



RED OAK
strategic

To: Interested Parties
From: Mark Stephenson; Red Oak Strategic
Re: Key Findings, National Online Panel Immigration Study
Among n=8,569 Likely 2018 Voters in 86 Congressional Districts
Date: Jan 29, 2018

The following memorandum highlights key takeaways from a national, targeted Congressional district study conducted in 86 Congressional districts (district list included as a memo addendum).

Interviews were conducted 1/13-1/18, 2018 among n=8,569 likely voters. Response interviews were collected via online panel questionnaire. Margin of error is $\pm 1.01\%$.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- ✦ **An overwhelming majority of likely 2018 voters are looking for bipartisan solutions from Congress to address immigration.**
- ✦ **There is a clear understanding among likely voters about DACA and its impact on Dreamers.**
- ✦ **Voters want Congress to pass action on immigration that includes some protections for Dreamers, including 81% support in “Toss Up” House districts.**
- ✦ **Addressing border security is key, but building a physical wall is not a priority for most voters.**
- ✦ **Majorities of voters support family-based immigration and continued immigration from disadvantaged countries.**
- ✦ **There is opportunity for House Republicans to capitalize on voter sentiment around immigration, or they risk alienating key voter blocs in November.**
- ✦ **Legislators are more likely to earn voter support if they back a specific immigration solution that protects Dreamers and addresses border security through the use of advanced technology.**

CURRENT POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

Likely 2018 voters are worried about the direction of the country - a majority felt negative about the way things are going (60%). Top responses were negative: fearful (33%) and somewhat concerned (26%). Only 37% felt positively about the way things are going.

Approval ratings for President Donald Trump, Republicans in Congress and Democrats in Congress also all fall in negative territory:

- ✦ **Voters disapprove of President Trump's handling of his job as President (59%),** with a plurality disapproving strongly (46%) - only 39% approve. Disapproval is driven by Democrats (81%) and Independents (47%), young voters 18-44 (54%) and Moderates (45%).
- ✦ **Voters in favor of an immigration compromise disapprove of President Trump at even higher numbers than overall (65%), with 51% strongly disapproving.** Those who have heard of DACA also disapprove (60%) - 49% strongly.
- ✦ **Voters disapprove of the handling of the jobs being done by both Congressional Republicans (65%) and Democrats (60%).**
- ✦ **Republican Congressional disapproval** is driven by older voters 65+ (68%), Independents (72%), and those feeling fearful (93%). Even a substantial segment of those voting for the generic Congressional Republican disapprove of Republicans in Congress (30%).
- ✦ **Democrat Congressional disapproval** is driven by older voters 65+ (69%), Independents (65%), those concerned with immigration (85%) and those feeling hopeful (80%). Like Republicans, a fair portion of those voters supporting the generic Democrat candidate disapprove of Democrats in Congress (32%).
- ✦ **Democrats hold a 6-point advantage** in a generic Congressional ballot test (43% - 37%). This is driven by Independents (+13%), young voters 18-44 (+17%), those supporting a compromise immigration bill (+16), single voters (+30%) and moderates (+15%). Those voters most concerned with immigration favor the generic Republican candidate by 57 points (72% - 15%). There is also a party ID deficit for Republicans: the generic Democrat candidate is supported by 88% of Democrats, while the generic Republican is supported by only 81% of Republicans.

IMMIGRATION POLICY

On the issue of immigration, voters believe that passing comprehensive immigration policy should be a priority (78%). Building a wall along the US/Mexico border is not a policy priority for most (63%) - only 35% feel it's important, with 58% opposing the idea altogether.

- ✦ A vast majority of voters have read or heard of the program called the “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” or DACA (78%).
- ✦ Voters believe that ending the DACA program was the wrong thing to do (54%), with a plurality believe so strongly (38%). This is driven by Independents (56%), Moderates (58%) and married voters (50%).
- ✦ 70% of voters support a potential immigration compromise to protect Dreamers. This is driven by voters across parties: Republicans (63%), Democrats (76%) and Independents (70%). 60% of those approving President Trump support a compromise bill, along with 61% of those supporting the generic Republican Congressional candidate.
- ✦ Voters agree that an effective border solution can be employed using advanced technology instead of a physical wall (52%).
- ✦ Preferred Congressional action on immigration includes most supporting at least one set of protections for Dreamers. 30% support a standalone DREAM act, with immediate protections for Dreamers; 33% support protections for Dreamers with increased investment in border security; 18% support a full border wall with limited and temporary protections for Dreamers; only 10% want a full border wall with no Dreamer protections.
- ✦ A majority believe that the right thing to do with any immigration compromise is continuing to allow immigration from disadvantaged countries like Haiti, Ghana and others (59%).
- ✦ A majority believe that families are the core of who we are as a country (59%) and that an immigration compromise must reunite families and keep loved ones together, not keep them apart (54%).

