

QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

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P O L L

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CONNECTICUT VOTERS BACK SUICIDE BILL ALMOST 2-1, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; VOTERS CALL GOV. MALLOY'S TAX REFUND A GIMMICK

Connecticut voters support 61 – 32 percent, with support from all age, party and gender groups, allowing doctors to legally prescribe lethal drugs to help terminally ill patients end their own lives, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Support is 63 – 31 percent among men, 58 – 33 percent among women, 51 – 42 percent among Republicans, 66 – 28 percent among Democrats and 63 – 31 percent among independent voters, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds. Voters 18 to 29 years old support it 63 – 28 percent, with support at 54 – 37 percent among voters over 65.

Voters are closely divided on whether they would ask a doctor to help them take their own life, as 39 percent say no in all cases, while 33 percent say they would if they were terminally ill, and another 12 percent would if they were terminally ill and in pain.

On another emotional issue, Connecticut voters favor the death penalty 57 – 34 percent when asked a simple “favor or oppose” question.

But voters are divided 47 – 47 percent on whether they approve or disapprove of a 2012 law that replaces the death penalty with life in prison with no chance of parole. Women approve the new law 50 – 43 percent while men disapprove 52 – 43 percent.

“Public support for allowing assisted dying in Connecticut is a very personal issue, crossing partisan, gender and age lines,” said Douglas Schwartz, PhD, director of the Quinnipiac University poll.

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“Support for the death penalty has dropped 10 points in three years, from a high of 67 percent to a low of 57 percent. Perhaps this is a case of opinion following policy, as Connecticut abolished the death penalty in 2012,” Dr. Schwartz added. “As we’ve seen in our past polls on the death penalty, when voters are given the choice of the death penalty or life in prison with no chance of parole, support for the death penalty drops. When asked the question this way, voters are evenly divided.”

Gov. Dannel Malloy’s proposal to use \$155 million of Connecticut’s surplus to mail tax refund checks of up to \$110 per household is a political gimmick, not good public policy, voters say 63 – 23 percent. Calling the idea a gimmick are Republicans, 83 – 9 percent, and independent voters, 71 – 19 percent. Democrats are divided as 41 percent call it a gimmick and 39 percent say it’s good public policy.

Gov. Malloy’s Approval Rating for Priority Issues

In an open-ended question, allowing for any answer, 36 percent of voters say the economy/jobs should be the top priority for Gov. Malloy and the State Legislature, with 14 percent saying taxes, 11 percent for education and 8 percent saying budget/government spending.

Voters approve 86 – 10 percent, including 84 – 10 percent among Republicans, of the way Malloy is handling this winter’s snowstorms. But he gets failing grades on other issues:

- Negative 33 – 60 percent for his handling of the top voter priority, the economy and jobs;
- Negative 29 – 63 percent for handling another top priority, taxes;
- A divided 41 – 43 percent for handling education, the third priority;
- Negative 37 – 53 percent on the budget, the fourth priority;
- Positive 47 – 43 percent for handling gun policy, a priority for only 2 percent;
- Positive 37 – 30 percent for handling the death penalty, which no one listed as a priority.

“Gov. Dannel Malloy gets great marks for his handling of the snowstorms, but low marks for voter priorities, the economy and jobs, taxes, education and the budget,” Dr. Schwartz said.

Keno should not be allowed in restaurants, bars or convenience stores, voters say 65 – 29 percent. Voters 18 to 29 years old back Keno 62 – 29 percent, the only group to support it.

From February 26 – March 2, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,878 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.3 percentage points. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll conducts public opinion surveys in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

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17. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Murphy is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	53%	30%	79%	49%	47%	59%	61%	50%	51%	55%
Disapprove	31	55	10	32	37	25	20	34	33	28
DK/NA	16	15	12	20	16	17	19	16	16	17

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Chris Murphy is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013	Mar 12 2013
Approve	53	52	50
Disapprove	31	32	34
DK/NA	16	16	16

18. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Richard Blumenthal is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	61%	39%	88%	57%	56%	67%	58%	60%	62%	68%
Disapprove	31	56	7	33	38	24	20	33	33	28
DK/NA	8	6	5	10	7	9	22	7	5	4

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Richard Blumenthal is handling his job as United States Senator?

