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STATE *Wire*

Survey of Likely Voters 45th Legislative District

2017 Senate Special Election General Election

Survey fielded October 14-19, 2017

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Methodology: This survey was conducted using live callers from October 14 to October 19, 2017. There were 401 completed surveys drawn from a random sample of all available voters with phone numbers that had voted in 3 of the last 4 elections (2015 and 2016, primary and general elections). Calls were made to both land lines and cell phone numbers.

With 401 respondents, the survey has a margin of error of +/- 4.7% at a 95% confidence interval. Cross-tab results have a higher margin of error and should be used for more qualitative analysis.

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Summary of findings:

- If the election were held today, Manka Dhingra would lead Jinyoung Englund 51% to 39%. That result is in-line with other polling information made public [at the Wire](#), showing Dhingra with a 51%-41% lead. The August primary results also showed a similar level of support: 52% to 42%.
- It appears that despite \$2.4 million dollars having been raised and spent in this race, a record for legislative races in Washington State, those expenditures have not appeared to fundamentally shift the race in the direction of either candidate.
- It is not surprising that the Democratic Party has higher favorable/unfavorable numbers (42%-41%) than the Republican Party (24%-58%) in a district that Hillary Clinton won handily. It is also not a surprise that President Trump is viewed unfavorably (30% to 64%). However, it is noteworthy that President Trump has higher favorability marks than the Republican Party in general in a district that has sent Republicans to the legislature in most of the legislative election of the past 20 years. This is may be bad omen for Republican candidates in future elections in the Puget Sound region if Republican candidates don't otherwise develop a direct connection with the voters that supersedes the Republican brand.
- Opinions about President Trump align strongly with polarized support for either candidate. Republican Englund wins support from 92% of respondents that "strongly approve" of Pres. Trump and 86% of those that "somewhat approve" of President Trump. Englund even wins 76% of those "neutral" in their opinion of Trump. However, given the very large cohort of respondents with a "strongly disapprove" view of Pres. Trump, that Democrat Dhingra wins 83% of that cohort is the strongest differentiator of her support. Of those respondents that only "somewhat disapprove" of President Trump, the race is much closer but still in Dhingra's favor: 43%-37%.
- It appears difficult to have a "neutral" opinion of President Trump and still have favorable views of the Democratic Party and Democrat Dhingra. Only 8% of voters with a neutral view of Trump support Dhingra and 0% of respondents with a neutral view of Trump have a favorable opinion of the Democratic Party. These are statistically difficult numbers to reach. One hypothesis could be that these voters are really Republican voters that are disaffected by Trump, and less supportive of him than past Republican presidents. Of this cohort, 48% view the Republican Party favorably while 20% view it unfavorably. If this represents a "softening" of the Republican base in a swing district, and if that is not unique to the 45th, then that could be problematic for Republicans heading into 2018.



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Wire Poll
45th Legislative District - General Election
Likely voters (3 of 4)

October 14-19, 2017
n=401
MOE: +/- 4.7%
95% confidence rate

Intro: Good evening. My name is <read name> and I'm with washingtonstatewire.com, a political news site for Washington State. We're conducting a poll on the Senate race in the 45th Legislative District, and I was hoping to get your feedback. My questions will take about 2 minutes of your time. Would you be willing to answer 2 minutes of questions for me?

Question 1: First, can you tell me your view of President Trump? Do you strongly approve of his performance, somewhat approve, neutral, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove?

Strongly approve	15.0%
Somewhat approve	14.7
Neutral	6.2
Somewhat disapprove	7.5
Strongly disapprove	56.1
Did not answer	0.5

Question 2: Great. Let's move on. What is your opinion of the Republican Party? Do you view the Republican Party very favorably, somewhat favorably, neutral, somewhat unfavorably, or strongly unfavorably?

