



# PUBLIC OPINION STRATEGIES

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** INTERESTED PARTIES

**FROM:** JIM HOBART

**RE:** KEY FINDINGS FROM A RECENT STATEWIDE SURVEY IN VIRGINIA

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 3, 2020

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### **Methodology**

*Public Opinion Strategies completed a statewide survey in Virginia. The survey was conducted January 29-February 1, 2020, among 600 likely voters. The survey included 300 interviews with cell phone respondents and has a margin of error of  $\pm 4.0\%$  in 95 out of 100 cases.*

### **Key Findings**

1. ***More than two-thirds of voters favor Virginia's right to work law.***

Respondents were read the following question:

*As you may know, Virginia's right to work law prevents workers from being fired if they choose not to join a union or pay fees to a union. Do you favor or oppose the right to work law in Virginia?*

Fully 68% of Virginia voters favor the state's right to work law, and support crosses party lines. Eighty-one percent (81%) among Republicans, 74% of Independents, and 56% of Democrats back the right to work law in Virginia.

2. ***More than 60% of respondents oppose repealing the part of Virginia's right to work law that prevents workers from being fired if they choose not to join a union or pay fees to a union.***

There is very little appetite for repealing any portion of the state's right to work law. Just 32% of voters support the proposed repeal, while 63% are opposed.

There are actually more voters who are strongly opposed to repeal (43%) than there are voters who back repeal (32% total favor).

Opposition to the proposed repeal is also strong throughout the state, as more than 55% of voters in each of the state's major media markets are opposed to repeal.

3. ***Seven in ten voters say they agree with the statement that no American worker should be required to join or pay fees to a private organization or labor union, if they choose not to.***

Respondents were read the question below:

*Now I would like to read you two statements and please tell me which comes closest to your own opinion... (ROTATE)*

***(Some/Other)*** *people say that no American worker should be required to join or pay fees to any private organization, even a labor union, if they choose not to.*

*...while...*

***(Other/Some)*** *people say that when a union chooses to represent all employees in the workplace, it is only fair that those employees pay fees to the union.*

Seventy-one percent (71%) of voters sided with the statement that no American worker should be required to join or pay fees to a private organization, while only 26% said it is fair that employees pay fees to the union that represents them.

Even 60% of Democratic women said that no worker in the country should be required to join or pay fees to a private group.