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QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL

FOR RELEASE: APRIL 16, 2015

NEW JERSEY VOTERS SAY MENENDEZ SHOULD RESIGN, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; VOTERS BACK PRESIDENT OBAMA ON CUBA, IRAN

New Jersey voters say 52 – 39 percent, with Democrats divided, that U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez should resign, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Voters say 54 – 23 percent that Sen. Menendez is not honest and trustworthy, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds.

Calling for Menendez’ ouster are Republicans 61 – 32 percent and independent voters 51 – 40 percent, while Democrats are divided 46 – 44 percent on whether he should stay or go.

Democrats say 43 – 34 percent that Menendez is not honest and trustworthy, with even bigger margins among Republicans and independent voters.

Looking at the federal grand jury indictment of Menendez, 45 percent of voters, including 39 percent of Democrats say he did something “illegal,” while 38 percent of voters, including 43 percent of Democrats, say he did “something unethical but nothing illegal.” Only 8 percent of voter say he did not do anything “seriously wrong,” with 9 percent undecided.

“The accusation is enough, voters say; U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez should quit. Even almost half of his fellow Democrats think so,” said Quinnipiac University Poll Assistant Director Maurice Carroll.

“More than 80 percent of New Jerseyans think what the senator did was illegal or at least unethical, but hardly anyone believes he’s blameless.

“Sen. Menendez’ supporters say there was a missing middle in the bribery charge – a quid pro quo with plenty of quid and quo but no ‘pro’ to link them. A veteran of Hudson County's bare-knuckle politics, Menendez has lined up support in his fight to survive.”

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“But New Jerseyans don’t support his counter-attack. A lot of them think the U.S. attorney acted politically, but more think the charges are factual,” Carroll added.

New Jersey voters give Menendez a negative 35 – 46 percent job approval rating, down from a positive 46 – 33 percent approval rating in a January 21 Quinnipiac University poll and the senator’s worst net approval rating ever.

Disapproval is 56 – 29 percent among Republicans and 51 – 30 percent among independent voters, while Democrats approve 44 – 37 percent.

The prosecution of Menendez is based on the facts, 46 percent of voters say, while 39 percent say it is politically motivated.

President’s Approval, Cuba, Iran

New Jersey voters approve 53 – 44 percent of the job President Barack Obama is doing, up from a negative 45 – 52 percent approval rating January 21, and the president’s best score in a year.

Voters approve 64 – 28 percent of the U.S. initiative to re-establish diplomatic relations with Cuba, with approval at 60 percent or higher among Democrats, independent voters, men, women and all age groups. Republicans disapprove 57 – 36 percent.

New Jersey voters support 56 – 38 percent the preliminary agreement with Iran to lift economic sanctions in exchange for Iran restricting its nuclear program.

Again, there is strong approval among all listed groups, except Republicans, who are opposed 68 – 28 percent.

Voters approve 52 – 20 percent of the job U.S. Sen. Cory Booker is doing, compared to 51 – 25 percent January 21.

“On the two issues where Menendez is fighting President Barack Obama, the deal with Iran and rebuilding ties with Cuba – voters support Obama, not Menendez,” Carroll said.

From April 9 – 14, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,428 New Jersey voters, with a margin of error of +/- 2.6 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

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

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#) @QuinnipiacPoll.

20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Cory Booker is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	52%	33%	73%	47%	49%	55%	58%	54%	53%
Disapprove	20	38	6	21	26	14	19	19	19
DK/NA	28	29	20	32	25	30	23	27	28

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

	Apr 16 2015	Jan 21 2015	Dec 10 2014	Aug 06 2014	Apr 09 2014
Approve	52	51	48	47	47
Disapprove	20	25	22	27	25
DK/NA	28	24	29	26	28

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Robert Menendez is handling his job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	35%	29%	44%	30%	36%	34%	37%	32%	37%
Disapprove	46	56	37	51	49	43	42	50	45
DK/NA	19	15	19	18	15	23	21	18	18

