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New National Survey Finds Voters Want to Keep Politics Out of Government Contracting

Majority want to prioritize quality and cost over company stances on political issues

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today Centerline Liberties released national survey data outlining broad support for apolitical decisions regarding environmental, social and governance (ESG) policies and state government contracting.

“Over the years Centerline has polled issues of importance to the American people from clean energy to maternal health and election reform. This latest national survey sends a clear message that Americans across the political spectrum don’t want extreme partisan politicians from either party interfering in the free market. Lawmakers should take note and prioritize taking action on pro-free market policies that Americans broadly support,” said **James Dozier**, President of Centerline Liberties.

“Voters are not shy on this issue – they overwhelmingly want the government to put politics aside when it comes to making contracting decisions and focus on quality and reputation instead. The data clearly demonstrates a majority of voters are united on this front and government decision makers should take note in future state contracting agreements,” said **Alex Lundry**, a GOP pollster and founder of Redbud Consulting.

“This poll reinforces what we already know — when the government engages in social engineering, whether from the Left or Right, the market loses and businesses and taxpayers bear the burden and pay the price. It’s clear that voters support pro-free market principles and do not want politics interfering in state contracting decisions, which will lead to increased costs and reduced competition,” said **John Wittman**, Executive Director of Americans for Free Markets.

Notable survey results on ESG & government contracting:

An overwhelming majority of voters want the government to keep politics out of contracting decisions.

- 70% of voters want state officials to prioritize quality, cost and reputation of the product and company over decisions the company has made on political issues.
- Republicans are aligned here with the country, as 74% believe cost and quality should take precedence.

Strong support across key demographic groups.

- Looking at a composite score across each of the related ESG questions, we found that nearly every demographic was a net supporter of politics-free contracting. 70% of Republicans fundamentally believe these decisions should be made apolitically, as do 69% of Trump voters. The average across all demographics analyzed is +15.

Swing voters are distinctly supportive of apolitical contracting.

- 87% of undecided voters in the presidential election want government contracts decided over quality, cost and reputation.

Across the country there is a strong desire for apolitical government contracting including in key swing states of Georgia, Michigan and North Carolina.

- Modeling of state-level estimates indicates that, on average, about 62% of RVs in each state agree with the statement that the state should not choose contracts based on the ideology or politics of the company.

Click [here](#) to read the memo detailing the full findings of survey data on ESG.

Methodology

The survey was fielded September 12-16, 2024 via mixed mode methodology (cell phones, landlines, online and text-to-web) by Redbud Consulting among 800 registered voters. The margin of error is +/- 3%.

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Centerline Liberties is a nonprofit focused on advancing policy solutions capable of defending core constitutional liberties, preserving a free market economy, and limiting the role of government in Americans' everyday lives.