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## **NATIONAL: IRAN GOT BETTER END OF DEAL**

### *Little support for an Obama 3<sup>rd</sup> term*

West Long Branch, NJ – The American public is divided on what Congress should do about the recently negotiated nuclear deal, but more feel that Iran came out of it better than the U.S. The *Monmouth University Poll* also found distrust that Iran will live up to the agreement is as high as it was before the deal was struck. Other poll results find that Pres. Obama’s claim he could win a third term may be unfounded.

The public is divided on how Congress should handle the recently negotiated agreement to curb Iran’s nuclear program. Just over 1-in-4 (27%) say Congress should vote to approve it and about 1-in-3 (32%) say Congress should not, while a plurality (41%) are not sure what Congress should do. A majority (55%) of Republicans say Congress should reject the deal, just 13% say it should support the deal and 32% are unsure. Just over 4-in-10 (41%) Democrats say Congress should approve the agreement compared to just 14% who oppose it, but 45% of Democrats remain unsure. Among independents, 27% say Congress should approve the agreement, 33% not approve it, and 40% are not sure.

Part of the uncertainty in public opinion may be due to a sense that Iran got the better end of the bargain. Four-in-ten (41%) say Iran got more of what it wanted from this deal, while just 14% feel the U.S. came out on top. Only 23% say that both countries benefitted equally. Another 5% volunteer that neither country got what they wanted and 17% are not sure who benefitted more from the agreement. Two-thirds of Republicans (67%) say Iran made out on the deal, while a plurality of Democrats (39%) say both countries benefitted equally.

The *Monmouth University Poll* also found that 6-in-10 (61%) Americans do not trust Iran at all to abide by the terms of this agreement. Just 6% have a lot of trust in Iran and 28% have a little trust. This high lack of trust is similar to where it stood in polls taken during the final stages of the negotiations last month (55%) and at the beginning of the year (59%).

Nearly 9-in-10 Americans (88%) have been following news about the recently negotiated agreement to curb Iran's nuclear program. Republicans (63%), though, are more likely than independents (49%) and Democrats (48%) to have heard a lot about it.

"The public is not convinced that Congress should reject the plan, but they can't shake their nagging doubts that Iran has the upper hand here," said Patrick Murray, director of the independent Monmouth University Polling Institute in West Long Branch, NJ.

The poll also looked at Pres. Barack Obama's overall standing with the public. In a recent speech, Obama said that he could win a third term if the Constitution didn't limit him to two. The poll's results suggest this may be a bit of wishful thinking. Just 26% of American voters say they would vote to re-elect Obama if he was allowed to run for another term while fully 68% would vote for somebody else. It's no surprise that Obama would find little enthusiasm for another four years in the White House among Republicans (5%) or even independents (23%) at this stage. However, his support among Democrats is not particularly strong either – just 53% would back the incumbent for a third term while 43% of his fellow partisans would vote for somebody else.

"Well, it was worth a shot," said Murray. "It's not like the president's claim could ever be tested for real."

Pres. Obama's job rating has dropped after temporarily poking its head above water last month. He currently has a negative 45% approve to 50% disapprove rating with the American public. That's lower than the 47% positive to 46% negative rating he held in July, but it is similar to his job ratings from earlier in the year. Currently, 79% of Democrats approve of the president's job performance – similar to 80% in July – whereas 85% of Republicans disapprove – up from 80% in July. Independents give Obama a negative split at 39% approve and 52% disapprove, which is slightly worse than last month's rating of 42% approve and 48% disapprove.

Congress continues to earn a negative 18% approve to 72% disapprove job rating, which is where it has been wallowing for a very, very long time.

The *Monmouth University Poll* was conducted by telephone from July 30 to August 2, 2015 with 1,203 adults in the United States. This sample has a margin of error of  $\pm 2.8$  percent. The poll was conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute in West Long Branch, NJ.

## DATA TABLES

The questions referred to in this release are as follows:

(\* Some columns may not add to 100% due to rounding.)

