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**KEEP GUN PERMIT INFO PRIVATE,
VIRGINIA VOTERS TELL QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL;
VOTERS DIVIDED BY GENDER, RACE ON EXPANDING MEDICAID**

Virginia voters say 60 – 35 percent that the names of people with permits to carry concealed weapons should not be made public, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Support for keeping concealed gun permit information concealed is strong among all groups except Democrats, who want to open the books 55 – 40 percent, and black voters, who say 50 – 42 percent the names should be public, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds.

Old Dominion voters are sharply divided along gender, political and racial lines on the idea of expanding the state’s Medicaid program with 45 percent backing the idea and 43 percent opposed. Democrats want to expand Medicaid 73 – 18 percent, while opposition is 67 – 22 percent among Republicans and 47 – 40 percent among independent voters.

Women back expansion 48 – 39 percent, with men opposed 48 – 42 percent. Black voters support Medicaid expansion 68 – 20 percent, with white voters opposed 50 – 38 percent.

The state’s recently-enacted transportation funding plan is a “good thing,” voters say 33 – 11 percent, but 55 percent don’t know enough about the plan to form an opinion.

For the first time since his re-election, President Barack Obama slips below the 50 percent mark on his job approval, with a negative 45 – 49 percent score, down from 51 – 46 percent February 21.

“Although the fight in the legislature over the governor's transportation package was bitter and divisive, the voting public isn’t nearly as split over the plan,” said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. “While more than half the voters don’t have a view on the plan, support among those who know about the issue is 3-1.”

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“It will be interesting to see if Republican gubernatorial candidate Ken Cuccinelli’s criticism of the package, presented by fellow Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell, plays a role in the race for governor,” said Brown.

“On the question of keeping secret the names of those with concealed weapons permits, almost everyone has an opinion and it strongly supports keeping those names out of public view,” said Brown.

“We’ll watch to see if President Barack Obama’s job approval drop is a temporary blip or the beginning of something larger.

“One thing that may be hurting the president’s approval rating is the implementation of automatic cuts in the federal budget from the sequester. Virginia voters are very unhappy about it taking effect. And some of that unhappiness may be rubbing off on the president.”

The cuts are a “bad thing for the country,” voters say 50 – 24 percent, including 47 – 31 percent among men and 52 – 17 percent among women.

The level of pain seems to shift along partisan lines as Democrats say the cuts are bad 62 – 10 percent, compared to 46 – 27 percent among independent voters and 46 – 33 percent among Republicans.

The sequester-driven budget cuts are bad for them personally, Virginia voters say 40 – 18 percent.

From March 20 – 25, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,098 registered voters with a margin of error of +/- 3 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 and the nation as a public service and for research.

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

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

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Approve	45%	9%	92%	38%	38%	51%	34%	90%
Disapprove	49	89	4	53	58	42	61	5
DK/NA	6	2	3	9	4	7	5	5

	COLLEGE Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HSHOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-34	YRS..... 35-54	55+
Approve	49%	43%	48%	42%	46%	45%	47%	44%
Disapprove	47	51	45	54	51	45	50	52
DK/NA	4	6	8	3	3	10	3	4

	North	East/ SthEst	West/ Rchmnd	Shndh
Approve	51%	46%	48%	30%
Disapprove	45	47	46	66
DK/NA	5	6	6	5

TREND: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President? (*High also 52% Nov 2012)

	Mar 28 2013	Feb 21 2013	Jan 10 2013	Nov 14 2012	Jul 19 2012	APPROVE..... High Jan 10 2013*	Low Sep 15 2011
Approve	45	51	52	52	45	52	40
Disapprove	49	46	44	44	51	44	54
DK/NA	6	4	3	4	4	3	6

18. As you may know Medicaid is a government program that pays for health care for low-income people and others with certain disabilities. Do you think that increasing the number of people eligible for Medicaid coverage in Virginia is a good idea or a bad idea?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Good idea	45%	22%	73%	40%	42%	48%	38%	68%
Bad idea	43	67	18	47	48	39	50	20
DK/NA	12	11	9	13	11	13	12	12

	COLLEGE Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HSHOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-34	YRS..... 35-54	55+
Good idea	41%	47%	51%	40%	38%	48%	44%	44%
Bad idea	49	40	37	49	53	44	48	40
DK/NA	10	13	12	11	9	8	8	17