	APPROVE.....						High	Low
	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013	Mar 12 2013	Jun 06 2012	Apr 25 2012	Mar 22 2012	Mar 22 2012	Mar 09 2011
Approve	61	62	63	61	58	64	64	49
Disapprove	31	28	27	25	27	23	23	25
DK/NA	8	10	10	14	15	14	14	26

22. What do you think should be the top priority for Governor Malloy and the State Legislature in 2014?

	Tot
Economy (General)	6%
Jobs/Unemployment	25
Economy (Other Specific)	5
Wages/Minimum Wage	3
Class inequality	1
Budget (General)	4
Government spending	3
Budget deficit	1
Taxes (General)	13
Taxes (Other Specific)	1
Education (General)	9
Education (Other Specific)	2
Crime/Safety	1
Gun Issues/Policy/Control	2
Healthcare	3
Social Issues/Soc Services	2
Poverty/Homelessness	1
Immigration Issues	1
Roads/Infrastructure	1
Transportation	1
Caring about people	1
Other	8
DK/NA	6

23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling - the budget?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	37%	15%	64%	29%	36%	37%	34%	37%	37%	39%
Disapprove	53	77	25	60	55	51	46	55	55	50
DK/NA	10	9	11	10	8	12	20	9	7	11

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling the budget?

	APPROVE.....						
	High		Low				
	Mar 06	Jun 19	Mar 12	Apr 25	Sep 15	Mar 06	Apr 25
	2014	2013	2013	2012	2011	2014	2012
Approve	37	35	33	31	36	37	31
Disapprove	53	55	57	54	55	53	54
DK/NA	10	10	10	15	9	10	15

24. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling - education?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	41%	25%	58%	39%	41%	41%	43%	39%	43%	44%
Disapprove	43	54	31	46	42	44	43	48	42	38
DK/NA	15	22	11	15	16	15	15	14	15	18

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling education?

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013	Mar 12 2013	Apr 25 2012	Mar 21 2012
Approve	41	43	45	38	36
Disapprove	43	43	39	43	41
DK/NA	15	15	16	20	23

25. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling - taxes?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	29%	8%	52%	24%	27%	31%	37%	29%	28%	30%
Disapprove	63	87	39	67	66	59	51	65	66	59
DK/NA	8	4	9	8	6	10	12	6	6	11

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling taxes?

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013	Mar 12 2013	Apr 25 2012
Approve	29	29	29	25
Disapprove	63	63	61	64
DK/NA	8	8	10	11

26. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling - the economy and jobs?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	33%	11%	57%	27%	32%	33%	41%	32%	30%	36%
Disapprove	60	84	36	67	61	59	48	62	64	58
DK/NA	7	5	7	7	6	7	11	6	5	6

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling the economy and jobs? (* the economy)

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013*	Mar 12 2013*	Apr 25 2012*
Approve	33	35	35	31
Disapprove	60	57	56	56
DK/NA	7	8	9	13

27. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling - gun policy?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	47%	19%	70%	45%	40%	53%	40%	47%	47%	51%
Disapprove	43	72	21	44	52	36	43	45	44	40
DK/NA	10	9	10	10	9	11	17	8	9	9

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling gun policy?

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013	Mar 12 2013	Mar 06 2013
Approve	47	47	48	41
Disapprove	43	44	39	38
DK/NA	10	10	13	21

28. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling - the death penalty?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	37%	21%	55%	34%	35%	39%	46%	38%	35%	34%
Disapprove	30	47	15	31	36	25	24	30	33	29
DK/NA	33	31	30	35	29	36	30	32	32	36

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling the death penalty?

