

To: Interested Parties
From: John Hagner, Clarity Campaign Labs
Date: May 10, 2017
Re: AHCA Vote Imperils Vulnerable Trump-District Republicans Blum, Poliquin, and Upton

Three surveys conducted May 7th and 8th by **Clarity Campaign Labs** on behalf of **Patriot Majority** show that **three vulnerable Republicans are starting their 2018 re-election campaigns trailing unnamed Democratic challengers** and that the American Health Care Act is going to drag down their chances of re-election even further. **All three of these Republicans represent districts that President Trump carried**, demonstrating that the political fallout of the health care vote extends well beyond districts the President lost in 2016.

The surveys were conducted by IVR to landlines and by live callers to cell phones. In IA-01, the sample size is 769 with a margin of error of +/- 3.53%, in MI-06, the sample size is 797 and the MOE is +/- 3.41%, and in ME-02, the sample size is 805 and MOE is 3.36%, all at a 95% confidence interval. Surveys were weighted to reflect previous midterm electorates in each district.

IA-01: In Iowa's First District, Republican **Rod Blum** is in serious trouble. 50% of respondents think things in their part of Iowa are going in the wrong direction, with 31% thinking they're on the right track. Both Representative Blum and President Trump are underwater in the district, with **Blum at 30% favorable and 38% unfavorable** and Trump at 39% to 45%. Barack Obama, on the other hand, has a 49% favorable and 36% unfavorable rating here.

When asked to choose between Blum and "a Democratic challenger", **Blum trails 32% to 47%**, or 37% to 52% when undecideds are pushed. Blum loses Democrats 86% to 3%, of course, but he also trails among Independents 46% to 28%, and is only winning Republicans 75% to 12%.

In case being under 40% isn't bad enough, when we asked voters if Blum's support for the AHCA (described neutrally as "the Republican plan to replace Obamacare") would make them more or less likely to support him, **25% said it would make them more likely, and 46% said it would make them less likely**. Among voters who are undecided in the race for Congress, 34% are less likely to vote for him because of AHCA, and just 16% more likely.

ME-02: In Maine's Second District, Republican **Bruce Poliquin** is in a serious fight for re-election already. This mostly rural district, which President Trump carried easily, is challenging terrain for Democrats but Representative Poliquin is vulnerable. The right direction / wrong track numbers are positive, at 40% to 37%, and President Trump has positive personal numbers, with 46% favorable and 40% unfavorable. Representative Poliquin is underwater, however, at **36% favorable and 41% unfavorable**.

When asked to choose between Poliquin and "a Democratic challenger", ME-02 voters split 38% to 38%. When undecided voters were pushed, **Poliquin trails slightly, with 43% to 44% for a Democratic challenger**. Poliquin trails dramatically with Independents, getting 30% to 47% for a Democratic challenger, and is only winning 82% of Republicans. He trails with women by 12% - 36% to 48%.

The AHCA vote is likely to make things more challenging for Rep Poliquin. When asked how his vote for the AHCA, described neutrally as the Republican plan to replace Obamacare, would impact their vote, **29% said it would make them more likely to vote for him and 43% less likely**. Among voters who are undecided on the race for Congress, 34% say it makes them less likely to vote for Poliquin, and just 20% more likely.

MI-06: In Michigan's Sixth District, long-time Congressman **Fred Upton**, who very publicly flipped to support the AHCA, trails in his race for re-election. Voters in his district are pessimistic, with 35% thinking things are

going in the right direction in their part of Michigan and 42% thinking they're off on the wrong track. President Trump has a 41% favorable rating and 44% unfavorable, while former President Obama has a 47% favorable and 39% unfavorable rating. In spite of his long record, Representative Upton is underwater, with a **37% favorable and 44% unfavorable** rating.

When asked to choose between Upton and "a Democratic challenger", **Upton trails 37% to 41%**. When undecideds are pushed, he regains a little ground, but still trails 43% to 44%. He loses Independents 34% to 46%, but remarkably he only leads 64% - 14% among Republicans, while getting just 4% of Democrats.

Upton's support for the AHCA, which was decisive to its passage, is hurting him with voters and will continue to do so. When asked how his support for "the Republican plan to replace Obamacare" would impact their vote, **27% say it makes them more likely to support him and 42% less likely**. Only 18% of Independents say it makes them more likely to vote for him, while 46% of Independents say it makes them less likely.