



From: Katherine Patterson, Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Health Care a Key Issue for North Carolinians; Voters Trust Cunningham Over Tillis to Protect Their Health Care

Date: October 27, 2020

A new Public Policy Polling survey finds North Carolina Senator Thom Tillis trailing Democratic opponent Cal Cunningham by 3 points (47-44). Health care is a key issue for a large majority of North Carolinians, with 73% considering it either the most important issue or a very important issue—and voters do not trust Tillis to protect them when it comes to health care coverage. Just 29% of voters who consider healthcare to be a key issue support Tillis, while 61% support Cunningham. Tillis' record on health care could cause him to lose further ground to Cunningham.

- 46% of voters trust Cunningham more to protect healthcare for people with pre-existing conditions, while just 38% trust Tillis more.
- 45% trust Cunningham more on the overall issue of healthcare, while only 40% trust Tillis.
- 44% trust Cunningham more to hold health insurance and pharmaceutical companies accountable, while just 36% trust Tillis more.

Meanwhile, a majority (58%) of North Carolina voters disapprove of the Trump administration's attempt to strike down the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in the middle of a pandemic without any replacement. Just 33% think it should be struck down.

When voters hear that Tillis voted four times to repeal the ACA, a majority (51%) say they are less likely to support him in the election, while just 28% say they are more likely.

Additionally, voters express serious concerns over the consequences of striking down the ACA.

- 67% say that eliminating protections stopping insurance companies from denying coverage or raising the costs of care for 135 million Americans with pre-existing conditions is a major concern.
- 67% say they have major concerns about over twenty million Americans completely losing their health insurance coverage if the ACA is struck down.
- 61% say that allowing insurance companies to stop covering the cost of prescription drugs is a major concern.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 937 North Carolina voters from October 26-27, 2020. The margin of error is +/- 3.2%. 50% of interviews for the survey were conducted by telephone and 50% by text message.





North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 If the election for President were held today, would you vote for Democrat Joe Biden or Republican Donald Trump?

Joe Biden 51%
Donald Trump 47%
Not sure 3%

Q2 The candidates for US Senate this fall are Democrat Cal Cunningham and Republican Thom Tillis. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Cal Cunningham 47%
Thom Tillis 44%
Not sure 9%

Q3 How important is the issue of health care when deciding who to vote for in the US Senate race – is it the most important issue, a very important issue, a somewhat important issue, not that important an issue, or not an important issue at all?

Most important 30%
Very important 43%
Somewhat important 19%
Not that important 6%
Not important at all 1%
Not sure 1%

Q4 Who do you trust more on the issue of health care: Cal Cunningham, or Thom Tillis?

Trust Cal Cunningham more on health care... 45%
Trust Thom Tillis more on health care 40%
Not sure 15%

Q5 Who do you trust more to hold health insurance and pharmaceutical companies accountable: Cal Cunningham, or Thom Tillis?

Trust Cal Cunningham more to hold health insurance and pharmaceutical companies accountable 44%
Trust Thom Tillis more to hold health insurance and pharmaceutical companies accountable 36%
Not sure 20%

Q6 Who do you trust more to protect healthcare for people with preexisting conditions: Cal Cunningham, or Thom Tillis?

Trust Cal Cunningham more to protect healthcare for people with preexisting conditions 46%
Trust Thom Tillis more to protect healthcare for people with preexisting conditions 38%
Not sure 16%

Q7 Thom Tillis voted four times to fully repeal the Affordable Care Act. Does hearing this make you less likely or more likely to support Thom Tillis, or does it not make a difference?

Less likely 51%
More likely 28%
It doesn't make a difference 17%
Not sure 5%

Q8 Despite the coronavirus crisis, the Trump administration is in court to strike down our entire health care law, known as the Affordable Care Act, without any replacement. Do you think our health care law should be struck down by the courts, or not?

Think it should be struck down 33%
Do not think it should be struck down 58%
Not sure 9%





Q9 Now I am going to read you a list of consequences that independent, nonpartisan analysts have identified could result from this court case striking down our health care laws, and then ask you whether you find that to be a major concern about the lawsuit, a minor concern, or not really a concern at all. Here's the first one: striking down the health care law would allow insurance companies to stop covering the costs of prescription drugs. Is losing guaranteed coverage for the costs of prescription drugs a major concern to you about this lawsuit, a minor concern, or not really a concern at all?

Major concern	61%
Minor concern	18%
Not really a concern at all.....	18%
Not sure	3%

Q10 Here's the next one: striking down the health care law would eliminate protections that stop insurance companies from denying coverage or raising the costs for 135 million Americans who have pre-existing medical conditions like cancer, diabetes, asthma, and coronavirus. Is this a major concern to you about this lawsuit, a minor concern, or not really a concern at all?

Major concern	67%
Minor concern	12%
Not really a concern at all.....	18%
Not sure	3%

Q11 Here's the last one: striking down the health care law would mean over twenty million Americans would completely lose their health insurance coverage. Is this a major concern to you about this lawsuit, a minor concern, or not really a concern at all?

Major concern	67%
Minor concern	11%
Not really a concern at all.....	19%
Not sure	3%

Q12 In the 2016 election for President, did you vote for Republican Donald Trump, Democrat Hillary Clinton, someone else, or did you not vote in the election?

Donald Trump.....	47%
Hillary Clinton.....	44%
Someone else / Did not vote	9%

Q13 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman	53%
Man.....	47%

Q14 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an independent, press 3.

Democrat	38%
Republican	32%
Independent	30%

Q15 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White	71%
African-American	21%
Other.....	8%

Q16 If you are 18-45 years old, press 1. If 46-65, press 2. If older than 65, press 3.

18 to 45.....	31%
46 to 65.....	39%
Older than 65	29%

Q17 What is the highest level of education you have received: high school graduate or less, some college but did not finish, 2-year college degree, 4-year college degree, or post-graduate degree?

High school graduate or less.....	31%
Some college but did not finish.....	23%
2-year college degree	12%
4-year college degree	21%
Post-graduate degree.....	13%



Q18 Mode

Landline..... 50%
Text..... 50%