pay for new schools by paying an impact fee on new construction? If you favor state government allowing counties to require developers to pay local impact fees for new construction, press one. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't know, press 3.
- Favor*..... 69% *Don't know* 9%
Oppose 22%
- Q3** The state legislature has authorized a state income tax deduction for people who save money through the North Carolina college savings plan. The deduction will expire in 2010. Should the tax deduction be made permanent or should it be allowed to expire? If you want the tax deduction to expire, press 1 now. If you want the tax deduction to be made permanent, press 2. If you don't know, press 3.
- Expire*..... 19% *Don't know* 17%
Permanent 64%
- Q4** Should businesses like chemical plants be required to provide local governments with up-to-date lists of the dangerous or toxic products they contain? Some people think that communities have a right to know what risks are associated with these plants, while others think that public knowledge would only lower surrounding property values. If you favor making this information public, press one. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't know, press 3.
- Favor*..... 87% *Don't know* 7%
Oppose 7%
- Q5** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.
- Women* 53% *Men*..... 47%
- Q6** If you are a Democrat, press 1. A Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.
- Democrat*..... 43% *Other*..... 18%
Republican..... 39%
- Q7** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.
- White* 75% *Other*..... 8%
Black..... 17%

Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Children's health insurance plan			
Favor	64%	71%	56%
Oppose	32%	26%	38%
Don't know	4%	4%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Impact fees			
Favor	69%	69%	69%
Oppose	22%	19%	26%
Don't know	9%	13%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Tax deduction for college savings			
Expire	19%	17%	21%
Permanent	64%	59%	70%
Don't know	17%	24%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Open records for chemical plants			
Favor	87%	89%	85%
Oppose	6%	3%	10%
Don't know	7%	8%	5%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Children's health insurance plan				
Favor	64%	81%	50%	55%
Oppose	32%	14%	47%	40%
Don't know	4%	5%	3%	5%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Impact fees				
Favor	69%	74%	61%	74%
Oppose	22%	17%	30%	15%
Don't know	9%	9%	8%	10%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Tax deduction for college savings				
Expire	19%	21%	15%	23%
Permanent	64%	60%	68%	65%
Don't know	17%	19%	17%	12%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Open records for chemical plants				
Favor	87%	89%	84%	86%
Oppose	7%	3%	9%	12%
Don't know	7%	8%	7%	3%

Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Children's health insurance plan				
Favor	64%	60%	84%	66%
Oppose	31%	37%	9%	25%
Don't know	4%	3%	7%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Impact fees				
Favor	69%	71%	63%	60%
Oppose	22%	20%	25%	32%
Don't know	9%	8%	11%	9%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Tax deduction for college savings				
Expire	19%	19%	21%	16%
Permanent	64%	66%	58%	59%
Don't know	17%	15%	22%	25%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Open records for chemical plants				
Favor	87%	89%	82%	80%
Oppose	7%	7%	5%	12%
Don't know	7%	5%	13%	9%