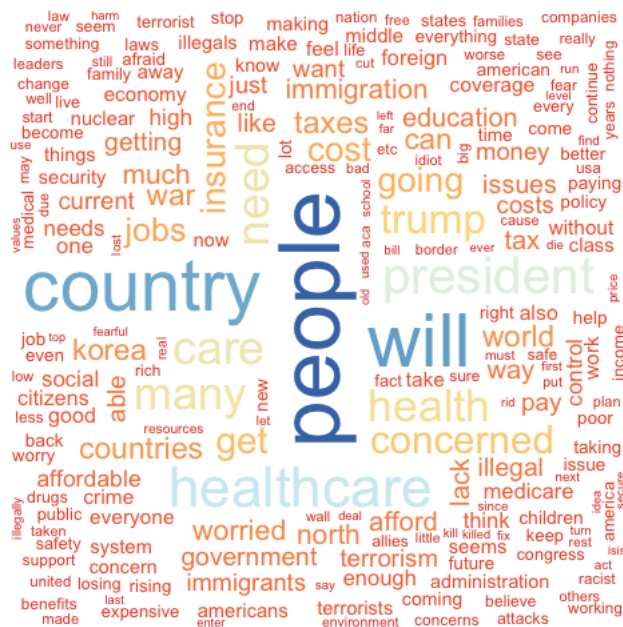
2018 GENERAL ELECTION SUPPORT IMPACT

Voters are more likely to support their Congressional representative if they support legislation to protect Dreamers and enhance border security (52%).

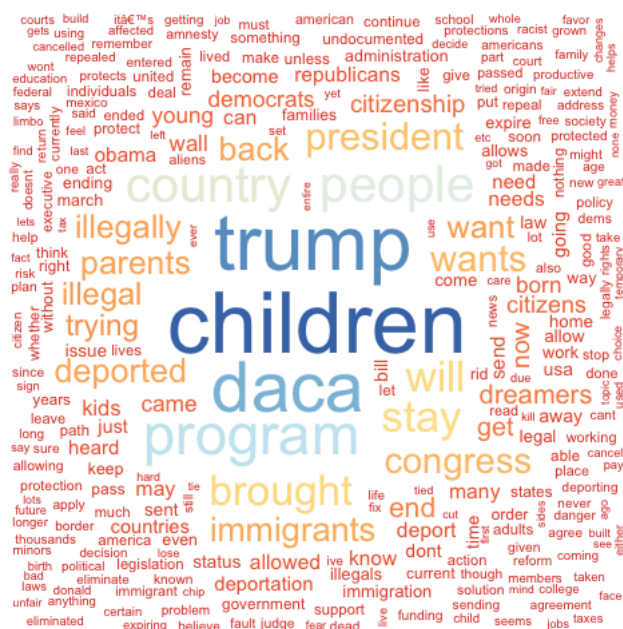
- ✦ **Voters said if their representative opposed compromise legislation, they would be less likely to support them (48%).**
- ✦ **Only 18% said that if their representative supported the legislation, they would be less likely to vote for them in the November elections.**
- ✦ **Informed Congressional ballot remains largely unchanged after immigration messages - Democrats still hold a 6-point advantage (42% - 36%), although support for both parties dropped slightly. 12% of those “Unsure” on the initial generic ballot test moved to the Republican, with 11% moving to the Democrat. In “Toss Up” districts, Democrats hold a 12-point advantage.**

