

# MEMO

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**TO:** The Business Council of New York State, Inc.

**DATE:** May 29, 2018

**FROM:** Mercury

**SUBJECT:** Single Payer Survey Research Key Findings

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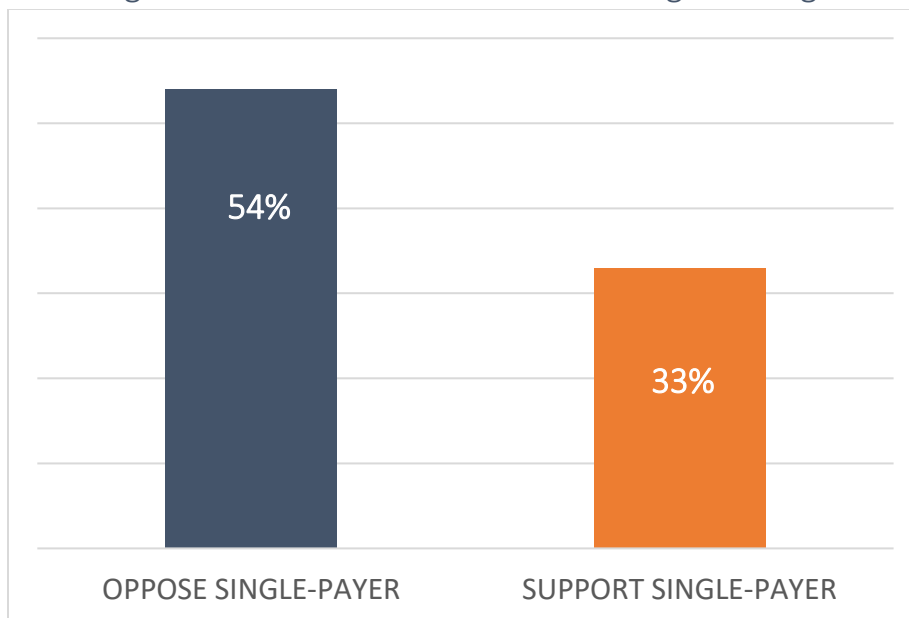
## Overview

This memorandum reports key findings from a statewide telephone survey of 600 New York likely voters conducted May 8 – 11, 2018 regarding single-payer healthcare.

### A New York Single-Payer Healthcare System is Unpopular

The findings of this survey clearly indicate that a single payer healthcare system in which all New Yorkers get their health insurance from a government-run system is widely unpopular. 54% of voters oppose such a system, with opposition across gender, age, race and region.

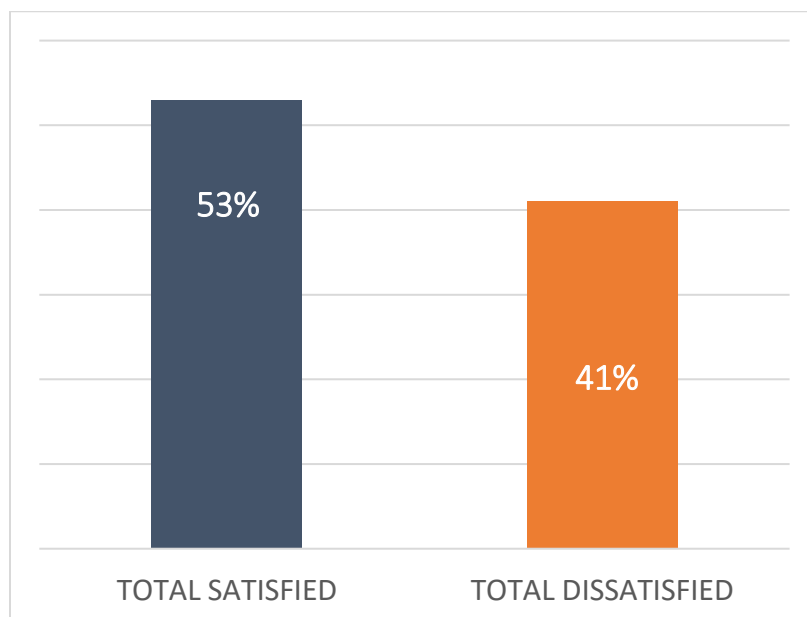
Do you favor or oppose a single-payer healthcare system in which all New Yorkers would get their health insurance from a single state government plan?



