Congressional Record

Vol. 156 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2010 No. 3

TOWN HALL BY MAIL SURVEY RESULTS FOR FLORIDA'S 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, Our nation is faced with more major issues, and is more divided over how we should handle those issues, than at any time I have served in Congress.

These issues include matters of national security, financial security, economic security, and the future of our health care system. Last November, I asked residents of the 10th Congressional District I have the privilege to represent to share their thoughts with me on these and many other pressing issues. To date, more than 31,500 have responded to my survey which included 26 questions on a wide range of legislative matters. In addition, almost half of those who responded provided some very helpful additional comments about other matters of interest to them. In order to certify the accuracy of the results, I had an outside firm tabulate the surveys before returning them to me to review the comments.

Madam Speaker, following my remarks, I will include for the benefit of my colleagues the complete results of my Town Hall by Mail survey. As we return for the Second Session of this 111th Congress and begin debate on these many difficult issues, I think they will find these results of special interest.

CONGRESSMAN BILL YOUNG TOWN HALL BY MAIL

1. Which of the following do you feel to be the most pressing federal issue?
Federal Deficit, 17.33%
Job Creation, 16.02%
A Growing Federal Government, 15.14%
Health Care, 14.52%
National Security, 11.21%
Energy Independence, 8.83%
Immigration, 7.79%
Other, 3.61%
No Response, 2.86%
Housing, 2.69%

2. Are you satisfied with your current health care coverage?
Yes, 73.09%
No, 20.40%
Not currently covered, 4.77%
No Response, 1.73%

3. From what you have read about the pending health care legislation before Congress, do you believe this legislation would improve the quality of your health care coverage?
Yes, 15.85%
No, 70.71%
Unsure, 11.72%
No Response, 1.71%

4. From what you know about the health care reform legislation pending before Congress, would you support or oppose this legislation?
Support, 22.42%
Oppose, 65.81%
Unsure, 10.22%
No Response, 1.55%

5. Should health care reform include a government-run public option?
Yes, 28.49%
No, 60.44%
Unsure, 8.88%
No Response, 2.19%

6. Do you believe that any health care reform legislation should specifically prohibit federal funding for illegal immigrants to receive health care coverage?
Yes, 81.17%
No, 11.12%
Unsure, 5.99%
No Response, 1.71%

7. Should Congress raise taxes to pay for health care reform legislation?
Yes, 16.47%
No, 74.73%
Unsure, 7.04%
No Response, 1.76%

8. Should Congress pay for health care reform legislation by cutting Medicare by $500 billion as proposed in the House bills?
Yes, 7.48%
No, 83.32%
Unsure, 7.44%
No Response, 1.76%

9. Should Congress require individuals to purchase health care insurance or face a tax penalty?
Yes, 17.02%
No, 73.54%
Unsure, 7.77%
No Response, 1.68%

10. Do you believe that the $787 billion economic stimulus spending bill approved by Congress earlier this year has created jobs?
Yes, 15.32%
No, 73.67%
Unsure, 9.48%
No Response, 1.53%

11. Given the continued increase in unemployment, should Congress enact a second stimulus spending bill this year?
Yes, 13.31%
No, 72.66%
Unsure, 12.36%
No Response, 1.67%

12. Should the President approve the recommendation of General Stanley McChrystal to deploy some 40,000 more troops to Afghanistan?
Yes, 49.60%
No, 32.53%
Unsure, 16.04%
No Response, 1.83%

13. Would you be willing to pay higher fuel and energy prices to reduce the production of greenhouse gases?
Yes, 23.59%
No, 64.03%
Unsure, 10.52%
No Response, 1.86%

14. Should Congress be required to post major legislation online at least 72 hours before it's voted on in the House or Senate?
Yes, 85.08%
No, 5.90%
Unsure, 7.16%
No Response, 1.86%

15. Should Congress extend the $8,000 federal first–time homebuyer's tax credit (the credit is set to expire on November 30, 2009)?
Yes, 48.66%
No, 41.21%
Unsure, 8.34%
No Response, 1.79%

16. Should Congress consider passage of a second Cash for Clunkers program?
Yes, 13.43%
No, 78.75%
Unsure, 6.27%
No Response, 1.56%

17. Should Congress provide additional bailout funds for U.S. automakers and financial institutions?
Yes, 2.88%
No, 90.71%
Unsure, 4.82%
No Response, 1.58%

18. The federal National Debt is currently over $11.9 trillion and is projected to increase by more than $9 trillion over the next ten years. To balance our account, Congress should:
Reduce government spending and eliminate programs, 83.30%
Increase taxes to pay for existing government programs, 13.43%
No Response, 3.27%

19. Should the federal government be required by law to have a balanced budget, as the Florida state government and most other states are required to do?
Yes, 79.64%
No, 9.18%
Unsure, 9.38%
No Response, 1.81%

20. Which do you believe would do more to create jobs and stimulate the American economy?
Increased government spending and new government programs, 13.21%
Reducing taxes on private business (the U.S. business tax rate is the 29th highest of the world's 30 largest economies), 81.37%
No Response, 5.43%

21. The Federal Reserve had refused to disclose to the Congress which companies have been given trillions of dollars in bailout money. Should the Fed be subject to a full and complete audit of its actions?
Yes, 94.54%
No, 1.71%
Unsure, 2.24%
No Response, 1.51%

22. Should suspected terrorists be transferred from the prisons at Guantanamo Bay to federal prisons in the United States?
Yes, 20.62%
No, 67.22%
Unsure, 8.21%
No Response, 3.95%

23. Should amnesty for those here illegally be included in immigration reform?
Yes, 12.23%
No, 74.12%
Unsure, 9.69%
No Response, 3.96%

24. The measure of the cost-of-living for Social Security recipients is predicted to increase from 2010 to 2011, yet recipients are not likely to receive a cost-of-living adjustment the next year. Should Social Security recipients receive an increase in their benefits for 2012?
Yes, 74.86%
No, 10.60%
Unsure, 10.70%
No Response, 3.84%

25. Should the U.S. continue pursuing a missile defense shield in Europe?
Yes, 51.27%
No, 27.68%
Unsure, 17.19%
No Response, 3.86%

26. Should economic sanctions continue against Iran?
Yes, 78.87%
No, 7.27%
Unsure, 10.07%
No Response, 3.78%

Printed on recycled paper.