

To: Carolyn Malenick – The Madison Coalition
From: John McLaughlin
Re: National Survey Results
Date: January 20, 2014

Survey Summary:

The results of this national survey show that across the country voters support the Regulation Freedom Amendment. Voters also agree that increased government regulations under President Obama’s administration have hurt job growth and the economy as well as made America more energy dependent on other countries. Finally they agree that government regulations are a “hidden tax” costing Americans more money as consumers by increasing the cost of consumer goods.

Q: “There is a proposal for a new constitutional amendment called the regulation freedom amendment which states that whenever one-quarter of the members of the U.S. House or the U.S. Senate send in writing to the President their opposition to a proposed federal regulation, it will then require a majority vote of the House and Senate to adopt that regulation. Would you support or oppose the Regulation Freedom Amendment?”

SUPPORT	Strongly	Somewhat	OPPOSE	Strongly	Somewhat	Don’t Know/Refused	NET
54	20	34	20	11	9	25	+34

- There is majority support (54%) nationwide for the Regulation Freedom Amendment, only 1 in 5 (20%) voters oppose the amendment, while 1 in 4 (25%) were not sure where they stood on the amendment.
- The states most likely to pass the amendment are located in regions where there is still headway to be made among Republicans and Conservatives. Among those respondents who gave non-responses, 22% were located in the South Atlantic region, 10% from the West South Central, and 7% were from the East South Central.

Q: “Do you agree or disagree that increased government regulations under President Obama’s administration have prevented economic growth and job creation as well as prevented the United States from becoming more energy Independent?”

AGREE	Strongly	Somewhat	DISAGREE	Strongly	Somewhat	Don’t Know/Refused	NET
56	32	24	33	19	14	11	+23

- The majority of voters (56%) are under no illusions about government regulations. They agree regulations kill economic job growth and job creation while preventing the U.S. from becoming more energy Independent.
- While 4 out of 5 (79%) of Republicans agree, only 2 in 5 (39%) Democrats agree. Most importantly, a majority of Independents (55%) agree that regulations kill jobs and the economy while less than 1 in 3 (31%) disagree.
- Conservatives agree 72% to 19%, Moderates 53% to 34% and Liberals are split 46% to 45%, agree to disagree.

Q: "Federal Government Regulations increase the cost of everything we consume from the food we eat to the gas we put in our cars. Increased regulations under President Obama's administration have therefore been described as a 'Hidden Tax.' Do you agree or disagree that government regulations are a 'Hidden Tax'?"

AGREE	Strongly	Somewhat	DISAGREE	Strongly	Somewhat	Don't Know/Refused	NET
64	35	29	26	14	11	10	+39

- Almost Two-thirds (64%) of voters agree that regulations are a "hidden tax" levied by the government on businesses whose costs are then passed onto the consumer. Only 1 in 4 (26%) voters disagree.
- More than 4 in 5 Republicans (83%) agree that regulations are a "hidden tax," About two-thirds (65%) of Independents agree and even a plurality of Democrats agree (48% to 39%), that regulations are "hidden tax" on consumers.
- While 4 out of 5 Conservatives (79%) agree that government regulations are a "hidden tax," almost 3 in 5 Liberals (58%) and Moderates (59%) are of the same opinion.
- More than half (51%) of those who weren't sure about the Regulation Freedom Amendment believe that regulations are a "hidden tax," while less than a quarter (24%) disagree.

Conclusions:

Voters overwhelmingly agree that regulations are a "hidden tax." The case needs to be made that the President's executive orders imposing regulations on businesses is a tax hike without a vote from Congress and therefore unconstitutional. Passing the Regulations Freedom Amendment re-asserts Congress' "power of the purse" and prohibits unilateral action by the Executive to tax without consent from the Legislative Branch.

Demographic Summary

Party	Total	Age	Total
Republican	32%	Under 40	37%
Democrat	38%	41 – 55	26%
Independent	31%	56 – 65	20%
Ideology	%	Over 65	17%
Liberal	30%	Gender	%
Moderate	34%	Male	47%
Conservative	30%	Female	53%
Race	%	Area	%
White	70%	New England	5%
African American	13%	Mid-Atlantic	12%
Hispanic	12%	East North Central	17%
Income	%	West North Central	8%
Under \$40K	41%	South Atlantic	21%
\$40K - \$60K	22%	East South Central	6%
\$60K - \$100K	24%	West South Central	10%
Over \$100K	14%	Mountain	7%
		Pacific	14%

Methodology: This national survey of 1,000 likely 2014 general election voters was conducted from January 14th to 17th, 2014. All interviews were conducted online; survey invitations were distributed randomly within predetermined geographic units. These units were structured to correlate with actual voter turnout in a nationwide general election. This poll of 1,000 likely general election voters has an accuracy of +/- 3.1% at a 95% confidence interval.