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## OPPOSITION TO SCHEDULED TAX INCREASES AND LAME DUCK SESSION RUNS HIGH AMONG KEY VOTERS

**Washington, D.C. (July 26, 2010)** – Voters from states with “toss-up” senate races overwhelmingly oppose tax increases scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2011, according to a survey released, today, by Resurgent Republic. Voters are so opposed to the tax increases that 55 percent, including 57 percent of Independents, said they would be less likely to vote for a Democratic House or Senate candidate if Democrats do not stop or delay the increases before the November election.

“If Democrats enact only targeted tax relief, they will be opposite the vast majority of Independents on the tax cuts they do not extend,” said Resurgent Republic Board Member Ed Gillespie. “Yet failing to enact any tax relief before adjourning for the November elections will make voters less likely to vote for Democrats. This survey indicates the looming tax increases could be a significant factor in toss-up Senate elections.”

Resurgent Republic surveyed 1000 likely voters from the twelve states listed by the *Cook Political Report* as “toss-ups” – Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, New Hampshire, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Washington – and found that a majority of these voters oppose all seven tax increases tested, with a two-to-one margin of opposition for five of them.

In addition, voters do not believe Members of Congress should address important legislation in a lame duck session of Congress after the November elections. Three-fourths of Republicans and two-thirds of Independents and Democrats agree that “a lame duck session of Congress is a bad idea. Members of Congress should cast votes on important bills before facing the voters, not wait until after an election to cast those votes.” Only a quarter of these voters agree that “a lame duck session of Congress is a good idea. It allows Congress to address those issues it did not have time for before the election, and those issues can be addressed without the pressure of an impending election.”

A majority of voters in these states believes that if Congress does not vote on tax increases, card check, cap-and-trade legislation or immigration reform before the November elections it is because Democrats are afraid their positions will be unpopular with voters, not because they think Republicans are obstructing the political process. The critical swing group of Independents blames any failure to address these issues on Democratic fears rather than Republican obstruction by 57 to 32 percent.

An overwhelming majority of each partisan group would be less likely to vote for their member of Congress if he or she refused to rule out voting on important issues like tax increases, immigration reform, cap-and-trade legislation or card check in a lame duck session of Congress.

“Speaker Pelosi only last week refused to rule out a lame duck session of congress to consider controversial legislation, seeking to set up Republicans for blame if they do, citing obstructionism,” said Resurgent Republic Board Member Whit Ayres. “She is cutting against the grain of public opinion in key swing states, and Republicans should reinforce voter wariness of a possible lame duck session of Congress.”

Through a steady stream of national polls and focus groups, Resurgent Republic helps policy makers, think tanks, interest groups and others advocate for policies that are consistent with conservative principles. More information, including the key findings and full memo, can be found at [www.resurgentrepublic.com](http://www.resurgentrepublic.com).

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