DATE: July 24, 2019

TO: Nikkilia Lu, State Innovation Exchange

FROM: Ben Lazarus and Gabby Weisberg, TargetSmart

RE: SiX Pennsylvania 2019 Poll – Minimum Wage and Overtime Findings

Results from a recent SiX-commissioned multi-modal survey\(^1\) of registered Pennsylvania voters reveal that the Pennsylvania electorate is broadly supportive of an increased minimum wage and Governor Wolf’s expanded overtime policy.

When voters are asked if they support raising Pennsylvania’s minimum wage to fifteen dollars an hour for workers over the next five years, 62 percent support the policy while just 36 percent oppose it. Moreover, the intensity by which voters support an increased minimum wage is much stronger than the opposition, as 42 percent say they strongly support an increased minimum wage, while just 18 percent strongly oppose it. Although voters are generally supportive of an increased minimum wage across the board, we see opposition rise from Republicans (38 percent support, 59 percent oppose), conservatives (40 percent support, 57 percent oppose), and voters living in rural areas, particularly rural men (48 percent support, 51 percent oppose), rural men under 50 years old (46 percent support, 52 percent oppose), and rural college graduates (46 percent support, 52 percent oppose). The strongest support for this policy stems from liberals (89 percent support, 10 percent oppose), urban voters (78 percent support, 22 percent oppose), and voters of color (82 percent support, 16 percent oppose), particularly women of color (86 percent support, 12 percent oppose) and voters of color over 50 years old (89 percent support, 11 percent oppose). Shifting focus to overtime rules, voters unanimously support Governor Wolf’s overtime policy guaranteeing time and a half to workers earning less than $47,000 a year who work more than 40

\(^1\) See Appendix A for the full survey methodology.
hours a week. Just 16 percent of voters oppose this policy, and a healthy majority (55 percent) supports it strongly.

Appendix A – Survey Methodology
TargetSmart designed this multi-modal survey. Eight-hundred and fifty interviews were conducted via professional telephone agents (453 wireless respondents, 397 landline respondents), and 406 interviews were conducted online among panelists who were matched to the TargetSmart voter file from six opt-in panel providers. The survey was conducted from June 15-20, 2019. All respondents indicated they were 18 years or older and registered to vote in Pennsylvania. Quotas were designed to reflect the demographic and geographic distribution of registered voters in Pennsylvania. The data were weighted by age, race, party registration, TargetSmart High School Only Score, and region by county to ensure an accurate reflection of the population.

A representative statewide base sample of 1,106 respondents was augmented by oversamples of 50 respondents residing in the state’s Northwest\(^2\) region, Southwest\(^3\) region, and East Central\(^4\) region. The oversamples were weighted into the base such that the overall effective sample size is 1,100. No margin of sampling error is calculated for this survey as online data collection relies on non-representative opt-in panels. However, a fully randomized study with a sample size of 1,100 interviews carries with it a margin of error of +/- 2.95% at a 95% confidence level. Percentage totals may not add up precisely due to rounding.

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\(^2\) The Northwest region is defined by Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Lawrence, Venango, and Warren counties.

\(^3\) The Southwest region is defined by Armstrong, Indiana, Westmoreland, Fayette, Washington, Greene, Beaver, and Butler counties.

\(^4\) The East Central region is defined by Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, York, Adams, Cumberland, and Perry counties.