

**From:** Public Policy Polling  
**To:** Interested Parties  
**Date:** January 22, 2020  
**Subject:** In States Represented by Republican Senators, Constituents Want an Impeachment Trial to Include New Evidence and Witnesses, and Expect Senators to Keep an Open Mind on Removing Trump

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As the impeachment trial of President Trump gets underway, Public Policy Polling surveys of registered voters in Maine, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Utah conducted January 14-15 find that in states represented by Republican senators, **majorities of constituents in each state want their Senators to keep an open mind about the upcoming impeachment trial, want their Senators to support having witnesses testify and new evidence presented during the trial, and find arguments in favor of a full trial with new evidence and witnesses to be very convincing.** Some key findings from the surveys in these states include:

#### **Pennsylvania:**

- Senator Pat Toomey has a deeply negative job performance rating among his constituents. Just 25% approve of his performance as Senator, while 51% disapprove.
- 52% approve of the House passing articles of impeachment against President Trump, while just 46% disapprove. Majorities of Pennsylvanians also believe Trump abused his power (51%) and committed obstruction of Congress (52%).
- 55% say they want Pat Toomey to keep an open mind on whether to vote to convict President Trump in the impeachment trial, while only 42% want him to vote against removing Trump from office immediately.
- 66% believe the Senate should conduct a full trial, which includes hearing new evidence and calling witnesses to testify on both sides, and an even larger percentage – 63% – want Senator Toomey to support a motion to hear from witnesses during the trial.
- Between 65% and 68% find arguments from proponents of a full impeachment trial to be very or somewhat convincing, including:
  - “Senators must be given the opportunity to review documents and hear from witnesses in this case, just as in any other trial” (68% very / somewhat convincing)
  - “Trump prevented some of his most senior aides from testifying in the House impeachment inquiry” (65% very / somewhat convincing)
  - “Senate Republicans are trying to cover up potential wrongdoing by President Trump.” (65% very / somewhat convincing)

#### **Maine:**

- Senator Susan Collins has a strongly negative approval rating among Mainers: only 35% approve of her job performance, while 54% disapprove.
- 59% approve of the House of Representatives passing articles of impeachment. Similarly, 60% believe Trump abused his power, and 59% believe that Trump committed obstruction of Congress.
- 69% of Mainers believe that Senator Collins should keep an open mind on whether to vote to convict President Trump in the impeachment trial, while only 28% want her to dismiss it out of hand.
- 67% believe the Senate should conduct a full trial, which includes hearing new evidence and calling witnesses to testify on both sides. Additionally, 70% want Collins to support a motion to hear from new witnesses during the trial.
- Between 67% and 73% find arguments from proponents of a full impeachment trial to be very or somewhat convincing, including:
  - “Senators must be given the opportunity to review documents and hear from witnesses in this case, just as in any other trial” (73% very / somewhat convincing)

- *“Trump prevented some of his most senior aides from testifying in the House impeachment inquiry”* (69% very / somewhat convincing)
- *“Senate Republicans are trying to cover up potential wrongdoing by President Trump.”* (67% very / somewhat convincing)

### **South Carolina:**

- As the trial begins, even in this deeply conservative state, Senator Lindsey Graham only earns approval from 47% of South Carolinians, while 43% disapprove of his job performance.
- While only 42% approve of the House passing articles of impeachment, registered voters in South Carolina are more split on whether Trump abused his power (48%) and committed obstruction of Congress (45%).
- 51% of constituents in South Carolina want Lindsey Graham to keep an open mind on whether to vote to convict President Trump in the impeachment trial, while only 43% want him to vote to dismiss the charges against Trump.
- 50% believe the Senate should conduct a full trial, which includes hearing new evidence and calling witnesses to testify on both sides, and even more – 54% – want Senator Graham to support a motion to hear from witnesses during the trial.
- Between 61% and 63% find arguments from proponents of a full impeachment trial to be very or somewhat convincing, including:
  - *“Senators must be given the opportunity to review documents and hear from witnesses in this case, just as in any other trial”* (63% very / somewhat convincing)
  - *“Trump prevented some of his most senior aides from testifying in the House impeachment inquiry”* (61% very / somewhat convincing)
  - *“Senate Republicans are trying to cover up potential wrongdoing by President Trump.”* (61% very / somewhat convincing)

### **Utah:**

- Senator Mitt Romney starts with a net negative approval rating, earning only 41 percent approval while 46 percent disapprove of his job performance.
- While just 42% approve of the House passing articles of impeachment, Utah registered voters are more split on whether Trump abused his power (46%) or committed obstruction of Congress (44%).
- 54% of Mitt Romney’s constituents want him to keep an open mind on whether to convict President Trump in the impeachment trial; 42% want him to vote to dismiss the charges against Trump.
- 52% believe the Senate should conduct a full trial, which includes hearing new evidence and calling witnesses to testify on both sides. 59% want Senator Romney to support a motion to hear from witnesses during the trial.
- Between 57% and 63% find arguments from proponents of a full impeachment trial to be very or somewhat convincing, including:
  - *“Senators must be given the opportunity to review documents and hear from witnesses in this case, just as in any other trial”* (63% very / somewhat convincing)
  - *“Trump prevented some of his most senior aides from testifying in the House impeachment inquiry”* (60% very / somewhat convincing)
  - *“Senate Republicans are trying to cover up potential wrongdoing by President Trump.”* (57% very / somewhat convincing)

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PPP conducted surveys January 14-15, 2020 using automated telephone interviews for Defend American Democracy in Maine (831 registered voters, margin of error +/- 3.4%), South Carolina (840 registered voters, +/- 3.4%), Pennsylvania (794 registered voters, margin of error +/- 3.5%), and Utah (1,017 registered voters, +/- 3.1%).