	Mar 06 2014	Apr 25 2012
Approve	37	33
Disapprove	30	47
DK/NA	33	20

29. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Dannel Malloy is handling this winter's snowstorms?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	86%	84%	91%	84%	85%	86%	75%	88%	87%	89%
Disapprove	10	10	6	11	10	9	20	8	9	5
DK/NA	5	6	2	5	5	5	5	4	4	7

30. Do you think Dannel Malloy's economic policies have helped your personal financial situation, hurt your personal financial situation, or haven't made a difference?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Helped	6%	3%	10%	4%	6%	5%	6%	6%	6%	5%
Hurt	36	54	15	42	38	35	17	38	45	31
No difference	57	41	73	53	55	59	77	55	47	62
DK/NA	1	2	2	1	1	2	-	1	2	2

31. Do you think Dannel Malloy's policies have made Connecticut safer, less safe, or haven't made a difference?

							AGE IN YRS.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Safer	27%	12%	45%	23%	25%	30%	28%	27%	27%	31%
Less safe	12	19	3	13	14	11	10	12	13	11
No difference	55	63	48	59	58	52	56	57	56	52
DK/NA	5	6	3	6	3	7	7	5	4	7

36. Do you support or oppose the stricter new gun control laws in Connecticut?

							AGE IN YRS.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	57%	32%	80%	55%	47%	66%	49%	54%	58%	64%
Oppose	39	63	18	40	49	30	45	42	39	30
DK/NA	4	4	3	5	4	5	7	4	2	5

TREND: Do you support or oppose the stricter new gun control laws in Connecticut?

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013
Support	57	57
Oppose	39	37
DK/NA	4	6

37. Do you think Connecticut's stricter new gun control laws go too far, don't go far enough, or are they about right?

							AGE IN YRS.....			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Too far	36%	63%	16%	36%	48%	26%	42%	40%	36%	27%
Not far enough	30	15	45	28	22	37	26	26	30	40
About right	29	18	35	31	27	31	28	29	29	28
DK/NA	5	4	4	5	4	6	3	5	4	6

TREND: Do you think Connecticut's stricter new gun control laws go too far, don't go far enough, or are they about right?

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013
Too far	36	35
Not far enough	30	27
About right	29	32
DK/NA	5	7

38. Would you describe the state of Connecticut's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Excellent	-	-	1%	-	1%	-	-	1%	-	1%
Good	24	12	40	20	24	25	41	26	17	26
Not so good	45	46	44	46	44	46	41	44	50	43
Poor	28	40	13	32	30	27	15	28	32	28
DK/NA	2	1	2	2	2	2	4	1	1	2

TREND: Would you describe the state of Connecticut's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

	Mar 06	Jun 19	Apr 25	Jun 15	Jul 23	EXCLNT+GOOD...	
						High	Low
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2009	Dec 20	Feb 10
						2001	2009
Excellent	-	1	-	-	-	3	-
Good	24	23	19	15	13	51	6
Not so good	45	41	51	48	57	38	53
Poor	28	34	28	35	28	7	39
DK/NA	2	2	1	-	1	1	1

39. Do you think Connecticut's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Better	16%	7%	28%	11%	15%	16%	22%	15%	16%	15%
Worse	30	44	15	34	30	30	20	30	34	31
The same	52	48	56	53	53	52	52	55	49	52
DK/NA	2	1	1	2	2	2	6	-	1	3

TREND: Do you think Connecticut's economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same? (*state's economy)

	Mar 06	Jun 19	Aug 01	Feb 22
	2014	2013	2002*	2001
Better	16	20	12	16
Worse	30	31	34	22
The same	52	48	52	60
DK/NA	2	1	2	3

43. Do you think keno, an electronic bingo-like gambling game, should be allowed in Connecticut restaurants, bars and convenience stores or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	29%	23%	30%	30%	35%	23%	62%	38%	20%	12%
No	65	71	65	64	60	70	29	57	76	81
DK/NA	6	6	6	6	5	7	10	5	5	7

TREND: Do you think keno, an electronic bingo-like gambling game, should be allowed in Connecticut restaurants, bars and convenience stores or not?