ADDENDUM: OPEN END WORD CLOUDS

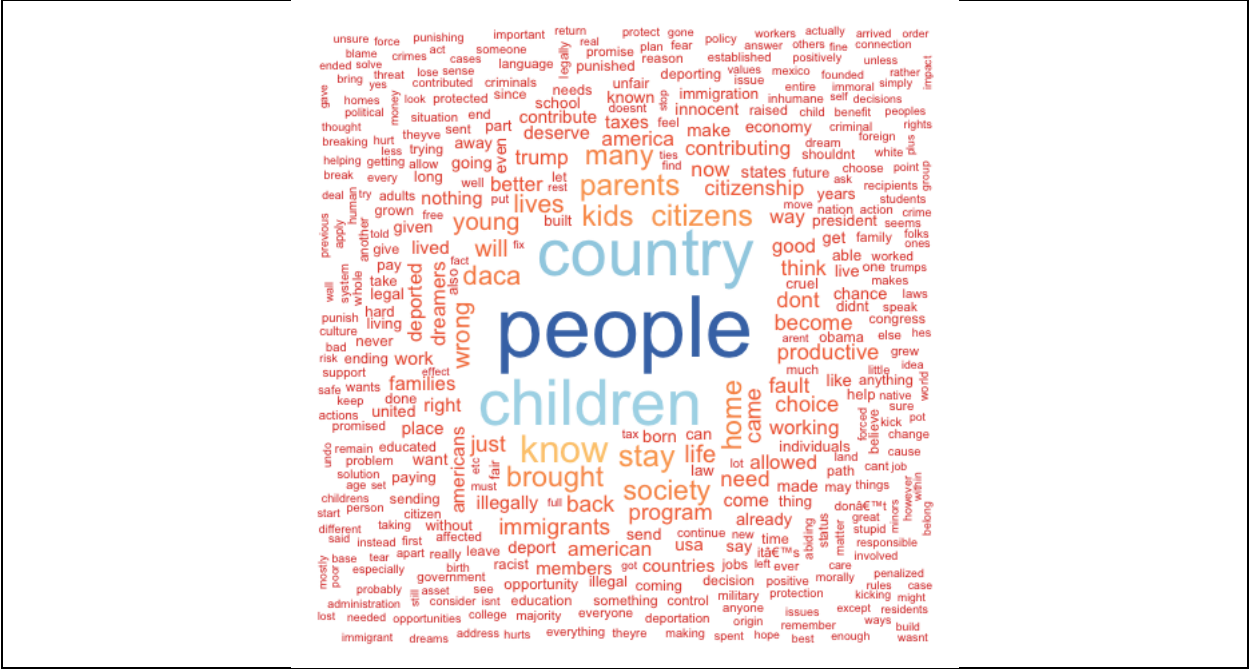
Q8. In a few sentences, what concerns you the most about the issue you are most worried about?



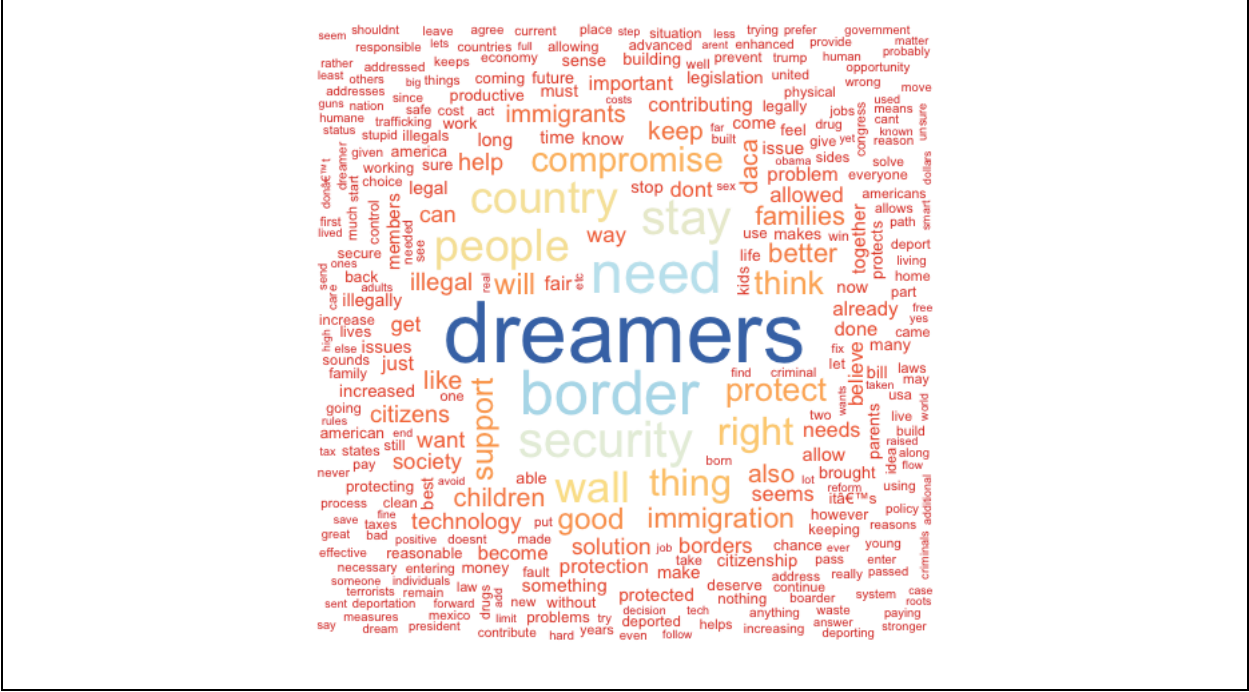
Q23. And what specifically have you read or heard about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or “DACA” program?



