



**From: Katherine Patterson, Public Policy Polling**

**To: Interested Parties**

**Subject: Connecticut Democratic Voters Support Shared District Services, School Choice and Affordable Housing Options**

**Date: December 12, 2019**

A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that a large majority – 71% - support providing families with more choice in the public school system, including public charter schools, magnet schools, and career academies, with only 18% opposing this.

Additionally, 59% of likely Democratic primary voters in Connecticut believe that not only should the state's public schools receive additional funding, but also that new ideas are needed to make changes to how schools operate.

Voters believe in more efficient spending, and in terms of resource allocation, 53% of voters think the state should focus its limited funds on high-needs districts, while only 31% think the limited funding should be increased for all communities. A majority (60%) also agree that regionalization proposals which would allow for the voluntary sharing of school services and collaboration with other school districts must be considered. Only 23% do not think these proposals should be considered.

Other key findings include:

- 69% of Democratic primary voters in Connecticut believe that the way in which communities are divided—based on race and socio-economic status—is contributing to the state's economic challenges, while only 13% disagree.
- 83% of Democratic primary voters believe that state and local governments have a responsibility to take steps to increase affordable housing, while only 9% disagree.
- 77% of Democratic primary voters believe the religious exemption to vaccines should be eliminated so that parents are required to vaccinate against infectious diseases, while only 13% believe the exemption should not be eliminated.

PPP surveyed 710 likely Democratic primary voters in Connecticut voters from December 6-7, 2019. The margin of error is +/- 3.7%. 50% of interviews for the survey were conducted by telephone and 50% by text message.

