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SUPPORT FOR METHANE STANDARDS

Methodology

- On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council, ALG Research conducted a survey from June 15-23, 2020, among N=1042 likely 2020 general election voters in AK, AZ, CO, FL, GA, ME, NV, NH, NC, PA, UT, and WI, with each state receiving a roughly-equal number of respondents.
- As the survey was conducted online, reaching only individuals with computer or smartphone access, it does not necessarily constitute a random sample and we do not report a margin of sampling error.

Respondents were shown two messages – one of the two split-sampled messages from supporters and the message from opponents.

[SPLIT A- HEALTH] Supporters of this proposal say that methane is a toxic gas that causes health risks and is a major contributor to climate change. By reducing the amount of methane that companies are able to release, it will make communities safer and slow the spread of climate change.

[SPLIT B- OIL PROFITS] Supporters of this proposal say that oil and gas companies are making billions of dollars polluting the air and water with toxic methane. By spewing methane and not repairing pipelines, these companies put workers at risk and threaten nearby communities in order to further increase their profits.

[OPPONENTS] Opponents of this proposal say over-regulation by the federal government has put U.S. energy producers at a disadvantage, driving up energy costs for families and small businesses, and putting tens of thousands of Americans out of work at a time when we need all the jobs we can get.

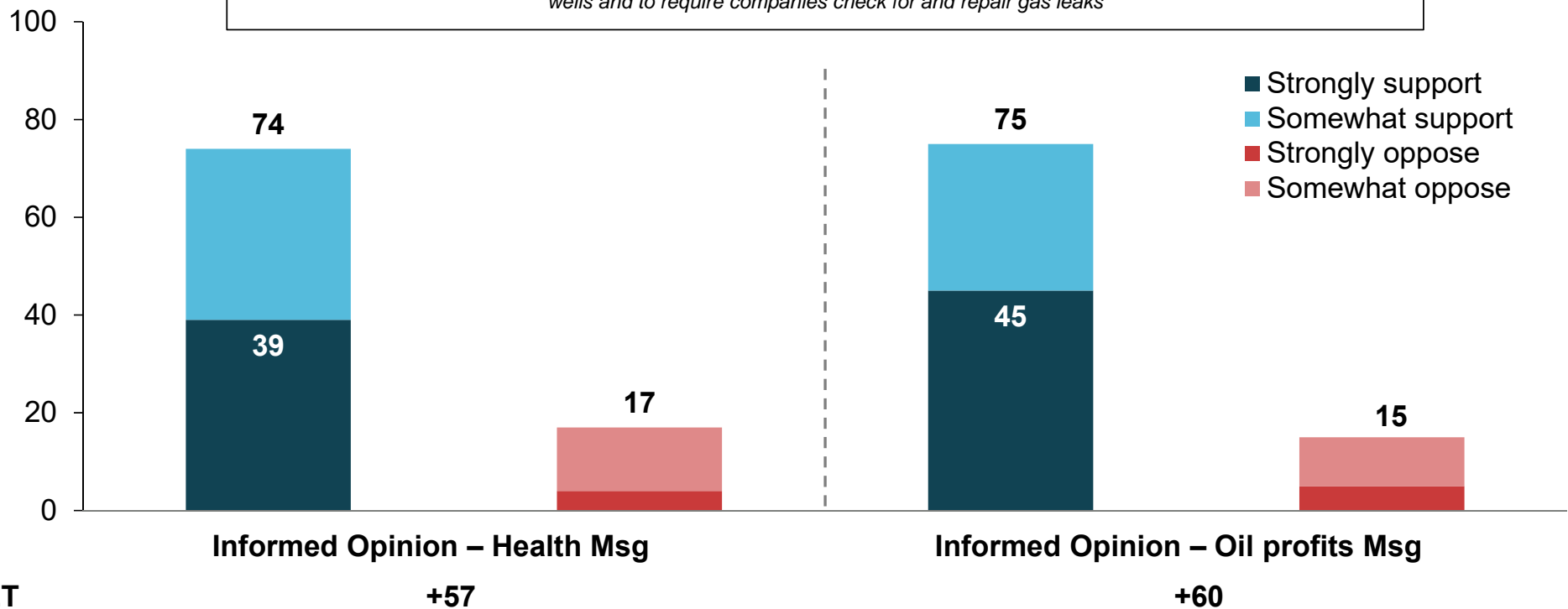
Respondents were then asked the following question:

“Do you support or oppose updating and strengthening regulations to restrict the intentional release of methane from oil and gas wells and to require companies check for and repair gas leaks?”

Americans overwhelmingly support updating and strengthening the methane standards and regulations. After being shown balanced pro and con messaging, people support getting tougher on methane by a nearly 5:1 margin.

Informed Opinion – Methane Standards

Do you support or oppose updating and strengthening regulations to restrict the intentional release of methane from oil and gas wells and to require companies check for and repair gas leaks



NET

+57

+60

Support for curtailing leaks and releases of methane has broad support across all major demographics, including 2-to-1 support among Republicans.

Methane Standards Support (Support / Oppose)	Informed Opinion	Net Support
Overall	75 / 16	+59
Trump 2016 State	72 / 18	+54
Clinton 2016 State	81 / 11	+70
Democrat	86 / 7	+79
Republican	63 / 26	+37
Independent	76 / 12	+64
Men	75 / 17	+58
Women	75 / 15	+60
<50	78 / 13	+65
50+	72 / 19	+53
Non-White	76 / 15	+61
White	74 / 16	+48