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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Republicans in Trouble on ACA, Pre-Existing Conditions; Virginia Voters Say They're Less Likely to Support them Due to Health Care Stance

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A new survey by Public Policy Polling finds that Republicans are in trouble on the issue of the Affordable Care Act and pre-existing conditions as Virginia voters say they are less likely to support Republicans due to their stance on health care. In Virginia's 7th Congressional District, a plurality of voters (44%) say they are less likely to vote for Congressman Dave Brat because of his effort to repeal the ACA.

The Trump administration recently went to court to eliminate the health care law's protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and voters overwhelmingly oppose their action. 59% oppose the lawsuit, including nearly half (49%) of Republicans. Virginians are also less likely to vote for Republicans who stayed silent on this lawsuit. A plurality of voters (42%) say they are less likely to vote for Congressman Brat because of his silence on the lawsuit.

Key findings in the survey include:

- Health care is a very important issue to voters when deciding who to vote for. 60% say it is either the most important issue or a very important issue when deciding who to vote for.
- Virginians are very concerned about the possible consequences of repealing the ACA. 62% of voters think charging people 50+ years old, five times more than younger people for health insurance is a major concern. Eliminating protections for people with pre-existing conditions is a major concern for 63% of voters.

PPP surveyed 640 VA 7 voters from September 17-18, 2018. The margin of error is +/- 3.9%. This poll was conducted by automated telephone interviews.

