

To: American Action Network
 From: Jim McLaughlin – McLaughlin & Associates
 Re: Congressional Battleground District Survey – Executive Summary
 Date: September 12, 2024

McLaughlin & Associates just completed a survey on behalf of the American Action Network in the 17 most competitive battleground Congressional districts in the country. *These are the swing districts of the swing states* that will in all likelihood determine the outcome of the Presidential race and control of Congress.

Voters overwhelmingly oppose a government shutdown!

- Nearly two-thirds of likely voters, 64%, **OPPOSE** a government shutdown, with a majority, 52%, who strongly oppose it. *Opposition to a shutdown extends to swing voters, as well as large percentages of the Republican base.*
 - Swing voters, such as Independents (63%), ticket splitters (65%) and moderates (75%) overwhelmingly oppose a shutdown.
 - Even large percentages of GOP base voters including Trump voters (39%), conservative Republicans (38%) and Republican primary voters (43%) oppose a government shutdown.

Generally speaking, would you favor or oppose a federal government shutdown?

	FAVOR	OPPOSE
TOTAL	21%	64%
Moderates	12%	75%
Independents	22%	63%
Ind. Men	27%	61%
Ind. Women	16%	65%
Ticketsplitters	24%	65%
Trump Voters	43%	39%
Conservative Republicans	45%	38%
GOP Primary Voters	40%	43%

- In addition to the broad opposition to a shutdown, 62% of voters clearly support a compromise to avoid the shutdown.
 - Again, swing voters such as moderates (77%), Independents (64%) and ticket splitters (69%) overwhelmingly support a compromise as do significant percentages of the Republican base, such as Trump voters (39%), Republican primary voters (43%) and conservative Republicans (37%).

(See table on following page)

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? *“Congress should make every effort to avoid a government shutdown, even if it means compromising on certain issues.”*

	AGREE	DISAGREE
TOTAL	62%	29%
Moderates	77%	17%
Independents	64%	27%
Ind. Men	64%	27%
Ind. Women	64%	28%
Ticketsplitters	69%	23%
Trump Voters	39%	50%
Conservative Republicans	37%	52%
GOP Primary Voters	43%	48%

- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of voters say *“Keeping the federal government up and running and fully funding government programs like Social Security, the Veterans Administration, and the United States Border Patrol”* should be the top priority for the President and Congress vs. only 36% who say *“Dealing with the illegal immigration crisis, securing the border, and preventing illegal immigrants from voting in the elections”* should be the top priority.

Which of the following should be the top priority for the President and Congress?

Dealing with the illegal immigration crisis, securing the border, and preventing illegal immigrants from voting in the elections, OR, Keeping the federal government up and running and fully funding government programs like Social Security, the Veterans Administration, and the United States Border Patrol.

	Securing the Border	Keep Govt. Up & Running
TOTAL	36%	58%
Moderates	22%	72%
Independents	35%	56%
Ind. Men	40%	51%
Ind. Women	29%	63%
Ticketsplitters	33%	62%
Trump Voters	73%	19%
Conservative Republicans	73%	19%
GOP Primary Voters	65%	28%

When voters are presented messages about a government shutdown that Democrats are very likely to say, there is far greater opposition to the shutdown.

If you knew the following statements were true, would each make you more likely or less likely to support a government shutdown if Members of Congress cannot agree on a spending package to fund the federal government? If it would make no difference, just say so.

LESS LIKELY / Much Less Likely	TOTAL	Mod. Voters	IND VOTERS	Male Ind	Female Ind.	Ticket-splitters	Trump Voters	Cons. GOP	GOP Primary Voters
A federal government shutdown will force military service members to miss their paychecks, which would impact our national security and military readiness.	52/42	63/49	51/39	48/35	54/44	54/43	37/21	39/23	40/25
A federal government shutdown would delay the Social Security benefits of millions of Americans.	52/43	64/53	51/40	46/35	58/46	55/45	33/19	34/21	38/26
A federal government shutdown would result in..... risks to airport security, and dangerous conditions at airports.	50/39	61/50	50/37	44/30	58/45	56/42	29/14	32/17	34/19
A federal government shutdown will force border patrol agents to miss their paychecks and make the current border situation worse.	49/38	60/48	48/35	47/30	50/40	52/41	32/19	34/21	36/24

Methodology:

McLaughlin & Associates conducted a survey of 800 likely general election voters in Targeted United States Congressional Districts, from September 5 – 9, 2024. A multi-modal approach was employed via live telephone calls and self-administered text messages. The live telephone interviews were conducted by professional interviewers with respondents contacted by both landline phone and cell phone. Thirty three percent (33%) of interviews were completed on traditional landlines, 34% were conducted on cellphones and 33% of interviews were conducted via text message. Interview selection was random, and interviews were stratified by area, house district, race/ethnicity, age, gender, and political party registration to correlate with actual voter turnout from previous general elections. This poll of 800 likely general election voters has an accuracy of +/- 3.4% at a 95% confidence interval. Congressional Districts included: ME-02, AZ-01, AZ-06, NC-01, PA-01, PA-07, PA-08, PA-10, PA-17, OH-09, OH-13, MI-07, MI-08, MI-10, NE-02, WI-01, WI-03.