



TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Patinkin Research Strategies, LLC
Ben Patinkin

RE: Nearly 2 in 3 Tacoma voters support proposed paid sick days law

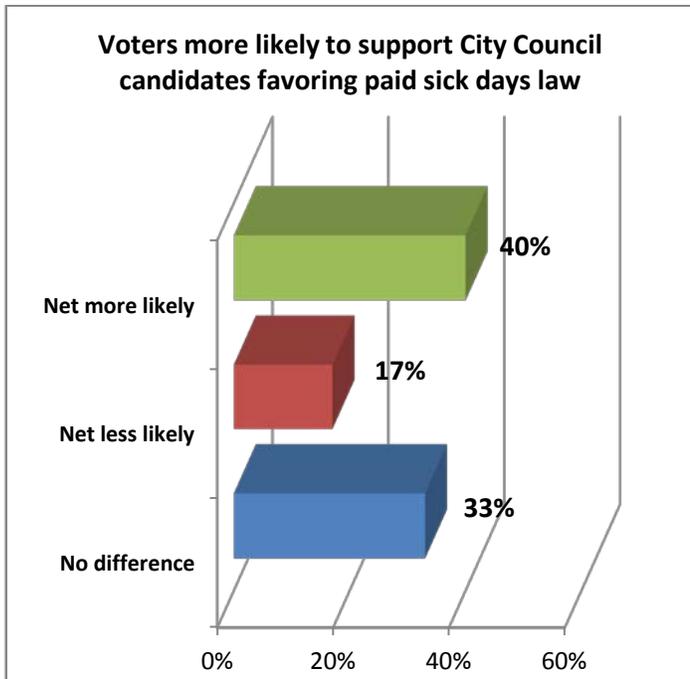
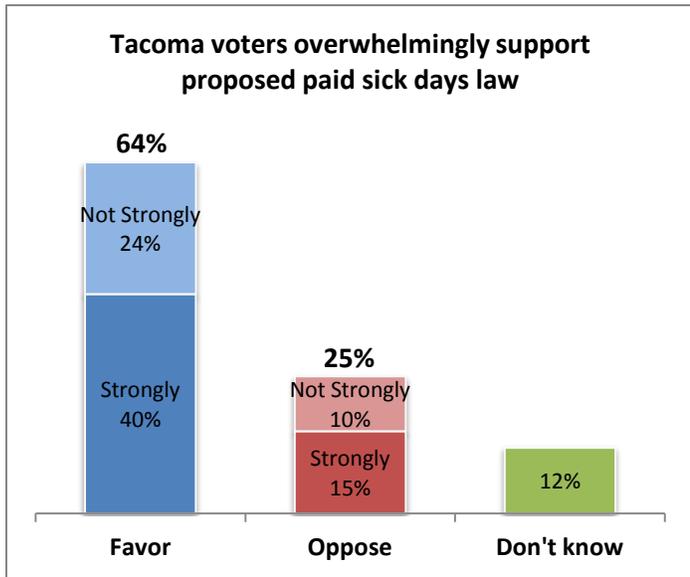
Date: June 6, 2013

Nearly two-thirds of likely November, 2013 voters in Tacoma support a proposed paid sick leave law for the city. Of these, exactly four in 10 (40%) say they favor the proposal strongly—indicating intense public support for this issue.

Nearly every major subgroup of the electorate offers significant amounts of support for the proposal. Even good numbers of self-identified Republicans like the idea (42% favor; 45% oppose), while Democrats are wildly enthusiastic (87% favor; 8% oppose).

On the other hand, opposition to paid sick days is anemic at best. Only one-quarter of the electorate say they oppose, and of these, few feel strongly about the law (15% “oppose, strongly”). With weak opposition and broad-based, motivated support, the paid sick leave proposal has strong momentum in the community.

Candidates for City Council stand to gain by their support of a Tacoma paid sick days proposal. Exactly four in 10 (40%) say they would be “more likely” to support a candidate that favored paid sick days.





This analysis is based on a telephone poll of 400 registered, likely November, 2013 voters in the City of Tacoma. Interviews were conducted May 27-28, 2013 and the margin of error is +/- 4.9 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.

Survey question: *“The Tacoma City Council is considering a proposal that requires all employers within the City of Tacoma to provide a minimum number of paid sick days to allow workers to care for themselves or to care for an immediate family member. People who work in companies with 10 or fewer employees would, at a minimum, be eligible to accrue five paid sick days every year. People who work in companies with between 11 and 249 employees would be eligible to accrue a minimum of nine paid sick days every year. People who work in companies with 250 employees or more would be eligible to accrue a minimum of 13 paid sick days a year. A waiting period of up to 90 days would be required before new employees are entitled to begin using paid sick days. New small business owners would have a one-year grace period to implement this policy. Having heard this, do you favor or oppose this proposal?”*

Preference	%	Net favor/oppose
Favor, strongly	40%	64% net “favor”
Favor, not strongly	24%	
Oppose, not strongly	10%	25% net “oppose”
Oppose, strongly	15%	
Don't know	12%	