



## MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties  
From: Locust Street Group & Gotham Research  
Date: July 12, 2022  
Re: Connecticut Likely Voter Attitudes Towards a State Public Option

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On behalf of PAHCF Action, Locust Street Group and Gotham Research conducted a statewide survey of 968 Connecticut likely voters. This survey was conducted online February 11-21, 2022, with a margin of error of +/-3% and was balanced to state demographics. Below, we detail key attitudes that Connecticut likely voters have towards health care and the creation of a proposed state public option.

The most important priority to improve Connecticut's health care system is lowering health care costs (58%), which was the top priority for Democrats (56%), swing voters (58%), and Republicans (61%). A majority of likely voters (52%) are satisfied with Connecticut's health insurance system overall, including a majority of Democratic likely voters (51%), while only 26% of likely voters are dissatisfied with the state's health insurance system.

Most voters do not support the creation of a state public option, with only 41% of likely voters supporting the proposal. And, when given the choice, the vast majority of likely voters (69%) prefer building on and improving Connecticut's current health care system over creating a new state-government-designed health insurance plan (31%). This holds true across parties as well, with large majorities of Democrats (60%), swing voters (71%), and Republicans (80%) preferring to build on Connecticut's current health care system.

Connecticut likely voters do not trust the state government to design and administer a public option program. Less than half of likely voters (37%) trust the state government to design an effective health insurance plan that meets the needs of Connecticut residents – including fewer than half of Democrats, swing voters and Republicans. Similarly, a majority of likely voters (54%) trust health insurers more than the state government (46%) to design a plan that meets the needs of Connecticut residents.

Finally, there is a lack of demand to fund the creation of a state public option or purchase coverage through such a program. The vast majority of likely voters would be unwilling to pay any more in health care costs (77%) or taxes (74%) to fund the creation of the state public option. Even assuming the costs were the exact same, 79% of likely voters would rather keep their current coverage – including 75% of Democrats, 79% of swing voters, and 84% of Republicans – than purchase coverage through a state public option.