breakthrough campaigns

To: ACLU of Connecticut Rise PAC
From: Patrick Toomey, Breakthrough Campaigns
Re: Voters of Color and Question 1
Date: October 26, 2022

Methodology:

Breakthrough Campaigns conducted interviews with 319 likely November 2022 general election Voters of Color (voters who self-identified as Black/African American, Latino/a/x or Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, or Native American) in Connecticut from October 13 to October 17, 2022. Participants were contacted via live calls, SMS-to-web, and email. While it is not possible to calculate a true margin of error for an online non-probability-based sample, the margin of error for a sample size of n=319 is ±5.44 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

Key Findings:

➢ Voters of Color in Connecticut overwhelmingly intend to vote "Yes" on Question 1, the amendment to allow the General Assembly to provide for early voting.
  ✓ The ballot starts off with a strong majority (71%) voting "Yes," including nearly half (49%) that say they would "Definitely vote Yes."
  ✓ Fewer than 1 in 5 (18%) Voters of Color indicate they would oppose this ballot, giving the "Yes" vote a 53-point margin in the final weeks before the election.

➢ While Voters of Color overall are supportive of Question 1, there are some key differences within different subgroups.
  ✓ Women of Color (74% "Yes" / 12% "No"), Black/African American voters (78% "Yes" / 7% "No"), and Voters of Color over the age of 50 (76% "Yes" / 16% "No") are the most likely to say they will vote "Yes."
  ✓ While Men of Color (67% Yes / 25% "No") and Latino/a/x voters (64% "Yes" / 26% "No") are a little more likely to say they will vote "No" – a strong majority of Voters of Color across demographics indicate they will vote "Yes."

➢ One reason Voters of Color are so supportive of this ballot may be that a majority (52%) say they would vote early at least sometimes, if they had the option.
  ✓ Black/African American voters (65%) are especially likely to say they would vote early at least sometimes.
  ✓ In their own words, Voters of Color described the various reasons they would vote early if given the option:

  "I work full-time and don't always have the flexibility to be in my town on election day and may not qualify for mail in voting, so if I knew that Election Day was going to be very busy and tight on timing, I would choose to vote early to ensure that I voted."

  "Convenience and making sure my voice is heard. I work long days and many voting days I potentially can miss."

  "Getting older doesn't always allow the ability to move and get around as easily as when you are younger. Illness would be a determining factor. The ability to obtain transportation would be another."

  "My work schedule would determine the day I vote. If I have an option to get out to vote earlier and skip the lines, then that would benefit me."

QS1. Are you: *(n=319)*

A man	45
A woman	55
Neither / Non-binary	0

QS2. What is your current age? *(n=319)*

18-34	20
35-49	26
50-64	30
65+	23

QS3. Regardless of how you are registered to vote, do you consider yourself a: *(n=319)*

Strong Democrat	27
Democrat	28
Strong Republican	3
Republican	8
Independent	25
Other	4
Don't know	5

DEMOCRAT	55
INDEPENDENT	34
REPUBLICAN	11

QS4. There will be an election in November 2022 for Congress and other offices. How likely are you to vote in the November 2022 election? Are you: *(n=319)*

Absolutely certain	70
Very likely	17
Possibly will vote	7
Absolutely will not vote	1
Already voted	2
Don't know	4

QS5. When you vote, there often are different measures on the ballot, in addition to the candidates for office. Many people vote for individual candidates, but do not vote on the ballot measures. Do you usually vote on… *(n=319)*

All of the ballot measures	63
Most of the ballot measures	20
Just some of the ballot measures	12
None of the ballot measures	4
Don't Know	1

QS6. For statistical purposes only, which of the following ethnic or racial groups best describes you? *Please select all that apply. (n=319)*

White	12
Black or African American	40
Latino/a or Hispanic	50
Asian or Pacific Islander	13
Middle Eastern	2
Native American	5
Other	1
Prefer not to answer	0

QA1. Next I'll read to you an amendment you could see on the ballot in November. Please tell me whether you would vote yes or no.

Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?

Asked if has not voted: Would you vote yes or no on this amendment? *(n=313)*
Asked if voted: Did you vote yes or no on this amendment? *(n=6)*

Definitely vote yes / Voted Yes	49
Probably vote yes	16
Lean yes	6
Lean no	0
Probably vote no	5
Definitely vote no / Voted No	13
Don't know / Voted and prefer not to answer	11
VOTE/LEAN YES	71
VOTE/LEAN NO	18

QA2. If you had to say, what do you think is the best reason to allow for early voting in Connecticut? Please be as detailed and specific as possible. *(n=319)*

Not everyone can make it to the polls on Election Day / Election Day is not yet a holiday	17
Access/opportunity to vote	15
Helps the disabled/elderly / People with health/medical issues	11
Convenience/ease/flexibility / Easier to vote	10
Lines/crowds	9
Work/family obligations / Allows people with jobs/children to vote	9
Allows more people to vote / Increased turnout	8
Good/beneficial	4
Allows more time for voters	3
None/do not agree with early voting	12
Other	15
Don't know/refused	13

Showing responses greater that 2%

QA3. Are there any reasons you can think of that allowing for early voting in Connecticut would be a bad idea? What are they? Please be as detailed and specific as possible. *(n=319)*

Cheating/fraud	10
Voting should be one day/on the same day	5
Unnecessary / I've never had a problem	3
Voting early does not give people enough time	3
Other	7
None/no reasons it would be a bad idea	52
Don't know/refused	11

Showing responses greater that 2%

QA4. If you had the option to vote in the days or weeks before Election Day in Connecticut, do you think you would…? *(n=319)*

Always vote before Election Day	18
Sometimes vote before Election Day and sometimes vote on Election Day	34
Always vote on Election Day	41
Not sure	7

If selected "sometimes" or "always" before Election Day
QA5. What are some reasons that you would vote before Election Day if you had the option to vote early? *(n=166)*

My schedule / Work/family obligations	26
Unable to make it to the polls on Election Day	22
Convenience/ease/flexibility / Easier to vote	20
Lines/crowds	10
Health/medical reasons / Disabled/elderly	6
Access/opportunity to vote	6
Get it done/out of the way	4
Ensure my voice is heard/vote is counted / Voting is important	4
Other	9
None/would not vote early	6
Don't know/refused	4

Showing responses greater that 2%

QD1. What is the last grade or level of school you have completed? *(n=319)*

Less than high school diploma	1
High school graduate	26
Some college - but less than two years of college	13
Some college - two years or more/A.A. degree	19
Technical or trade school	7
College graduate/bachelor's degree/B.A./B.S.	18
Master's or professional degree (MBA, law, Ph.D, etc.)	17
Unsure / Prefer not to answer	0

QD2. For statistical purposes only, we need to know your total family income for 2021. Will you please indicate which of the following categories best represents your total family income? *(n=319)*

Less than $15,000	6
$15,000 to less than $30,000	8
$30,000 to less than $40,000	9
$40,000 to less than $50,000	9
$50,000 to less than $60,000	14
$60,000 to less than $75,000	11
$75,000 to less than $100,000	14
$100,000 to less than $150,000	13
$150,000 to less than $250,000	6
$250,000 or more	5
Unsure / Prefer not to answer	3

QD3. When it comes to political issues, do you generally consider yourself to be: *(n=319)*

Conservative	11
Somewhat conservative	10
Moderate	50
Somewhat liberal	19
Liberal	10
Unsure / Prefer not to answer	0
CONSERVATIVE	21
LIBERAL	30

QD4. In the November 2020 General Election for President, did you vote for… (*n=284*)

Democrat Joe Biden	71
Republican Donald Trump	21
Someone else	6
Did not vote for President	1
Don't remember / Prefer not to say	1