

To: Interested Parties

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■ Polling in Florida, Georgia and Louisiana Finds Strong Support for Congress to Pass Additional Coronavirus Relief

A recent Tulchin Research poll of registered voters in Florida, Georgia and Louisiana shows strong and consistent support for Congress to provide additional COVID-19 relief and financial aid for individuals, families, small businesses and essential public services. The survey was conducted on behalf of the Southern Poverty Law Center Action Fund and finds support for additional relief is robust across all three states and attracts support across partisan and racial lines. Furthermore, the poll reveals solid majorities of voters in these states favor a variety of specific relief proposals that focus on protecting workers, supporting important public services, combatting the spread of COVID-19 and protecting and expanding Americans' right to vote safely during the pandemic. We provide details from this recent poll below.

Robust Support for Congress to Provide Additional Coronavirus Relief

From the outset, over eight-in-ten voters (81%) across Florida, Georgia and Louisiana say that they support Congress passing additional coronavirus relief for individuals, families, small businesses and essential public services, which is included in the HEROES Act the House of Representatives recently passed in May. This overwhelming support includes a near majority of voters (48%) who say they *strongly* support Congress passing additional relief. Conversely, few voters (15%) say they oppose Congress passing additional relief while just 4% are undecided. Looking at each state individually, overwhelming majorities in all three states say they support Congress passing additional relief, including 81% in Florida, 84% in Georgia, and 77% in Louisiana.

Support for Congress to Pass Additional Coronavirus Relief

In May, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a coronavirus relief package. This package would provide additional funding to control the spread of the virus such as testing, provide financial aid for states and cities to replace lost revenue from the economic shutdown and maintain essential services such as health care, public safety and education; support for essential workers, unemployment insurance benefit extensions for laid-off workers and financial aid for individuals, families and small businesses.

Would you say you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose Congress providing additional coronavirus relief and financial aid for individuals, families, small businesses, and essential public services?

	<u>3-State Average</u>	<u>Florida</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Louisiana</u>
TOTAL SUPPORT	81%	81%	84%	77%
Strongly support	48%	48%	49%	48%
TOTAL OPPOSE	15%	15%	13%	17%
Strongly oppose	4%	4%	3%	6%
Undecided	4%	4%	3%	5%
Support – Oppose	+66	+66	+71	+60

In addition to robust levels of support across these three states overall, support for additional coronavirus relief is also incredibly strong across major demographic lines, including gender, ethnicity, and age. Furthermore, support is widely bipartisan, with majorities of Democrats, independents, and Republicans in all three states solidly in favor of Congress passing additional relief.

Florida Support by Demographic Group

<u>FLORIDA</u>	<u>Total Support</u>	<u>Total Oppose</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
<i>Total</i>	81%	15%	4%
<i>Race</i>			
White (59%)	80%	16%	4%
Latino (21%)	83%	11%	6%
Black (15%)	84%	12%	4%
<i>Age</i>			
18-54 (54%)	84%	10%	6%
55+ (46%)	78%	21%	2%
<i>Party</i>			
Democrat (36%)	88%	9%	3%
Republican (32%)	74%	22%	4%
Independent (29%)	80%	15%	5%

Georgia Support by Demographic Group

<u>GEORGIA</u>	<u>Total Support</u>	<u>Total Oppose</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
<i>Total</i>	84%	13%	3%
<i>Race</i>			
White (58%)	83%	15%	2%
Black (32%)	90%	7%	2%
<i>Age</i>			
18-44 (62%)	87%	11%	3%
55+ (38%)	80%	17%	3%
<i>Party</i>			
Democrat (35%)	93%	4%	3%
Republican (34%)	81%	17%	2%
Independent (29%)	81%	17%	2%