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Approve	<b>45%</b>	43%	52%	14%	39%	79%
Disapprove	<b>50%</b>	53%	37%	85%	52%	16%
(VOL) No opinion	<b>6%</b>	4%	11%	1%	8%	4%

TREND:	August 2015	July 2015	June 2015	April 2015	January 2015	December 2014	July 2013
Approve	45%	47%	44%	42%	43%	41%	42%
Disapprove	50%	46%	46%	48%	48%	49%	51%
(VOL) No opinion	6%	7%	10%	10%	8%	10%	6%
Unwtd N	1,203	1,001	1,002	1,005	1,003	1,008	1,012

2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Approve	<b>18%</b>	16%	23%	23%	13%	21%
Disapprove	<b>72%</b>	77%	53%	69%	74%	73%
(VOL) No opinion	<b>11%</b>	7%	24%	7%	13%	7%

TREND:	August 2015	July 2015	June 2015	April 2015	January 2015	December 2014	July 2013
Approve	18%	18%	19%	21%	18%	17%	14%
Disapprove	72%	69%	71%	67%	70%	73%	76%
(VOL) No opinion	11%	12%	10%	12%	11%	11%	10%
Unwtd N	1,203	1,001	1,002	1,005	1,003	1,008	1,012

3. If President Obama was allowed to run for a third term, would you vote to re-elect him or would you vote for somebody else?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Vote to re-elect	<b>27%</b>	26%	34%	5%	23%	53%
Vote for somebody else	<b>65%</b>	68%	51%	93%	65%	43%
(VOL) Wouldn't vote at all	<b>2%</b>	1%	4%	1%	3%	0%
(VOL) Don't know	<b>6%</b>	4%	11%	1%	9%	4%

4. The United States and other countries have recently negotiated an agreement with Iran to curb that country's nuclear program and prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. Have you seen or heard a lot, a little, or nothing at all about this?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
A lot	<b>50%</b>	55%	32%	63%	49%	48%
A little	<b>38%</b>	35%	48%	29%	39%	41%
Nothing at all	<b>12%</b>	10%	20%	9%	12%	11%

5. Should Congress vote to approve or not approve this agreement, or are you not sure?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Approve	<b>27%</b>	27%	28%	13%	27%	41%
Not approve	<b>32%</b>	34%	24%	55%	33%	14%
Not sure	<b>41%</b>	39%	48%	32%	40%	45%

6. How much do you trust Iran to abide by the terms of this agreement – a lot, a little, or not at all?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
A lot	6%	5%	11%	2%	6%	11%
A little	28%	28%	28%	17%	27%	39%
Not at all	61%	63%	52%	80%	63%	43%
(VOL) Don't know	5%	4%	8%	1%	4%	7%

TREND:	August 2015	July 2015	January 2015
A lot	6%	5%	4%
A little	28%	35%	34%
Not at all	61%	55%	59%
(VOL) Don't know	5%	5%	2%
Unwtd N	1,203	1,001	1,003

7. Who do you think got more of what they wanted from this deal, the United States or Iran, or did both countries get what they wanted?

	TOTAL	REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
United States	14%	11%	22%	8%	16%	15%
Iran	41%	45%	27%	67%	41%	23%
Both got what they wanted	23%	24%	21%	9%	22%	39%
(VOL) Neither got what they wanted	5%	5%	3%	4%	5%	4%
(VOL) Don't know	17%	14%	27%	13%	16%	19%

The *Monmouth University Poll* was sponsored and conducted by the Monmouth University Polling Institute from July 30 to August 2, 2015 with a national random sample of 1,203 adults age 18 and older. This includes 842 contacted by a live interviewer on a landline telephone and 361 contacted by a live interviewer on a cell phone, in English. Monmouth is responsible for all aspects of the survey design, data weighting and analysis. Final sample is weighted for region, age, education, gender and race based on US Census information. Data collection support provided by Braun Research (field) and SSI (RDD sample). For results based on this sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling has a maximum margin of plus or minus 2.8 percentage points (unadjusted for sample design). Sampling error can be larger for sub-groups (see table below). In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

POLL DEMOGRAPHICS (weighted)			
25% Rep	49% Male	32% 18-34	66% White
45% Ind	51% Female	36% 35-54	12% Black
31% Dem		32% 55+	15% Hispanic
			7% Asian/Other

	TOTAL	MARGIN OF ERROR REGISTERED VOTER		PARTY ID		
		Yes	No	Rep	Ind	Dem
Unweighted N	1203	1033	170	316	501	353
moe	2.8%	3.1%	7.5%	5.5%	4.4%	5.2%

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