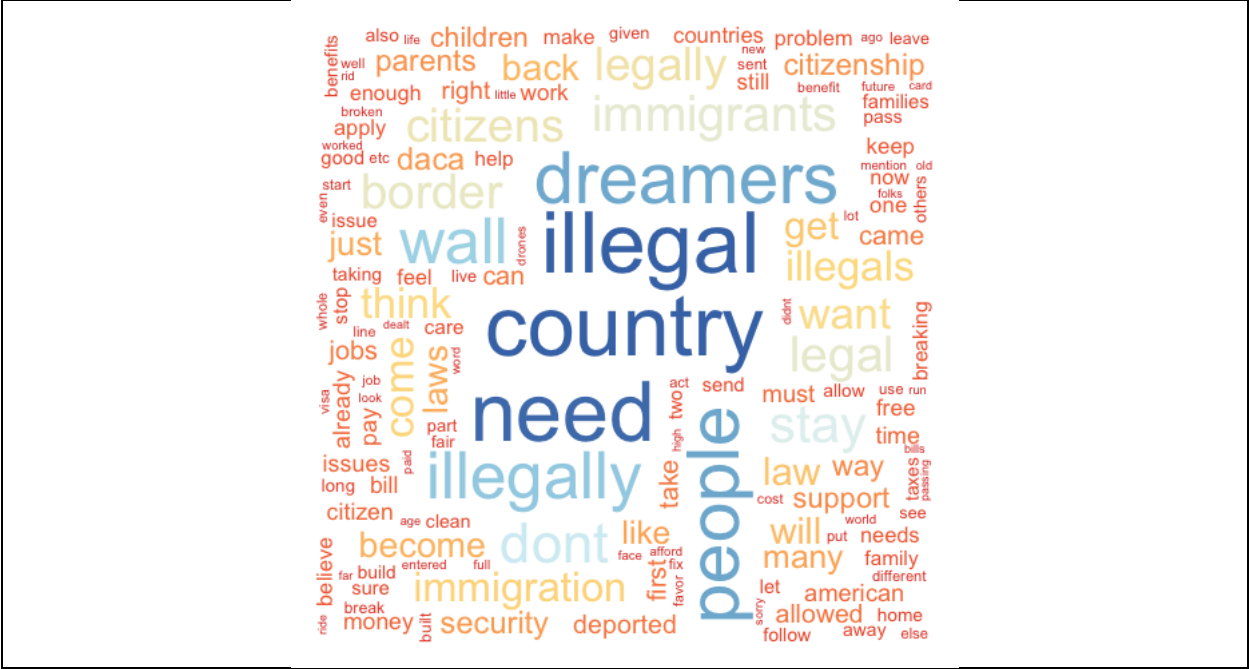
Q25. And why do you think ending the “DACA” program was the wrong thing to do?