Louisiana Support by Demographic Group

LOUISIANA	Total Support	Total Oppose	Undecided
Total	77%	17%	5%
Race			
White (62%)	73%	22%	5%
Black (28%)	86%	9%	5%
Age			
18-54 (57%)	83%	13%	5%
55+ (43%)	70%	24%	6%
Party			
Democrat (33%)	89%	7%	4%
Republican (33%)	63%	31%	6%
Independent (33%)	81%	14%	6%

Voters Strongly Favor a Variety of Individual Relief Proposals

This poll also finds strong majorities of voters across these three Southern states supportive of a number of specific relief proposals. Chief among these include **ensuring basic health and safety protections for workers** (85% total support in Florida, 83% Georgia, 86% Louisiana), **providing federal funding for public education so teachers and schools can safely meet their students’ needs during the pandemic** (80% Florida, 84% Georgia, 83% Louisiana) and **providing federal funding to state and municipal governments to help maintain essential services like health care and public safety** (82% Florida, 82% Georgia, 80% Louisiana).

Voters also show broad support for Congress taking steps to **ensure that state and federal prisons have the resources they need to prevent the spread of the coronavirus within their facilities, including access to testing, basic hygiene products, and the ability for inmates and employees to be able to follow social distancing guidelines** (76% Florida, 78% Georgia, 77% Louisiana) as well as **requiring the U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency (I.C.E.) to provide access to free testing and basic hygiene products to all individuals that are currently being held in immigration detention centers in order prevent the spread of the virus in those facilities** (82% Florida, 80% Georgia, 79% Louisiana).

Finally, with the November general elections less than four months away, solid majorities of voters across these three states support Congress providing **additional funds to states in order to help them expand opportunities for Americans to exercise their right to vote without risking their health, including expanding opportunities to vote by mail** (63% Florida, 65% Georgia, 53% Louisiana).

Support for Specific Coronavirus Relief Proposals						
<u>Policy Proposals</u>	<u>Florida</u>		<u>Georgia</u>		<u>Louisiana</u>	
	Strong Support	Total Support	Strong Support	Total Support	Strong Support	Total Support
<i>Ensure basic health and safety protections for workers, including maintaining social distance, providing protective equipment like masks and gloves, and maintaining a clean and healthy work environment.</i>	59%	85%	56%	83%	54%	86%
<i>Provide funding so teachers and other educators can continue teaching and schools can meet students' needs while protecting their health.</i>	49%	80%	52%	84%	52%	83%
<i>Provide federal funding to states, cities, and towns so they can maintain essential services such as health care, public safety, and education.</i>	47%	82%	50%	82%	52%	80%
<i>Require the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) to provide free testing, soap, hand sanitizer, and other necessary hygiene products to people in immigrant detention centers to prevent the spread of COVID-19.</i>	49%	82%	46%	80%	50%	79%
<i>Ensure state and federal prisons have the resources to provide increased testing, access to basic hygiene products, and safety through social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19.</i>	34%	76%	44%	78%	36%	77%
<i>Provide funds to states for election preparation, including expanding opportunities to vote during the pandemic, like voting by mail.</i>	32%	63%	34%	65%	38%	53%

Conclusion

As the nation continues to grapple with the coronavirus pandemic, our poll finds voters in the Southern states of Florida, Georgia and Louisiana are overwhelmingly supportive of Congress passing additional relief for individuals and working families. Support is as broad and deep as it is consistent among major demographic groups across each state, with potential for similar support in adjacent Southern states. Furthermore, majorities of Southern voters in these states support a wide array of individual coronavirus relief proposals that are geared toward protecting workers, supporting essential public services like public safety, healthcare and education, stopping the spread of the virus, and ensuring Americans can safely exercise their right to vote without putting their health or public health at risk.

Survey Methodology: From July 3-8, 2020, Tulchin Research conducted an online survey among 1,500 registered voters in Florida (n600), Georgia (n500), and Louisiana (n400). The margin of error for the survey is +/- 2.53%, including, +/- 4% among respondents in Florida, +/- 4.38% among respondents in Georgia, and +/- 4.9% among respondents in Louisiana.