### Voters Are Satisfied With the Healthcare System

Similarly, a majority of voters (53%) are satisfied with today's current healthcare system in New York. This is the case regardless of the source of voters' health insurance: an employer plan, spouse's plan, plan purchased by an individual either on or off the New York State of Health Marketplace, Medicare or Medicaid.

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the healthcare system in New York today?



### Voters Have Grave Concerns about a New York Single-Payer Healthcare System

Among voters' perceptions of the policy implications of a single-payer healthcare system in which all New Yorkers would get their health insurance from a state government-run plan, **66% have major doubts about such a system when confronted with the fiscal facts: As much as \$225 Billion in new tax revenue would be required. This is more than double New York State's current annual spending.**

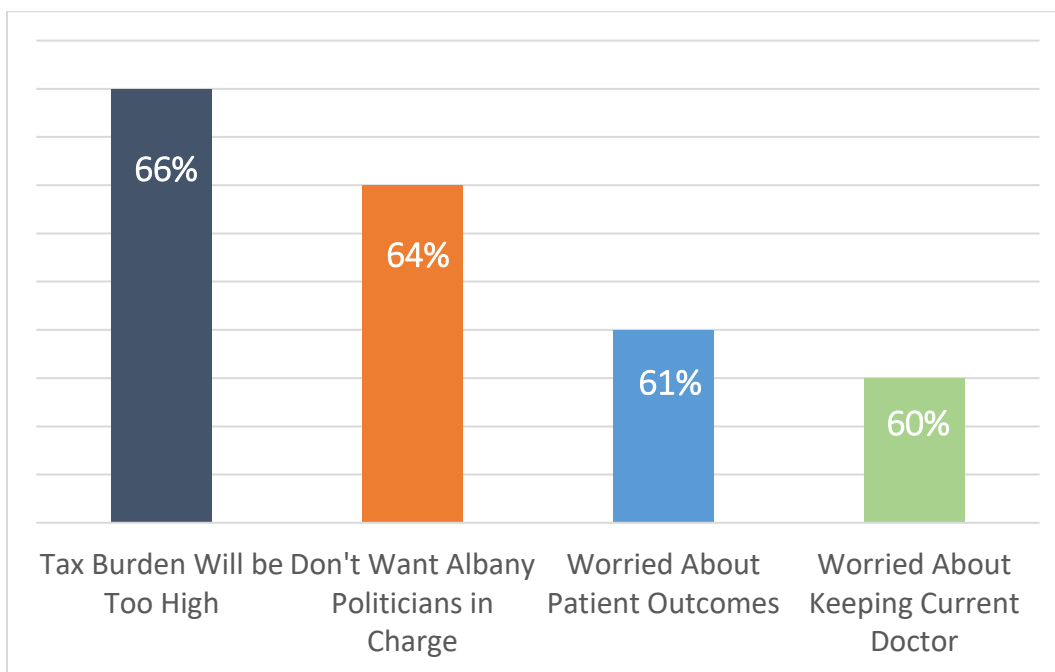
Moreover, more than any other issue, nearly a quarter of all voters rate taxes as their number top area of concern regarding the New York State government.

Other concerns New York voters have regarding a single-payer healthcare system include:

- **64% express major concerns about having Albany politicians in charge of a government run single-payer healthcare system.**

- 61% express major concerns regarding patient outcomes under a single-payer system.
- 60% express major concern regarding the ability to keep their current doctor or specialist under a single-payer system.