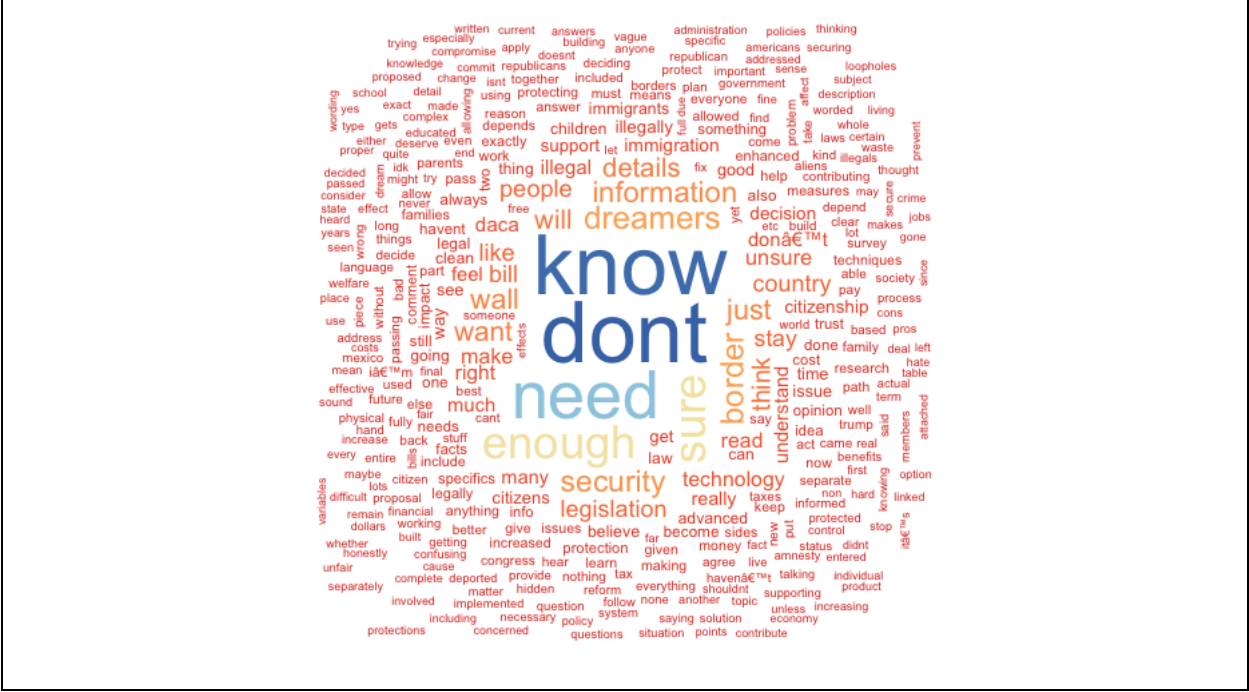
Q38A. And why would you support the passing of this legislation?
--



Q38B. And why would you oppose the passing of this legislation?



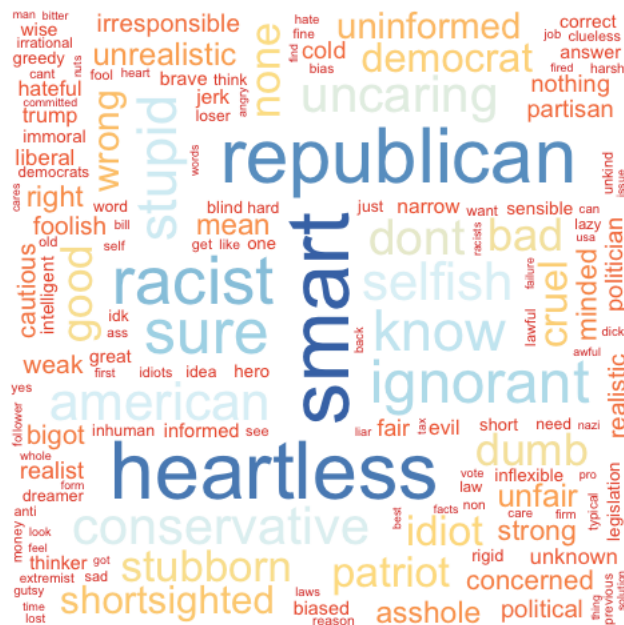
Q38C. And why are you unsure about the passing of this legislation?



Q39. What is one word you would use to describe a legislator who **supported** this legislation?



Q40. What is one word you would use to describe a legislator who **opposed** this legislation?



ADDENDUM: DISTRICT LIST & COOK RATINGS

Survey conducted in 86 Congressional districts, listed below with their Cook political rating.

