

September 7, 2023

DemocracyFIRST Promise Extremely Popular with Pennsylvania Voters

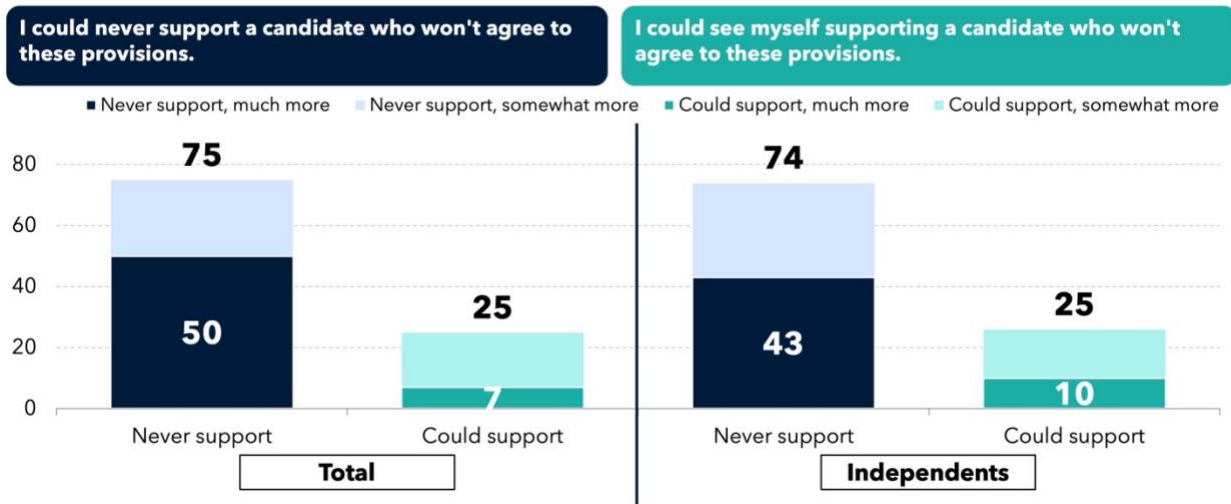
To: Interested Parties

From: Ethan Smith, Upswing Research & Strategy

A recent survey¹ shows that Pennsylvania voters overwhelmingly support the core democratic principles contained in the democracyFIRST Promise². Voters say by a 50-point margin that they could never support a candidate who did not agree to the Promise, 75% - 25%. This support stretches across every important demographic, partisan, and regional subgroup. Importantly, self-described independents also say they could never support a candidate who won't agree to the Promise by wide margins, 74% - 25%.

Figure 1: Likelihood of supporting a candidate who refused to take the democracyFIRST Promise

Below is a pair of statements about the provisions you read a few questions ago. Please indicate which statement comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.



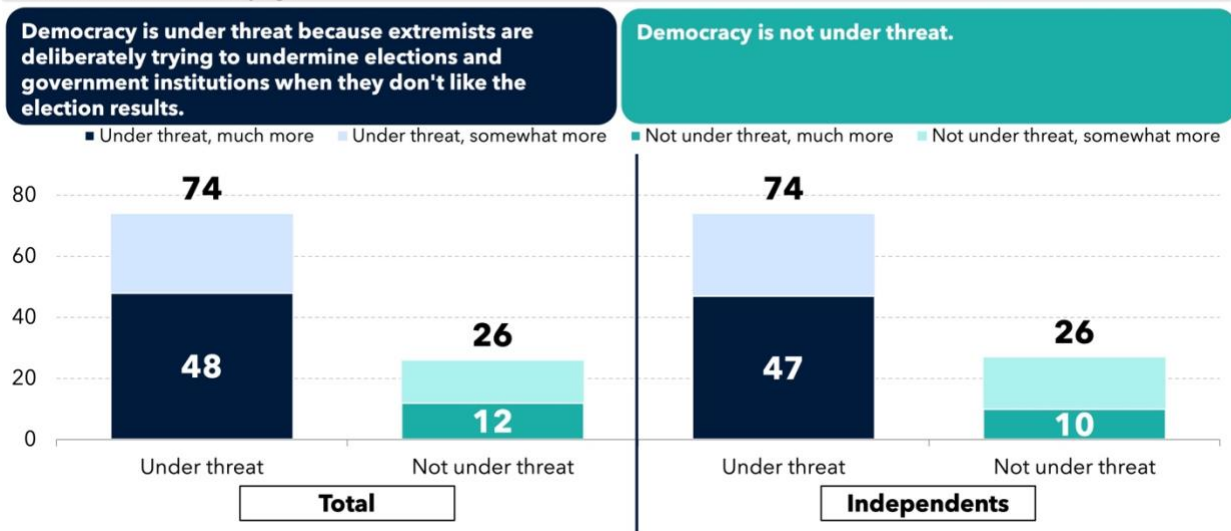
¹ Upswing Research & Strategy recently conducted a survey among 1,000 likely 2023 general election voters across Pennsylvania August 9 - 14, 2023. The data was collected via online panel and is subject to a confidence interval of +/- 3.1%.

² See Appendix for the text of the democracyFIRST Promise

Opposition to candidates who refuse the Promise likely stems from strongly held beliefs that American democracy is under threat because extremists are attempting to undermine government institutions. This belief similarly stretches across important subgroups by wide margins.

Figure 2: Belief that democracy is under threat

Below is a pair of statements about the provisions you read a few questions ago. Please indicate which statement comes closest to your own view, even if neither is exactly right.



The survey also finds several other important data points:

- Josh Shapiro enjoys broad and deep support after more than 7 months in office. Fully 62% of voters have a favorable opinion of him and 67% approve of his job performance.
- Among this electorate, voters are split 50%-50% on the presidential race between President Joe Biden and Donald Trump. Voters are similarly split 50%-50% on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court race between Dan McCaffery and Carolyn Carluccio. Senator Bob Casey enjoys a slight lead on a generic Republican, 53% - 47%.
- Voters express concern about attempts to throw out legal mail in ballots (62% very concerned), refusing to certify election results (56% very concerned), and supporting the insurrection on January 6th (56% very concerned). These will be liabilities to politicians who have attempted to do either in their next election.

Appendix: the democracyFIRST Promise

I commit to putting democracy first, respecting checks and balances defined in our Constitution, and preserving our electoral processes, democratic institutions, and norms, which protect the rights, freedoms, liberties, and opportunities guaranteed to all Americans.

As a candidate, elected official and responsible citizen, I commit to protecting our democracy first. In all cases, I will:

- Support every eligible American citizen's freedom to exercise their right to register and vote in free, fair, accessible, safe, and secure elections.
- Denounce any attempt to intimidate, harass, threaten, or incite violence against opponents, their supporters, and election workers.
- Restore trust and faith in our democracy, not undermining our electoral process by knowingly propagating falsehoods and misinformation.
- Accept the final election result and concede the contest if I lose after all ballots are counted. I will support the peaceful transfer of power and certification of the election. Any claims of election irregularities, or requests for recounts of election contests, will be submitted in good faith for judgment by election officials and/or the judicial system under the law without intimidation, violence, undermining faith in elections through disinformation or other unlawful means.

If elected to serve in public office, I promise to support and defend these foundational principles of our democratic republic.