

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Global Strategy Group
DATE: August 3, 2018
RE: **NEW POLL** – Voters in Washington’s 5th Congressional district say their member of Congress has not done enough on Trump’s family separation issue; want oversight & accountability

The Trump Administration’s “zero tolerance” policy that separated children from their parents is concerning constituents who plan to vote in the Midterms in Washington’s 5th Congressional District.

While WA-05 leans Republican on party self-identification and is currently represented by Republican Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers, voters in the district make it clear that their member of Congress has not done enough to address family separations and want to see increased Congressional oversight and action to hold those responsible for the crisis accountable. Voters overwhelmingly say that the Trump Administration has a responsibility to return the children to their parents and want their member to increase transparency, accountability and oversight of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) – an Office within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) which is charged with overseeing the separated children. As the poll went into the field, hundreds of children separated from their families remained in ORR custody.

Voters in the 5th district are paying close attention to the Trump Administration’s “zero tolerance policy” and say they would be more favorable to their member of Congress if she were to take action to hold those responsible accountable.

Key findings from Global Strategy Group’s recent poll are as follows:

KEY SURVEY FINDINGS:

- **Constituents of Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers say their member of Congress has not done enough and view the “zero tolerance policy” as “inhumane”:** Fewer than a quarter of voters (23%) say their member of Congress has done enough on the issue of family separations, while twice as many voters (50%) say that their member of Congress has not done enough. And a majority of voters (54%) agree more that the policy of separating children from their parents is “inhumane and we should hold those responsible for it accountable” compared to just 31% who say the policy is “necessary and will stop people from illegally crossing our borders.” Most voters (51%) also say they prefer a Congressional candidate who is opposed to the Trump Administration’s “zero tolerance policy”.
- **The majority of voters want Congress to take action on this issue:** Two-thirds of voters (66%) across the district say they want Congress to act by increasing the accountability and transparency of the agencies and officials overseeing the separated children. This is a bipartisan view with strong support from Democrats (78%), Independents (82%), and Republicans (50%). In addition to increased transparency and accountability, nearly half of voters (46%) support legislation to immediately reunite the children with their families.

- **Voters had little confidence that the Trump Administration would reunite these children by the court's July 26 deadline:** While the vast majority of voters (82%) say that the Trump Administration has a responsibility to reunite these children with their parents, more than half of (54%) said they had “very little” confidence that the Trump Administration would meet the deadline to reunite these families.
- **Voters would be more favorable towards their member of Congress if she took action on this issue:** Over three-quarters of voters (79%) said they would have a more favorable view of their member of Congress if she supported legislation to increase transparency on this issue, while nearly seven in ten (68%) said they would be more favorable towards her if she supported an investigation into the conditions and facilities where children are being held. Most voters (70%) also said they would be more favorable toward her if she called for the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement to testify before Congress about the reunification efforts and treatment of the children in its care. And a majority of voters (60%) would have a more favorable view of her if she supported legislation to stop the Trump Administration from separating children from their parents altogether.
- **Voters are paying close attention to the child separation issue:** Nine in ten (90%) likely voters in the district say they have seen, read, or heard either “a lot” or “some” about the Trump Administration’s “zero tolerance policy”, including 69% who say they have heard “a lot” about this issue. Voters across all parties are paying close attention to the issue, with 9 in 10 Democrats (94%), independents (87%), and Republicans (88%) saying that have seen or heard “a lot” or “some” about this issue.

ABOUT THIS POLL

Global Strategy Group conducted surveys of 400 likely 2018 Midterm election voters in Washington’s 5th Congressional District between July 24-26, 2018. The results of each survey have a margin of error of +/- 4.9%. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the expected electorate are properly represented based on historical turnout.