

Poll: Democratic healthcare plans favored

by UPI

LOS ANGELES -- U.S. voters are more likely to favor Democratic plans to increase health insurance coverage than Republican ones, a new poll finds. Sixty-two percent of those surveyed for The Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg poll favor requiring large employers to provide health insurance, while 31 percent oppose it. There is less support for making health insurance mandatory with 51 percent in favor and 39 percent opposed. Voters are split on one of the Republican candidates' leading proposals, tax deductions or credits for health insurance premiums, with 44 percent in favor and 45 percent opposed. Among the 1,209 adults surveyed, 29 percent said that government should be responsible for health insurance, 23 percent said employers, 24 percent said individuals and 19 percent said the responsibility should be shared. Independents leaned toward Democratic proposals. They are also more likely than either Democrats or Republicans to be upset about "job lock" -- the possibility of being unable to leave a job because quitting would mean losing health insurance. The poll has a margin of error of 3 percentage points in either direction.

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