	Mar 06 2014	Jun 19 2013	Mar 18 2010
Yes	29	35	27
No	65	59	70
DK/NA	6	7	3

44. Dannel Malloy has proposed using 155 million dollars of the state surplus for tax refunds with checks of up to 110 dollars to be mailed to households. How much have you heard or read about this proposal; a lot, some, only a little or nothing at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
A lot	11%	15%	8%	11%	13%	9%	2%	7%	14%	17%
Some	21	26	23	17	22	20	8	15	25	30
Only a little	23	23	24	22	22	23	19	23	25	23
Nothing at all	45	36	45	50	43	48	71	55	36	29
DK/NA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

45. In general, do you think this is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Good idea	43%	33%	53%	42%	39%	46%	61%	43%	43%	33%
Bad idea	49	59	38	51	55	44	26	48	51	57
DK/NA	8	9	9	8	7	10	13	8	6	10

46. Do you think that Dannel Malloy's tax refund proposal is good public policy, or a political gimmick?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Good public policy	23%	9%	39%	19%	19%	27%	34%	19%	23%	23%
A political gimmick	63	83	41	71	68	59	45	67	66	65
BOTH (VOL)	5	3	7	4	5	4	8	5	4	3
NEITHER (VOL)	2	1	2	2	3	1	5	1	2	2
DK/NA	7	4	11	4	5	9	9	7	5	7

47. Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Favor	57%	73%	43%	61%	63%	52%	50%	62%	57%	56%
Oppose	34	19	49	31	29	39	42	29	35	34
DK/NA	8	8	9	8	8	9	8	9	8	10

TREND: Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

							FAVOR.....	
							High	Low
	Mar 06	Mar 12	Apr 25	Mar 10	Oct 13		Mar 10	Mar 06
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010		2011	2014
Favor	57	59	62	67	65		67	57
Oppose	34	35	30	28	23		28	34
DK/NA	8	6	8	5	12		5	8

48. As you may know, in 2012 Governor Malloy signed into law a bill that replaces the death penalty with life in prison without the possibility of parole. Do you approve or disapprove of this law that replaces the death penalty with life in prison without the possibility of parole?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Approve	47%	30%	61%	45%	43%	50%	56%	40%	47%	50%
Disapprove	47	65	33	48	52	43	39	54	46	45
DK/NA	6	5	6	6	5	7	6	6	7	5

TREND: As you may know, in 2012 Governor Malloy signed into law a bill that replaces the death penalty with life in prison without the possibility of parole. Do you approve or disapprove of this law that replaces the death penalty with life in prison without the possibility of parole?

	Mar 06	Mar 12
	2014	2013
Approve	47	45
Disapprove	47	51
DK/NA	6	4

49. Do you support or oppose allowing doctors to legally prescribe lethal drugs to help terminally ill patients end their own lives?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Support	61%	51%	66%	63%	63%	58%	63%	65%	62%	54%
Oppose	32	42	28	31	31	33	28	30	31	37
DK/NA	7	8	7	6	6	8	9	5	7	9

50. If this became law in Connecticut, and you were diagnosed with a terminal illness and had less than 6 months to live, do you think you would probably ask a doctor to help you end your life, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	33%	28%	33%	36%	32%	33%	25%	29%	39%	35%
No	53	60	52	50	54	53	64	57	45	51
DK/NA	14	12	16	14	14	14	11	14	16	13

51. (If no q50) If this became law in Connecticut, and you were diagnosed with a terminal illness and had less than 6 months to live and were living in severe pain, do you think you would probably ask a doctor to help you end your life, or not?

	WOULD NOT ASK DR TO ASSIST Q50.....									
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes	22%	15%	28%	23%	23%	21%	26%	22%	22%	22%
No	73	82	66	72	72	74	70	74	74	71
DK/NA	5	3	6	5	5	5	4	4	4	7

51a. (COMBINED Q50 & Q51) If this became law in Connecticut, and you were diagnosed with a terminal illness and had less than 6 months to live, do you think you would probably ask a doctor to help you end your life, or not? IF NO: If this became law in Connecticut, and you were diagnosed with a terminal illness and had less than 6 months to live and were living in severe pain, do you think you would probably ask a doctor to help you end your life, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Yes/If terminal	33%	28%	33%	36%	32%	33%	25%	29%	39%	35%
Yes/Terminal w/pain	12	9	14	12	13	11	17	12	10	11
No	39	49	34	36	38	39	45	42	34	36
DK/NA	17	14	19	16	17	17	13	17	18	17