	North	East/ SthEst	West/ Rchmnd	Shndh
Good idea	48%	47%	46%	36%
Bad idea	43	39	43	49
DK/NA	9	14	11	15

19. Do you think the names of people who have concealed handgun permits in Virginia should or should not be open to the public?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Open to public	35%	17%	55%	32%	27%	41%	30%	50%
Not open	60	76	40	64	68	53	65	42
DK/NA	5	7	5	4	4	6	5	7

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	ANNUAL INC <50K	ANNUAL INC 50-100	ANNUAL INC >100K	AGE IN YRS..... 18-34	AGE IN YRS..... 35-54	AGE IN YRS..... 55+
Open to public	35%	34%	34%	34%	34%	35%	29%	38%
Not open	61	60	59	64	62	60	67	54
DK/NA	4	6	7	3	4	5	3	7

	North	East/ SthEst	West/ Rchmnd	West/ Shndh	Miltry HsHlds
Open to public	39%	30%	34%	34%	32%
Not open	57	62	61	61	63
DK/NA	5	7	5	5	5

	DENSITY..... Urban	DENSITY..... Suburb	DENSITY..... Rural	GUN HSHOLD Yes	GUN HSHOLD No	HvKids <18
Open to public	38%	39%	27%	29%	41%	28%
Not open	55	57	69	67	52	67
DK/NA	7	4	4	4	7	4

20. As you may know, Virginia's legislature passed a transportation funding plan last month. All in all, do you think this transportation funding plan is a good thing or a bad thing for Virginia, or don't you know enough about it to say?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Good thing	33%	32%	37%	32%	39%	29%	34%	33%
Bad thing	11	10	6	13	15	8	11	6
Don't know enough	55	58	57	53	46	63	54	61
REFUSED	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	-

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	COLLEGE DEG No	ANNUAL INC <50K	ANNUAL INC 50-100	ANNUAL INC >100K	AGE IN YRS..... 18-34	AGE IN YRS..... 35-54	AGE IN YRS..... 55+
Good thing	39%	30%	30%	34%	40%	24%	39%	35%
Bad thing	15	9	7	12	16	8	15	8
Don't know enough	45	61	63	53	44	67	46	55
REFUSED	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1

	North	East/ SthEst	West/ Rchmnd	West/ Shndh
Good thing	39%	34%	31%	29%
Bad thing	13	11	10	9
Don't know enough	47	54	59	61
REFUSED	-	1	1	1

21. As you may know, automatic cuts in the federal budget, known as sequestration, went into effect on March 1. All in all, do you think the sequestration is a good thing or a bad thing for the country, or don't you know enough about it to say?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Good thing	24%	33%	10%	27%	31%	17%	27%	9%
Bad thing	50	46	62	46	47	52	51	49
Don't know enough	26	19	28	26	20	30	21	41
REFUSED	1	2	-	1	1	1	1	1

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HS HOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-34	YRS..... 35-54	55+
Good thing	29%	20%	17%	28%	30%	18%	25%	27%
Bad thing	61	43	39	55	63	40	57	47
Don't know enough	9	36	42	17	6	43	17	24
REFUSED	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	2

	North	SthEst	East/ Rchmnd	West/ Shndh	Miltry HsHlds
Good thing	27%	12%	26%	27%	26%
Bad thing	59	59	40	45	53
Don't know enough	12	27	33	28	20
REFUSED	2	1	1	-	1

22. All in all, do you think the sequestration is a good thing or a bad thing for you personally, or don't you know enough about it to say?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk
Good thing	18%	27%	8%	19%	25%	12%	21%	6%
Bad thing	40	37	50	37	39	41	40	39
Don't know enough	35	27	37	38	28	40	31	51
REFUSED	7	8	6	6	8	6	7	5

	COLLEGE DEG Yes	DEG No	ANNUAL <50K	HS HOLD 50-100	INC >100K	AGE IN 18-34	YRS..... 35-54	55+
Good thing	22%	16%	13%	23%	23%	11%	18%	23%
Bad thing	52	33	32	42	52	35	50	34
Don't know enough	19	44	51	27	16	48	25	37
REFUSED	8	6	4	8	8	5	8	6

	North	SthEst	East/ Rchmnd	West/ Shndh	Miltry HsHlds
Good thing	19%	8%	20%	23%	21%
Bad thing	51	53	29	32	43
Don't know enough	20	33	44	40	28
REFUSED	10	6	7	5	8