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To: Interested Parties

Subject: KY POLL: Voters in Kentucky Oppose Trump's and McConnell's Positions on Covid-19 Relief Bill; Strongly Disagree With Trump/McConnell Efforts to Rush to Reopen Schools in Midst of Pandemic Resurgence

Date: July 21, 2020

A new Public Policy Polling survey of Kentucky voters finds they support key provisions of the Democratic-led U.S. House of Representatives recently passed coronavirus relief bill known as The Heroes Act and strongly oppose Mitch McConnell and President Trump's push to reopen schools even as the pandemic rages on across the country.

The survey finds broad support in Kentucky for policies aimed at relieving the hardships for families and workers resulting from the coronavirus pandemic that are included in the House passed Heroes Act, including:

- 73% support increasing funding for testing and treatment for the coronavirus, while only 14% oppose it.
- 68% support increasing federal funding for Medicaid, so states do not have to reduce Medicaid coverage and benefits during a pandemic, with only 17% opposed.
- 66% support an additional round of \$1200 stimulus payments to most Americans, while just 25% are opposed.
- 65% support allocating \$1 trillion to state and local governments to pay vital workers like first responders, health workers, and teachers, while just 21% oppose this.

- 57% support a 15 percent increase in food assistance to families and additional funding to pay for nutritional programs, with just 27% opposed.
- 52% support creating a special enrollment period for Americans to sign up for health coverage under the Affordable Care Act, while just 26% oppose it.
- And Kentucky voters are nearly evenly split on the question of extending the additional \$600 per week unemployment benefit with 42% in support, 45% opposed and 14% not sure.

On the issue of school reopening, a majority (61%) of Kentucky voters trust medical experts more than President Trump, including a majority of independents (61%) and a plurality (42%) of Republicans. Only 25% of voters say they trust the President more on the decision to reopen schools.

A majority (56%) disagree with McConnell's stated position on sending kids back to school in the fall even as coronavirus infections continue to rise, while only 31% agree with him. Just 35% think it is safe for kids to return to school in the fall. Another 52% also oppose withholding funding from schools that follow the advice of medical experts and decide to not reopen in the fall, while just 29% are in support of the bill.

Senator Mitch McConnell is underwater in his overall job approval in his home state by a margin of 8 points (40-48) while Governor Andy Beshear, a Democrat, has a job approval rating of 54% with Kentucky voters versus only 35% who disapprove of his performance in office.



In the survey 57% of voters said they voted for Donald Trump in 2016 and 33% said they voted for Hillary Clinton. A 24-point margin.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 1,547 Kentucky voters from July 17-18, 2020. The margin of error is +/- 2.5%. 60% of interviews for the survey were conducted by telephone and 40% by text message.