Voters' Perceptions of Single-Payer's Policy Implications

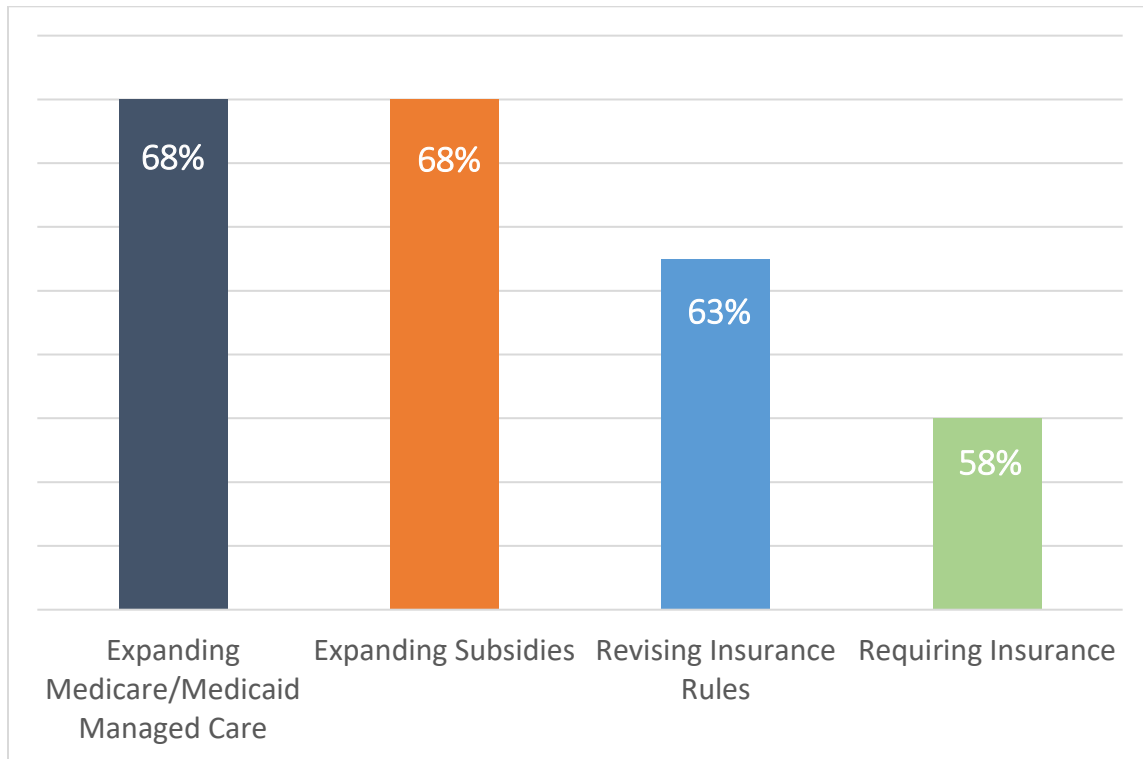


### Voters Are Open to Alternatives Other Than Single-Payer

While a majority of voters oppose a government-run healthcare system, they are open to other alternatives to reforming New York's current healthcare system:

- 68% favor expanding eligibility for Medicare or Medicaid Managed Care.
- 68% favor expanding subsidies for working and middle class families.
- 63% favor revising health insurance rules to encourage younger, healthier people to buy coverage.
- 58% favor requiring all New Yorkers to have health insurance so they have access to primary and preventative care so consumers don't end up subsidizing expensive emergency room care for the uninsured.

## Voters Support Alternatives to Reforming New York’s Healthcare System



### Final Analysis

A New York State run single-payer healthcare system is wholly unpopular. Regardless of region, race, gender or age, a majority of voters would rather stick with the current healthcare system in New York than switch to a single-payer healthcare system in which all New Yorkers get their healthcare from a single state government plan. Voters have grave trepidations that a government-run system would be too costly, both fiscally, and in terms of patient outcomes.

### Methodology

The survey was conducted May 8-11, 2018, statewide, among 600 likely voters. The sampling includes cellphones and landlines. The margin of error for this survey at the 95% confidence level is  $\pm 4.00\%$  on the overall sample.