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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Utah Voters Overwhelmingly Oppose House Republicans' Bill to Reduce Liability for Big Pharma and Health Care Providers

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A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that Utah voters are decisively opposed to H.R. 1215, House Republicans' proposal to restrict patients' ability to hold health care providers and pharmaceutical companies accountable for malpractice that results in injury or death. The bill, which will face a vote in Congress next week, is opposed by 64% of Utahns, including majorities of Democrats, Republicans, Independents, women, men, and voters in all three age groups polled. Just 20% of Utah voters support the bill.

Political costs for members of Congress who support the bill are high. 60% of voters say they would be less likely to vote to re-elect their representative if he or she supported the bill. This includes 77% of Democrats, 60% of Republicans, and 59% of Independents.

Key findings from the survey include:

- Opposition to H.R. 1215 grew as voters heard more about the measure. After listening to a series of statements about the details and potential consequences of the bill, 68% of voters – more than two in three – opposed the bill, an increase of four points from the initial tally.
- Voters were most impacted by statements outlining the legislation's implications for their own personal health and the health of their loved ones. 79% had either "very serious" or "somewhat serious" concerns about the bill's potential to exacerbate the issue of preventable medical deaths, and 77% had similar concerns about stripping away their legal protections as patients.
- Voters are unified in their support for holding accountable neglectful nursing homes, which would be protected under H.R. 1215. 82% of Utahns think they should have the ability to take nursing homes to court if one of their loved ones was neglected or abused while a resident of a nursing home, while 9% disagree.

PPP surveyed 534 Utah voters from March 23-24, 2017. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.2 %. This poll was conducted by automated telephone interviews.

