



From: Public Policy Polling
To: Interested Parties
Subject: **Voters in ME-2 Express Opposition to the GOP Tax Plan; Are Less Likely to Vote for Bruce Poliquin**
Date: December 1, 2017

A new Public Policy Polling survey in Maine's 2nd Congressional District finds broad opposition to the House tax plan and its individual provisions. 53 percent of ME-2 voters are opposed to the tax plan recently passed by the House (including 39 percent who strongly oppose the plan) while just 44 percent are supportive (only 24 percent strongly support). Moreover, among the 48 percent of voters who have heard, seen, or read "a lot" about the plan, opposition to the tax proposal rises to 60 percent compared to just 40 percent who are supportive. The more voters are paying attention to the tax plan, the more they hate it.

In addition, individual provisions of the tax plan are just as, if not more, opposed by voters in ME-2, including:

- Reducing the tax rate on corporations from 35 percent to 20 percent (42 percent support – 52 percent oppose);
- Eliminating the estate tax on estates valued at \$5.5 million for individuals and \$11 million for married couples (33 percent support – 55 percent oppose);
- Eliminating the ability to deduct for state and local taxes paid from federal income tax (25 percent support – 54 percent oppose); and,
- Paying for the tax plan by increasing the national debt by \$1.5 trillion over the next ten years (18 percent support – 71 percent oppose).

Furthermore, most ME-2 voters believe the wealthiest Americans would be the top beneficiaries of this tax plan – 59 percent think the wealthiest households would benefit more, while just 34 percent think the middle class will benefit more. Additionally, 56 percent would be less likely to support the tax plan when informed that passage would trigger a \$25 billion cut to Medicare.

Finally, looking ahead to next year's midterm elections, a generic Democratic opponent already leads Congressman Poliquin in a hypothetical 2018 election matchup by 4 percentage points (46 percent to 42 percent), but his vote for the tax bill further hinders his likelihood to win re-election: 50 percent say they are less likely to vote for him because he supported this legislation.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 665 voters in Maine's 2nd Congressional District from November 27-28, 2017 on behalf of Not One Penny. The margin of error is +/- 3.8%. This poll was conducted with automated telephone interviews.

