



From: Tom Jensen, Director of Public Policy Polling

Subject: Only 20% of Americans think they could live off Minimum Wage

Date: July 22nd, 2014

A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that very few Americans think they could support their household making the minimum wage, and that perhaps as a result there is strong support for increasing it to \$10.10 on both the lowest and highest ends of the income spectrum.

Key findings from the survey include:

-Just 20% of voters believe they could support their household on the minimum wage to 75% who say they don't think they would be able to. There is a bipartisan consensus on that front with 80% of Democrats, 74% of independents, and 69% of Republicans saying they don't think they'd be able to live off the minimum wage.

Among voters who currently have a household income over \$30,000 a year only 14% think they could support themselves on minimum wage to 82% who don't think they would be able to.

-54% of Americans support increasing the minimum wage to \$10.10, compared to just 39% opposed. 74% of Democrats are in support of it but what's more striking is that 37% of Republicans support it to only 53% who are opposed. That's an unusually high level of support from GOP voters for an Obama backed policy initiative.

Also striking is that voters making minimum wage strongly support the increase- 63/28- but the single group most supportive of it is actually those making over \$100,000 a year who favor it 73/19.

-Obstructing the minimum wage increase has the potential to hurt Republicans at the polls this fall. 40% of voters say they'll be less likely to vote GOP this fall if Congressional Republicans block an increase in the minimum wage, compared to only 31% who say they'd consider that a reason to support the party.

-The strong support we find for increasing the minimum wage springs out of a conviction 74% of Americans hold that someone who works full time should be paid enough to keep them out of poverty. Only 19% of voters disagree with that sentiment, which 88% of Democrats, 69% of Republicans, and 63% of independents say they agree with.

PPP surveyed 801 registered voters on July 18th and 19th on behalf of the Center for American Progress Action Fund and Americans United for Change. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.5%.

[*FULL RESULTS](#)

