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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VEA/PPP Poll Shows Northam Up 45-35

Contact: John O'Neil, VEA Communications, joneil@veanea.org; 804-775-8316

Richmond, VA - A new Public Policy Polling survey of likely Democratic primary voters finds Ralph Northam maintaining a comfortable 10-point advantage over Tom Perriello in the race for Governor. Northam has 45% support, with Perriello at 35%, and 21% of voters are undecided. Northam holds a 58% favorability rating, and is up in Norfolk, Richmond and Hampton Roads.

"Primary voters are clearly attracted to Ralph's long record of defending progressive values on issues like public education," said VEA President Jim Livingston, who also serves as chairman of the VEA Fund. "With a month to go until the primary, he's in a commanding position to earn the Democratic nomination, and we're proud to support him."

Northam holds a 69 - 6 lead in Norfolk, a 43-23 lead in Richmond, and a 35-33 lead in Northern Virginia.

A copy of the poll is attached, and you will find a polling memo from Tom Jensen, Director of Public Policy Polling, below.



From: Tom Jensen, Director of Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Northam Maintains Double Digit Lead in Democratic Primary

Date: 5-13-17

Public Policy Polling's newest survey of the Democratic primary for Governor in Virginia finds Ralph Northam continuing to hold a double-digit advantage over Tom Perriello. Northam is at 45% to Perriello's 35%, with 21% of voters still undecided.

Key findings from the survey include:

-Northam is particularly strong both with African Americans and with seniors, who are likely to account for a large portion of the primary electorate. With African Americans, Northam has a 26 point lead, getting 51% to Perriello's 25%. With seniors, Northam has a 23 point lead, getting 53% to Perriello's 30%. Additionally Northam is ahead with both women (by 7 at 43/36) and men (by 16 at 48/32) alike.

-Northam's work as Lieutenant Governor gets almost universally positive reviews from Democratic primary voters- 63% say they approve of the job he's done, with only 4% disapproving.

-Northam and Perriello have equal amounts of name recognition, with each candidate known to 65% of voters. Northam's net favorability is 10 points better though. 58% of voters see him positively to 7% with a negative opinion, for a net favorability of +51. Perriello, by contrast, is at +41, with 53% rating him favorably and 12% unfavorably.

Northam led by double digits in PPP's April tracking poll of the primary contest as well.

Public Policy Polling interviewed 745 likely primary voters on May 9th and 10th. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.6%. This research was conducted on behalf of the Virginia Education Association.