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

	Apr 16 2015	Jan 21 2015	Dec 10 2014	Aug 06 2014	Apr 09 2014	APPROVE.....	
						High Nov 28 2012	Low Feb 20 2008
Approve	35	46	44	45	43	56	30
Disapprove	46	33	31	34	39	29	31
DK/NA	19	21	24	21	18	14	39

22. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	53%	10%	87%	46%	48%	57%	57%	59%	48%
Disapprove	44	88	11	50	49	40	41	39	48
DK/NA	3	2	3	4	3	3	2	2	3

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	Apr 16 2015	Jan 21 2015	Dec 11 2014	Aug 06 2014	Apr 09 2014	APPROVE.....	
						High Jun 10 2009	Low Oct 13 2011
Approve	53	45	46	44	49	68	43
Disapprove	44	52	50	52	48	25	52
DK/NA	3	3	4	4	4	7	5

38. Would you say that Robert Menendez - is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	23%	16%	34%	19%	24%	23%	24%	20%	26%
No	54	67	43	58	60	49	52	59	52
DK/NA	23	17	23	23	17	28	24	20	23

TREND: Would you say that Robert Menendez is honest and trustworthy or not?

	Apr 16	Apr 24	Mar 27	Feb 21	Sep 20	Jun 15
	2015	2013	2013	2013	2006	2006
Yes	23	39	35	28	33	38
No	54	32	36	44	24	21
DK/NA	23	29	29	28	43	41

39. Would you say that Robert Menendez - cares about the needs and problems of people like you or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	42%	28%	54%	41%	45%	39%	40%	37%	48%
No	38	58	25	41	43	34	39	41	36
DK/NA	20	15	21	18	12	26	20	22	16

40. Would you say that Robert Menendez - has strong leadership qualities or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Yes	44%	35%	54%	41%	45%	42%	42%	40%	47%
No	38	51	29	39	41	36	34	43	37
DK/NA	18	14	16	19	14	22	24	18	16

41. As you may know, a federal grand jury has indicted New Jersey Senator Robert Menendez on charges of bribery. He has been accused of using the influence of his office to advance the business interests of a longtime friend and political supporter in exchange for nearly a million dollars in gifts and campaign donations. Which of the following statements best describes your view of Robert Menendez's actions in these matters: He did something illegal, he did something unethical, but nothing illegal, or he did not do anything seriously wrong?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Illegal	45%	54%	39%	42%	46%	44%	60%	48%	37%
Unethical/Not illegl	38	30	43	40	34	41	31	38	42
Not seriously wrong	8	8	10	7	11	6	5	7	11
DK/NA	9	8	8	11	9	9	4	7	10

42. Do you think Robert Menendez should or should not resign from the Senate?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Should resign	52%	61%	46%	51%	50%	54%	67%	57%	42%
Should not	39	32	44	40	44	35	25	35	48
DK/NA	9	6	10	9	6	12	8	8	9

43. Do you think prosecutors have brought this case against Menendez on the basis of the facts of the case, or out of political motivation?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Basis of the facts	46%	46%	48%	44%	47%	45%	50%	49%	42%
Political motivation	39	43	38	39	41	38	40	34	44
DK/NA	15	10	14	17	13	17	10	17	14

55. Do you approve or disapprove of the U.S. re-establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Approve	64%	36%	83%	63%	68%	60%	69%	68%	61%
Disapprove	28	57	12	28	27	29	29	24	30
DK/NA	8	7	5	9	5	10	2	8	8

56. As you may know a preliminary agreement was reached in which the United States and other countries would lift major economic sanctions against Iran, in exchange for Iran restricting its nuclear program in a way that makes it harder for it to produce nuclear weapons. Do you support or oppose this agreement?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....		
							18-34	35-54	55+
Support	56%	28%	76%	54%	55%	57%	58%	60%	53%
Oppose	38	68	18	41	41	36	36	36	39
DK/NA	6	5	6	6	4	7	5	4	7