District	Party	Member	Cook Rating	District	Party	Member	Cook Rating
AZ-01	Democratic	O'Halleran	Lean D	NC-13	Republican	Budd	Likely R
AZ-02	Republican	McSally	Toss Up	NE-02	Republican	Bacon	Toss Up
AZ-09	Democratic	OPEN (Sinema)	Likely D	NH-01	Democratic	OPEN (Shea-Porter)	Toss Up
CA-07	Democratic	Bera	Lean D	NH-02	Democratic	Kuster	Likely D
CA-10	Republican	Denham	Lean R	NJ-02	Republican	OPEN (LoBiondo)	Toss Up
CA-21	Republican	Valadao	Likely R	NJ-03	Republican	MacArthur	Likely R
CA-24	Democratic	Carbajal	Likely D	NJ-05	Democratic	Gottheimer	Lean D
CA-25	Republican	Knight	Toss Up	NJ-07	Republican	Lance	Lean R
CA-39	Republican	OPEN (Royce)	Lean D	NJ-11	Republican	Frelinghuysen	Toss Up
CA-45	Republican	Walters	Lean R	NM-02	Republican	OPEN (Pearce)	Likely R
CA-48	Republican	Rohrabacher	Toss Up	NV-03	Democratic	OPEN (Rosen)	Toss Up
CA-49	Republican	OPEN (Issa)	Toss Up	NV-04	Democratic	OPEN (Kihuen)	Lean D
CA-50	Republican	Hunter	Likely R	NY-01	Republican	Zeldin	Likely R
CO-06	Republican	Coffman	Toss Up	NY-03	Democratic	Suozzi	Likely D
FL-07	Democratic	Murphy	Lean D	NY-11	Republican	Donovan	Likely R
FL-13	Democratic	Crist	Likely D	NY-18	Democratic	Maloney	Likely D
FL-18	Republican	Mast	Likely R	NY-19	Republican	Faso	Toss Up
FL-26	Republican	Curbelo	Toss Up	NY-22	Republican	Tenney	Lean R
FL-27	Republican	OPEN (Ros-Lehtinen)	Lean D	NY-24	Republican	Katko	Likely R
GA-06	Republican	Handel	Lean R	OH-01	Republican	Chabot	Likely R
GA-07	Republican	Woodall	Likely R	OH-12	Republican	OPEN (Tiberi)	Likely R
IA-01	Republican	Blum	Toss Up	OH-15	Republican	Stivers	Likely R
IA-02	Democratic	Loebsack	Likely D	OH-16	Republican	OPEN (Renacci)	Likely R
IA-03	Republican	Young	Lean R	OR-05	Democratic	Schrader	Likely D
IL-06	Republican	Roskam	Toss Up	PA-06	Republican	Costello	Lean R
IL-12	Republican	Bost	Lean R	PA-07	Republican	OPEN (Meehan)	Lean R
IL-13	Republican	Davis	Likely R	PA-08	Republican	Fitzpatrick	Lean R
IL-14	Republican	Hultgren	Likely R	PA-15	Republican	OPEN (Dent)	Lean R
KS-02	Republican	OPEN (Jenkins)	Lean R	PA-16	Republican	Smucker	Likely R
KS-03	Republican	Yoder	Lean R	PA-17	Democratic	Cartwright	Likely D
KY-06	Republican	Barr	Lean R	PA-18	Republican	OPEN (Murphy)	Lean R
ME-02	Republican	Poliquin	Lean R	TX-07	Republican	Culberson	Toss Up
MI-07	Republican	Walberg	Likely R	TX-23	Republican	Hurd	Lean R
MI-08	Republican	Bishop	Lean R	TX-32	Republican	Sessions	Lean R
MI-11	Republican	OPEN (Trott)	Toss Up	UT-04	Republican	Love	Lean R
MN-01	Democratic	OPEN (Walz)	Toss Up	VA-02	Republican	Taylor	Likely R
MN-02	Republican	Lewis	Toss Up	VA-05	Republican	Garrett	Likely R
MN-03	Republican	Paulsen	Lean R	VA-07	Republican	Brat	Likely R
MN-07	Democratic	Peterson	Likely D	VA-10	Republican	Comstock	Toss Up
MN-08	Democratic	Nolan	Toss Up	WA-05	Republican	McMorris Rodgers	Likely R
MT-AL	Republican	Gianforte	Likely R	WA-08	Republican	OPEN (Reichert)	Toss Up
NC-02	Republican	Holding	Likely R	WI-03	Democratic	Kind	Likely D
NC-09	Republican	Pittenger	Likely R	WI-06	Republican	Grothman	Likely R