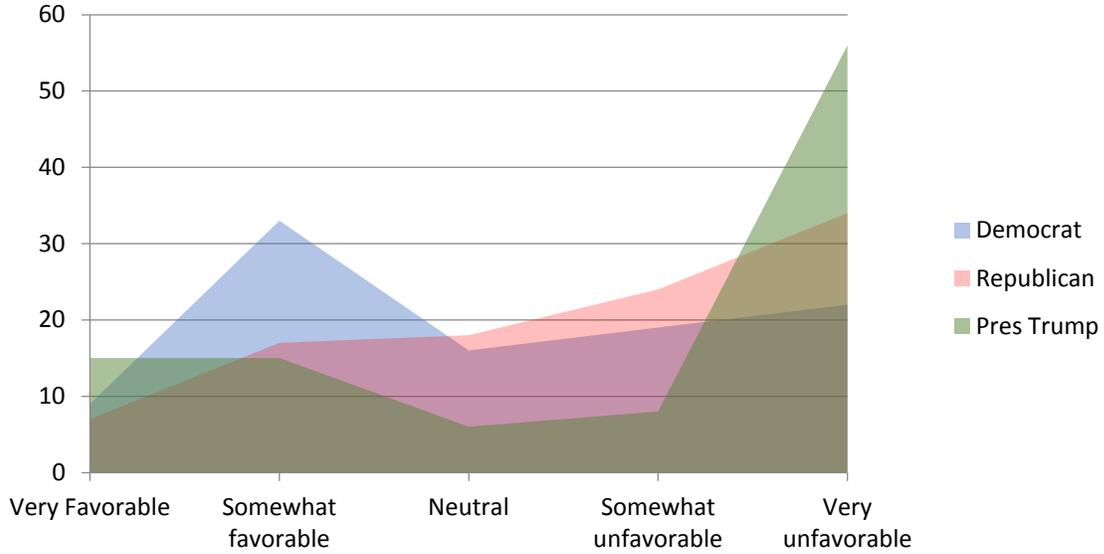
Very favorably	7.0%
Somewhat favorably	17.0
Neutral	18.0
Somewhat unfavorably	23.4
Very unfavorably	33.7
Did not answer	1.0

Question 3: What is your opinion of the Democratic Party? Do you view the Democratic Party very favorably, somewhat favorably, neutral, somewhat unfavorably, or very unfavorably?

Very favorably	9.2%
Somewhat favorably	33.3
Neutral	16.0
Somewhat unfavorably	18.7

Very unfavorably	21.9
Did not answer	1.0

Favorability Scores



Question 4: As you may know, there is an election to the senate in the 45th legislative district. If the election were held today, would you vote for, Democrat Manka Dinghra or Republican Jinyoung Englund?

Manka Dingra	51.4%
Jinyoung Englund	38.7
Did not answer/Unsure	10.0

End: Thank you. That is all we need.

Select crosstabs

	Senate		
	Englund	Dhingra	Undecided
Trump: Strongly Approve	92%	2%	7%
Trump: Somewhat Approve	86%	5%	8%
Trump: Neutral	76%	8%	16%
Trump: Somewhat Disapprove	37%	43%	20%
Trump: Strongly Disapprove	8%	83%	9%

	Republican Party					Democratic Party				
	Very Fav	Smw Fav	Neutral	Smw Unfav	Very unfav	Very Fav	Smw Fav	Neutral	Smw Unfav	Very unfav
Trump: Strongly Approve	30%	35%	10%	15%	10%	0%	2%	5%	22%	72%
Trump: Somewhat Approve	12%	41%	35%	10%	2%	0%	7%	12%	29%	53%
Trump: Neutral	8%	40%	32%	16%	4%	0%	0%	28%	64%	8%
Trump: Somewhat Disapprove	3%	3%	55%	31%	7%	7%	34%	21%	21%	17%
Trump: Strongly Disapprove	0%	3%	11%	30%	56%	16%	53%	18%	10%	3%