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To:Interested PartiesFrom:Matt Barreto, Principal
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Summary

Climate Power sponsored a survey conducted by BSPRearch researching the importance of climate issues in the Latino community. In total, 1,700 Latino voters were surveyed in four key battleground states where Latinos will have a strong impact on statewide elections, Arizona, Colorado, Florida and Nevada. The survey also covers key congressional districts in California and Texas. The survey fielded on October 9th and concluded on October 18th. The survey used a mixed methods approach with approximately 25% of its respondents interviewed via phone and 75% of the respondents participating online.

Key Survey Findings

Latinos are concerned about climate change and it's a decisive issue for their vote.

With record participation among Latinos in the 2020 election and victory of President Biden and Democrats in Congress, 85 percent of Latinos in our survey say that voting in the 2022 midterm election is extremely important or important to them. Leading into the election year, the issues Latinos are thinking about most are solutions for jobs and the economy (32 percent), rising cost of living (22 percent), and addressing the coronavirus pandemic (32 percent). Another critical issue that is top of mind for Latinos is extreme weather fueled by climate change. Seventy-six percent of Latinos say they are paying a lot or some attention to news about extreme temperatures, wildfires, droughts, and hurricanes, with 70 percent thinking they occur because of climate change, and 79 percent of Latinos saying these climate problems are getting worse each year.

Our survey shows that 57 percent of Latino voters say that opposition to the Dream Act, which makes undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as children, is a

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deal-breaker for them when they go to the voting booth. Nearly at the same level, 55 percent say that opposition to legislation that addresses climate change is also a dealbreaker. In short, a clean and more just economy, and climate change, are important Latino issues. They see it increasingly impacting their neighborhoods, children's health, and communities, and that politicians must address and pay attention to these issues ahead of the 2022 election.

Latinos Overwhelmingly Support the Build Back Better Act's Clean Energy Investments

With 75 percent of Latinos saying that climate change is either a crisis or a very serious problem, 87 percent of Latinos strongly support or support legislation creating additional jobs in clean energy like in the wind and solar industries, and 86 percent support a legislative package that provides tax incentives to make clean energy sources available at lower costs.



Do you consider climate change to be:

October 9-18, 2021; Total N=1,700 (±2%) ,Nevada N=260 (±6%), Florida N=357 (±5%), Colorado N=260 (±6%), Arizona N=319 (±5%), Competitive House N=704 (±4%), Texas CDs N=226 (±7%) California CDs N=252 (±6%)

Latinos also think oil and gas companies should pay for the pollution they create, with 86 percent strongly supporting or supporting legislation that makes these industries pay their fair share. And a majority of Latinos support tax incentives for and rewarding the growth of clean energy sources.

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Make oil and gas companies pay their fair share for the pollution they create

Almost 90 percent of Latinos say that climate change should be a very important or somewhat important priority for the president and Congress, and 65 percent of Latino voters say that legislation should be passed to help as many people as possible on the economy, climate change, and health care even if Republicans do not support the legislation.

Climate is Personal for Latinos in Key Battleground States

With Latino voters influencing electoral outcomes in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, and Nevada, our survey explores the importance of climate issues in those states. Over 20 percent of Latinos reported that 2020 was their first election, with 28 percent saying so in Arizona, helping Biden become the first Democratic President to win a majority of votes in Arizona since Bill Clinton won Arizona in a three-candidate race in 1996.

Ninety percent of Latinos in Nevada strongly support or support tax incentives for wind and solar power. Latinos in Arizona, Colorado, and Florida see climate change from a global perspective. Addressing climate change is not just a local issue for Latinos. With family in Mexico, Central, and South America, over 90 percent of Latinos in these states say that climate change is creating extreme weather and natural disasters for their families and friends in their home countries.

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Climate change is also a health issue for Latinos in these battleground states. With Latino children suffering from higher rates of asthma and other health issues linked to environmental factors, protecting the health of Latino families by reducing pollution in our air and water is very important or somewhat important to 88 percent of Latinos in Arizona, 91 percent in Colorado, 86 percent in Florida, and 92 percent in Nevada. In sum, it's an issue that directly impacts the health and well being of their families at home and abroad, climate is becoming personal to Latinos and their thoughts about the future.

Our survey shows that Democrats are in the driver seat with Latinos in providing solutions for Latino voters. Just 19 percent of Latinos in Arizona think Republicans are looking out for middle class and working families, and just 16 percent of Latinos in Nevada say so. While Republicans typically get an advantage on helping small businesses, Democrats have a strong advantage over Republicans in helping small business owners and self-employed people getting back up and running, with a +28 point advantage in Arizona, +31 point advantage in Colorado, +17 point advantage in Florida, and +44 point advantage in Nevada.

Similarly, Democrats have a strong advantage over Republicans when Latinos were asked which party is better at creating better jobs in the clean energy field, with a +34 point advantage in Arizona, a +35 point advantage in Colorado, +24 point advantage in Florida, and a +52 point advantage in Nevada. Our results show that running on economic issues while addressing the pandemic and climate change would strongly favor Democrats when reaching out to Latinos.