

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** INTERESTED PARTIES  
**FROM:** ROB AUTRY & JENN ELIUM  
**DATE:** AUGUST 5, 2022  
**RE:** KEY FINDINGS FROM A NATIONAL ISSUES SURVEY

Meeting Street conducted a live interviewer telephone survey of 800 registered voters nationally. Responses to this survey were gathered July 30 - August 2, 2022, using a mix of cell phone and landline interviewing. The margin of error for an N=800 survey is + 3.46% in 95 out of 100 cases. The following outlines key findings from this research.

### KEY POINTS

**#1 / The national headwinds are not in Democrats' favor.** The party in power is facing an uphill battle with voters heading into the November elections.

- Fewer than two-in-ten voters say things in the country are heading in the right direction (18% right direction – 75% wrong track);
- Only a third of voters approve of the job Joe Biden is doing (36% approve – 57% disapprove); and,
- Nancy Pelosi holds an even worse image rating than Joe Biden (Pelosi: 36% favorable – 58% unfavorable / Biden: 41% favorable – 57% unfavorable)

**#2 / Voters oppose President Biden's original Build Back Better bill (43% support – 50% oppose), with one-in-four strongly opposing it (41%).** Support falls down party lines with 90% of Republicans opposed to the bill (6% support) and 84% of Democrats supportive of the bill (10% oppose). Independents oppose it by double-digits (38% support – 51% oppose).

**#3 / The survey shows voters have concerns about the Build Back Better v2 bill, too.** Voters reacted to a series of messages about the projected consequences of passing President Biden's revised bill and were then asked how likely they would be to support this bill. The top ranked messages focus on the increase in taxes, but all test at or above 65% less likely to support.



	Much Less Likely	Total Less Likely
The bill would raise taxes by over 300 billion dollars .	57%	67%
This bill will create over 300 billion dollars in new taxes on American businesses, which will only make inflation worse and force the prices Americans pay for goods and services to increase even more.	56%	70%
This bill would increase taxes, which the Wall Street Journal said, “would make inflation worse.”	55%	72%
This bill will provide billions of dollars more for IRS enforcement which means more paperwork, more lawyer fees, and more hurdles to jump through for many law-abiding taxpayers.	55%	70%
The bill will increase taxes when Americans are already paying more for goods and services due to inflation and just as the economy is entering a recession.	55%	70%
This bill will provide billions of dollars for the IRS to hire agents to launch more investigations and conduct more audits on small businesses and taxpayers.	54%	69%
This bill will force American businesses to pay hundreds of billions of dollars in new taxes, which will only hurt our local economies and workers, and make it harder for American companies to compete with foreign companies.	53%	70%
This bill will force American businesses to pay hundreds of billions of dollars in new taxes at a time when many businesses are struggling with higher costs, difficulties finding workers and supplies, and an economy that is shrinking, not growing.	52%	67%
This bill will create billions of dollars in new taxes on private equity investments, which means many entrepreneurs, start-ups, and small businesses across the country will not have access to the funding they need to compete, innovate, and survive today's challenging economic conditions.	52%	69%
This bill would cut 300 billion dollars from Medicare and use some of the money to pay for Obamacare subsidies.	49%	65%

**#4 / Voters are extremely concerned about the effects President Biden’s and the Democrats’ initiatives have on inflation.** “Inflation and rising costs” is the top issue for these voters, with 41% labeling it as the top one or two most important issue for them. The economy and jobs follows closely behind, with 38% of voters saying it’s a top issue that will decide their vote in November. These are the top two issues for both Republican and Independent voters.

- Nearly two-thirds (64%) of voters believe that increased government spending under President Biden and the Democratic-controlled Congress is making their cost of living go up (64% cost of living go up, 5% go down, 27% stay the same); and,
- A majority (57%) of voters say the Democrats’ proposed increases in taxes and government spending will hurt the ability to get rising prices and inflation under control (14% help, 25% no difference).

**#5 / Nearly two-thirds of voters (63%) are less likely to vote for their U.S. Senator after hearing messages about the revised Build Back Better bill.** Over half of voters (51%) say they are much less likely to support their U.S. Senator. It’s not just Republicans who say this (91%), fully 63% of Independent voters and 35% of Democrats say they are less likely to vote for their U.S. Senator if he or she supports this bill.