



Latino Policy Coalition

1121 "L" St., Suite 908 • Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 449-6190 Fax (916) 449-6199

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Contact: Michael Bustamante

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916.425.0839

BUSH'S APPROVAL RATING CONTINUES DOWNWARD SPIRAL WITH LATINO COMMUNITY; THREE IN FOUR GIVE PRESIDENT THUMBS DOWN ACCORDING TO NEW NON-PARTISAN SURVEY

Congress Fairs Slightly Better with About Half Rating Members Either Fair or Poor; Speaker Pelosi Receives High Marks

SACRAMENTO, CA – Latino voters continue to have an unfavorable impression of President George W. Bush and an even larger percentage are overwhelmingly disappointed with his job performance, according to a new non-partisan survey of Latino voters conducted by Lake Research Partners for the Latino Policy Coalition, a national non-partisan consortium of leading Latino research organizations and scholars. At the same time, survey respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the Congress, including their own member of Congress while giving House Speaker Nancy Pelosi a favorable impression.

“Latino voters are very disappointed with President Bush personally and overall with the job he is doing for them as President,”

said Celinda Lake, president of Lake Research Partners, who conducted the non-partisan poll for the Latino Policy Coalition.

“For a person who self-proclaimed he was a uniter, these number do not reflect unity, but rather utter disappointment.”

According to the national survey, an overwhelming number of Latino voters (65%) have an unfavorable impression of President Bush, including almost half (47%) who rate him as very unfavorable. Even among self-described independents,

nearly two-thirds (63%) have an unfavorable impression of him. Among self-described Republicans, Bush's favorability climbs considerably (77%).

“These poor marks could not have come at a worse time for President Bush,” said Jim Gonzalez, Chair of the Latino Policy Coalition. “He supports a war that Latino voters overwhelmingly oppose and seeks additional funding that nobody supports either. And while Latino voter disappointment with

Bush extends to the Republican members of Congress, it stops well short with Democrats and House Speaker Pelosi. A popular Democratic Congress combined with a Speaker who is viewed favorably does not bode well for the President's last two years in office."

The survey found that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is viewed as very or somewhat favorable by thirty-eight percent (38%) of respondents compared to nineteen percent (19%) who view her as unfavorably. At the same time, Democrats in Congress were viewed favorably by more than two-thirds (68%) of respondents while their Republican counterparts were viewed favorably by less than a third (32%).

"These survey results clearly demonstrate that the increased support Latino voters gave President Bush in 2000 and 2004 was not long lasting," concluded said Luis Ricardo Fraga, Associate Professor of Political Science at Stanford University. "The Bush effect is gone; Latino voters are now identifying with the Democratic Party at rates very similar to those in the pre-George W. Bush era. This is not good news for the Republican Party."

METHODOLOGY

Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey which was conducted by phone using professional interviewers.

The survey reached 600 Latino registered and likely voters in the 23 states with the highest Latino population density. These states include: California, TX, FL, NY, IL, Arizona, NJ, New Mexico, Colorado, GA, NV, NC, WA, MA, VA, PA, CT, MI, OR, MD, IN, OH, and WI. The survey was conducted March 13 and 21, 2007. Telephone numbers for the survey were drawn from files of registered voters. The data were weighted slightly by age and national ancestry. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.1 percentage points.

About the Latino Policy Coalition

The Latino Policy Coalition is a national non-partisan non-profit consortium of the country's leading Latino research organizations and scholars.

These organizations are dedicated to measuring through nationwide polls public policy issues affecting the Latino community. Chaired by former SF Supervisor Jim Gonzalez, the LPC's mission is to help define Latino community concerns on key contemporary issues in order to stimulate public policy debate among local, state and national elected officials. For more information please visit our website at www.latinopolicycoalition.org

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