

# STARTOVER!

***AND GET HEALTH CARE REFORM RIGHT!***

**For Immediate Release**  
March 10, 2010

**Contact:** Nicholas Thompson, Tarrance Group (703-684-6688)  
Jade West, StartOver! (202-872-0885)

## **Business Coalition Releases Poll Showing Public Opposition to Health Care Legislation**

**WASHINGTON D.C.**—The Start Over! coalition today released a recent poll of N=300 likely voters in each of 11 key congressional districts across the United States showing that voters in those districts oppose current health reform legislation advocated by President Obama and Democratic Leaders in Congress and the strategy being employed to pass it. The polls were conducted March 7 – 8 by The Tarrance Group to gauge support for health legislation currently being debated in Congress.

“These numbers tell a clear story,” said Jade West, Senior Vice President-Government Relations for the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors (NAW). “The American people simply do not want the cure for our health care system that both the Administration and the Democratic majority in Congress have prescribed. They do not like the procedural games being played in order to jam unpopular, partisan legislation through that will raise taxes, increase the deficit, and kill jobs. The Start Over! coalition is again calling on the President and his allies in Congress to stop, go back to square one, and start over on a bipartisan, consensus-driven approach to health care reform.”

### **Poll Overview:**

On March 7 – 8, The Tarrance Group conducted surveys in key congressional districts on health care reform in AZ-8, CO-4, IN-9, NJ-3, OH-1, OH-16, NV-3, NY-13, NY-24, PA-4, and PA-10. These surveys began after President Obama released his outline for health care reform.

Across all 11 featured districts; four of which feature freshmen Democratic Members who were elected in “open” seat races in 2008, five of which feature first-term Democratic Members who defeated Republican incumbents in 2008, and two of which feature second-term Democratic Members, 52.7% of respondents oppose the Democratic health care bill and 58.5% oppose the use of extraordinary budget “reconciliation” procedures to get it done over GOP objections.

“Outright majorities in 10 of the 11 Congressional Districts polled oppose the Democratic health care bill – there’s a six-point opposition plurality in one – and strong majorities in all 11 districts object to the use of reconciliation procedures to move health care reform through the Congress and to the President’s desk,” said Tarrance’s Dave Sackett. “A key reason for such widespread opposition is revealed in our question about the impact of this issue on their taxes. Across the 11 Congressional Districts polled, 77% say their taxes are going to go up if the Democrats are successful in enacting their health care agenda into law. In no district does that number dip below 73%,” Sackett said.

“Across the 11 districts polled, over 69% say their Representative’s vote on health care will be ‘very important’ to their voting decision in November. In none of the districts does this number fall below 63%,” Sackett concluded.

To view:

The Tarrance Group summary Memorandum, go to:

<http://www.naw.org/files/MultiDistrictHealthCareSurveyResults.pdf>

The Poll Top Line Results, go to:

<http://www.naw.org/files/TargetCDHealthCareStudyToplines.pdf>

A copy of a PowerPoint presentation on the poll data, go to:

<http://www.naw.org/files/TargetCDHealthCarePresentation.pdf>

#

*The StartOver! Coalition is made up of 248 leading employer associations representing hundreds of thousands of businesses of all sizes from all 50 states and nearly every sector of the economy. These organizations are committed to fundamentally changing the health care system by expanding access to coverage for all Americans, lowering costs and improving care, without shifting those costs to the private sector. A full list of members can be found at: [www.employersforahealthyeconomy.com](http://www.employersforahealthyeconomy.com)*