

To: Interested Parties

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## ■ Polling Finds Strong Opposition to Providing Corporations & Businesses with Guaranteed Immunity from Coronavirus Related Lawsuits

A recent Tulchin Research poll of registered voters in Florida (FL), Georgia (GA) and Louisiana (LA) shows **large majorities of voters in these three Southern states strongly oppose giving large corporations guaranteed immunity for endangering the health and safety of workers during the coronavirus pandemic and prioritize holding businesses and corporations accountable to ensure they protect people, including workers and customers, from attracting the coronavirus.** This preference in comparison to providing guaranteed immunity to businesses and corporations to help our economy is shared by strong majorities of voters, regardless of state. Voters voice a clear preference for protecting personal and public health before large corporate business interests, even when considering economic impacts. A desire to hold big business accountable for failing to protect their employees and customers is shared across each of these three states and nearly every key demographic group within them. We provide details from this recent poll below.

### Voters Prioritize Holding Corporations Liable, Preserving Public Health

From the outset, nearly six-in-ten voters (57%) across Florida, Georgia and Louisiana say they agree with the idea that individuals should be able to ***“hold corporations and business liable if they endanger the health and safety of their workers and customers by not taking proper precautions to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus”.*** This preference is shared by strong majorities of voters in Georgia (61%), Florida and Louisiana (55% in each). Only one-third of voters (33%) in each state prefers a pro-immunity argument that would allow businesses to reopen and help the economy without facing a lawsuit. The table below highlights the arguments from each side presented to voters and preferences for each argument by state.

#### Strong Opposition to Guaranteed Immunity for Corporations with Coronavirus Exposure

*In thinking about providing corporations and businesses with immunity from lawsuits involving coronavirus infections, which of the following statements comes closer to your own view?*

	ALL	FL	GA	LA
<b><i>We should be able to hold corporations and business liable if they endanger the health and safety of their workers and customers by not taking proper precautions to reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus.</i></b>	57%	55%	61%	55%
<b><i>Corporations and businesses should get immunity to allow struggling businesses to re-open safely and get people back to work and help our economy without risking a costly lawsuit.</i></b>	33%	33%	33%	33%
<i>Don't Know</i>	10%	12%	6%	12%
<b>Corporate Accountability – Corporate Immunity</b>	<b>+24</b>	<b>+22</b>	<b>+28</b>	<b>+22</b>

Protecting the right to hold businesses and corporations liable for failing to take necessary precautions against the coronavirus is widely popular across nearly every key demographic group in all three states, including ethnicity, age and party. And while Republicans are more split on the question of granting corporations and businesses guaranteed immunity from coronavirus lawsuits, solid majorities of Democrats and independent voters in each of these three states fall on the side of allowing people to hold businesses and corporations liable for their actions.

**Florida: Corporate Accountability vs. Immunity by Demographic Group**

<b>FLORIDA</b>	<b>Hold Corporations Liable</b>	<b>Give Corporations Immunity</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>+/-</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>+22</b>
<b>Race</b>				
White	52%	36%	12%	+16
Black	60%	29%	11%	+31
Latino	60%	29%	15%	+31
<b>Age</b>				
18-54	57%	31%	12%	+26
55+	53%	35%	12%	+18
<b>Party</b>				
Democrat	63%	27%	11%	+36
Republican	45%	42%	13%	+3
Independent	58%	30%	12%	+28

**Georgia: Corporate Accountability vs. Immunity by Demographic Group**

<b>GEORGIA</b>	<b>Hold Corporations Liable</b>	<b>Give Corporations Immunity</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>+/-</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>+28</b>
<b>Race</b>				
White	58%	38%	4%	+20
Black	66%	26%	12%	+40
<b>Age</b>				
18-54	60%	33%	7%	+27
55+	62%	33%	6%	+29
<b>Party</b>				
Democrat	74%	21%	5%	+53
Republican	47%	50%	3%	-3
Independent	64%	27%	9%	+37

**Louisiana: Corporate Accountability vs. Immunity by Demographic Group**

<b>LOUISIANA</b>	<b>Hold Corporations Liable</b>	<b>Give Corporations Immunity</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>+/-</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>+22</b>
<b>Race</b>				
White	51%	37%	11%	+14
Black	63%	27%	10%	+36
<b>Age</b>				
18-54	57%	33%	10%	+24
55+	51%	33%	15%	+18
<b>Party</b>				
Democrat	70%	19%	11%	+51
Republican	36%	50%	14%	-14
Independent	58%	33%	10%	+25

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, as Congress prepares to debate a new round of coronavirus relief, our poll finds that voters in the Southern states of Florida, Georgia and Louisiana strongly prefer to hold corporations and businesses accountable if they open without proper safety precautions and endanger the health and safety of workers and customers that leads to people getting sick. Furthermore, voters strongly prefer making these businesses liable for improper opening practices that leads to an increase in infections. Voters in these states clearly opt for preserving the rights of individuals to hold businesses accountable if they do not take the necessary steps to keep the public safe.

**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.