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Americans Offer Strong Support for Anti-Discrimination Laws National Survey Results

To: Interested Parties

From: The Human Rights Campaign Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research

As society moves towards stronger and stronger support for LGBT rights on nearly every issue and at every level, voters also overwhelmingly support protecting gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people from discrimination in employment. Indeed, support for anti-discrimination laws and policies are so non-controversial that overwhelming majorities of Republicans, conservatives, and observant Christians support them as well.

The following memo is based on a national survey of 800 likely voters conducted between November 9th and 13th. It has a margin of error of +/- 3.46 percentage points.

Key findings:

- Overall, 77 percent of voters support protecting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people from discrimination in employment. Over half (51 percent) support antidiscrimination laws strongly.
- There is strong support for anti-discrimination laws across party lines (70 percent among Republicans) and ideological lines (67 percent among conservatives). Support is strong even among groups who tend to be tougher on LGBT issues, such as seniors (69 percent among voters over 65), those with a high school degree or less (68 percent), observant Christians (77 percent), born-again Christians (74 percent), and residents of the Deep South (72 percent).

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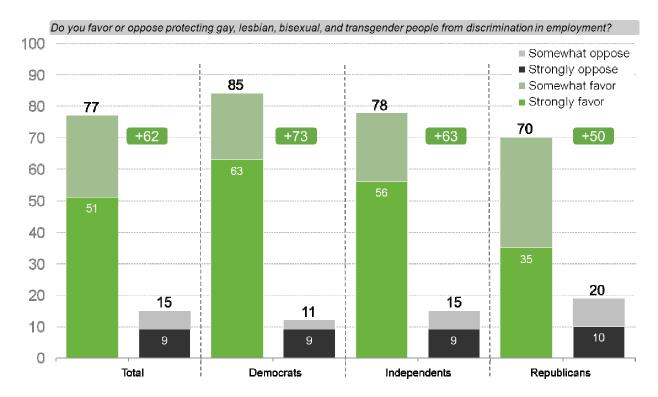


Figure 1: Support for ENDA

 Most voters believe anti-discrimination laws already exist – 87 percent of voters believe it is ILLEGAL under federal law to fire someone for being gay and 78 percent believe it is ILLEGAL under state law. Even in states without anti-discrimination laws, 75 percent of voters think it is ILLEGAL under state law to fire someone for being gay or lesbian.

Support for anti-discrimination laws crosses party lines, ideological boundaries, religious differences, and age groups. And, most voters think that such laws already exist, even in states where they do not.