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SUBJECT: 2014 IL Republican Primary Memo

This Chicago Tribune/WGN-TV poll is based on a sample of 600 confirmed registered voters in Illinois likely to vote in the March 18th Republican primary. The potential margin of error for a sample of 600 is +/- 4% at the 95% level of confidence. Interviewing was conducted by phone with live interviewers from Wednesday - Friday evenings and Saturday daytime, February 5-8.

Registered voters are screened to determine voting likelihood - registered to vote where they now live, absolutely or fairly sure will vote, and voted in one of last two GOP state primary elections. Illinois is one of the states that do not have party registration. Self-described party identification is a variable.

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ISSUES

Republicans believe the \$8.25 an hour minimum wage should remain the same--\$1 more than the federal minimum wage.

Should The Minimum Wage Be Increased Or Not; February 5-8

	<u>Total</u> <u>State</u>	<u>Chicago</u> <u>Metro</u>	<u>Down-</u> <u>state</u>	<u>Conser-</u> <u>vative</u>	<u>Mode-</u> <u>rate</u>	<u>Repub-</u> <u>lican</u>	<u>Indep-</u> <u>endent</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Increased	27	34	19	20	39	24	32
Stay the same	60	57	63	65	51	62	57
Lowered	11	6	16	13	5	11	8
Don't know	2	3	2	1	5	2	3
Base:	(600)	(330)	(270)	(407)	(175)	(381)	(206)

Q 12. The Illinois minimum wage is \$8.25 an hour. The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 an hour. Should the Illinois minimum wage be increased...stay the same ...or lowered to match the federal rate?

Republican primary voters say Illinois should let the 2011 temporary tax increase expire.

Should The State Income Tax Expire Or Not; February 5-8

	<u>Total</u> <u>State</u>	<u>Chicago</u> <u>Metro</u>	<u>Down-</u> <u>state</u>	<u>Conser-</u> <u>vative</u>	<u>Mode-</u> <u>rate</u>	<u>Repub-</u> <u>lican</u>	<u>Indep-</u> <u>endent</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Should expire	63	63	63	67	55	64	64
Should not expire	27	29	25	24	37	27	29
Don't know	9	8	11	10	8	10	7
Base:	(600)	(330)	(270)	(407)	(175)	(381)	(206)

Q 13. In January of next year, a large portion of the state income tax increase enacted in 2011 is set to expire. Given the state's budget problems, should the tax increase expire as scheduled?

But Republican primary voters don't believe it will happen in January 2015, regardless of who is elected governor.

	<u>Will The State Income Tax Expire Or Not; February 5-8</u>						
	<u>Total State</u>	<u>Chicago Metro</u>	<u>Down-state</u>	<u>Conser-vative</u>	<u>Mode-rate</u>	<u>Repub-lican</u>	<u>Indep-endent</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Will expire	31	30	32	31	31	32	29
Will not expire	<u>55</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>62</u>
Don't know	14	14	15	14	10	16	9
Base:	(600)	(330)	(270)	(407)	(175)	(381)	(206)

Q 14. Regardless of who is elected Governor, do you believe that the income-tax increase adopted in year 2011 will expire as scheduled in January of next year.....or not expire?

A plurality of Republican primary voters believe the new state law dealing with public employee pensions doesn't go far enough.

	<u>Unfunded Public Employee Pension Liability; February 5-8</u>						
	<u>Total State</u>	<u>Chicago Metro</u>	<u>Down-state</u>	<u>Conser-vative</u>	<u>Mode-rate</u>	<u>Repub-lican</u>	<u>Indep-endent</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Satisfactory	21	23	19	22	18	24	16
Goes too far	28	26	30	25	33	28	28
Doesn't go far enough	<u>42</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>49</u>
Don't know	9	7	11	9	7	10	8
Base:	(600)	(330)	(270)	(407)	(175)	(381)	(206)

Q 15. Illinois has a \$100 billion unfunded public employee pension liability. To close the gap within 30 years, a new state law would sharply reduce cost-of-living increases for retirees. It also would extend the retirement age for many current workers. Do you think the new law is, satisfactory, goes too far, or doesn't go far enough to deal with the problem?

Republican primary voters say same-sex marriages should be repealed.

	<u>Same Sex Marriage; February 5-8</u>						
	<u>Total State</u>	<u>Chicago Metro</u>	<u>Down-state</u>	<u>Conser-vative</u>	<u>Mode-rate</u>	<u>Repub-lican</u>	<u>Indep-endent</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Should repeal	<u>60</u>	49	<u>74</u>	<u>69</u>	42	<u>68</u>	47
Should Allow it	34	45	22	26	53	28	47
Don't know	5	6	4	5	5	4	6
Base:	(600)	(330)	(270)	(407)	(175)	(381)	(206)

Q 16. Same-sex marriages will be legal in Illinois in June. Should the General Assembly repeal the law or allow it to stand?

A great majority of Republican primary voters say the Affordable Care Act should be repealed.

	<u>Affordable Care Act: Remain, Repeal, Or Improve; February 5-8</u>						
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Chicago</u>	<u>Down-</u>	<u>Conser-</u>	<u>Mode-</u>	<u>Repub-</u>	<u>Indep-</u>
	<u>State</u>	<u>Metro</u>	<u>state</u>	<u>vative</u>	<u>rate</u>	<u>lican</u>	<u>endent</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Remain as is	2	2	1	1	3	2	1
Be repealed	<u>68</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>59</u>
Be improved	29	35	21	23	39	24	37
Don't know	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Base:	(600)	(330)	(270)	(407)	(175)	(381)	(206)

Q 18. Do you believe the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, should remain as is...be repealed...or be improved?

METHODOLOGY [NEW]

Chicago Tribune/WGN-TV polls are based on Registration Based Samples (RBS) telephone survey of known, confirmed registered voters who have voted in elections and likely to vote again. We sample voters who have voted at least once in the last two elections and who say they are eligible to vote where they live now. In the past two general elections one was a presidential election. Interviewing is conducted on evening weekdays and daytime weekends. Poll respondents are contacted with live interviewers by phone. Respondents have either landline or cell phones compliant with Federal Communications Commission regulations.

For samples of 600 can say with 95 percent certainty that results will potentially differ by no more than plus or minus 4.0 percentage points near 50%. Results under or over 50% have smaller margins of error. Within state segments the sample margin error will have larger margins of error.

Elections district voter turnout within a state is the basis for stratified sample areas. Our area stratification in Illinois has been in use for over 20 years. Sample areas within the state is possible using stratified Registration Based Samples (RBS) of known areas voting throughout the state.

State voting districts includes major urban city wards within Chicago, suburban townships within Cook county, five individual counties within the metro, and 96 upper and lower counties in the out-state area. This is called stratification based on consistent past voter turnout patterns over the years. Sample error diminishes with properly stratified Registration Based Sample (RBS). Poll sample frames are stratified by known sub-state election districts voting over time to diminish sample error with consistently known patterns of voter areas turnout.

We take into account that registered voters do not necessarily always vote. So we screen for voters who have voted at least once in two recent elections. For example in the **2010** general election **3.7 million** Illinois voters voted well below the number of eligible registered voters **8.8 million**. And in the **2012** presidential year, **5.3 million** voted also well below the **8.9 million** voters eligible to vote. [General election data source: U.S. Election Project.]

Contrary to the more common Random Digit Dial (RDD) sampling from the last century, Registration Based Samples (RBS) do not include the general voting age population only, do not include eligible voters only, but we do include known, eligible voters who voted at least once in the last two elections.