



WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

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It has been an amazing week for Americans all across the nation. The Supreme Court has made two historic decisions – the Affordable Care Act is here to stay and love is love for all Americans. Real progress has been made and Democrats will continue to fight for commonsense policies that benefit Americans from all backgrounds.

DNC Chair Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz released the following statements on both the Affordable Care Act and marriage equality. You can view them [here](#) and [here](#).

But Republicans aren't agreeing and want to continue the fight. Take a look at some of the things they've had to say since the Court's decisions:



On marriage equality:

Bush: "I believe in traditional marriage."

Walker: "The only alternative left is to support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to reaffirm the ability of the states to continue to define marriage."

Rubio: "I believe that marriage...should be between one man and one woman."

Perry: "I'm a firm believer in traditional marriage... I fundamentally disagree with the court rewriting the law and assaulting the 10th Amendment."

Jindal: "Marriage between a man and a woman was established by God, and no earthly court can alter that."

Fiorina: "I do not agree that the Court can or should redefine marriage."

Huckabee: "The only outcome worse than this flawed, failed decision would be for the President and Congress...to surrender in the face of this out-of-control act of unconstitutional, judicial tyranny."

On the Affordable Care Act:

Bush: "I will work with Congress to **repeal**..."

Paul: "As President, I will fight for full-fledged, 100% **REPEAL**."

Rubio: "I remain committed to **repealing** this bad law..."

Walker: "Today's Supreme Court ruling upholding the administration's implementation of ObamaCare means Republicans in the House and Senate must redouble their efforts to **repeal**..."

Perry: "It's time we **repealed** Obamacare..."

Cruz: "Every GOP candidate for the Republican nomination should know that this decision makes the 2016 election a referendum on the full **repeal** of Obamacare."

Graham: "Today's decision only reinforces why we need a president who will bring about real reform that **repeals** Obamacare..."

DNC Statement on Bobby Jindal's 2016 Announcement

With Bobby Jindal's announcement that he is running for president, DNC National Press Secretary Holly Shulman released the following statement: "Wait, which governor is Bobby Jindal? Is he the governor with the nine credit downgrades?* Or the one whose state is last in the region for job growth?** Or is he the one where his state's tuition climbed by 48%?*** Or the one who said he had a 'fantastic time' and no regrets about his time working at Lehman Brothers during the financial crisis?**** Is he the governor who had the highest rate of uninsured in the nation?***** Oh, there's another failed governor running for president?"

*Christie
**Walker
***Bush
****Kasich
*****Perry

NJ Gives Worst Review of Chris Christie – Ever. And He Still Thinks He Can Be President?

Governor Christie has been [running away](#) from New Jersey every chance he gets – which isn't surprising based on his latest polling numbers. **Only 30 percent** of New Jerseyans actually approve of his performance as governor. **That's the worst approval rating he's EVER received.**

"Under Christie, New Jersey has received a record-breaking nine credit downgrades, while coming in at 48th in the country when it comes to private sector job growth and suffering an unemployment rate well above the national average. America – this is what you'd get under President Christie and, as you can hear from the people of his state, it's pretty terrible." **—Kaylie Hanson, DNC spokesperson**

Christie hits new low in latest poll

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FDU poll finds 30 percent of voters approve of Christie's job performance

TRENTON – Gov. Chris Christie's approval rating is down to a new low in the latest public-opinion poll.

Today's poll results released by Fairleigh Dickinson University show that 30 percent of New Jersey registered voters approve of the job Christie is doing and 55 percent disapprove. That's down from 36 percent approving and 50 percent disapproving in the FDU PublicMind poll in April.

Christie is expected to announce a run for president by the end of June, and FDU poll director and political science professor Krista Jenkins said those ratings are far lower than a White House candidate wants to register at home.

"The good news is that none of his potential presidential opponents have emerged with a decisive lead yet. The bad news is that he is the governor in a state where a sizable majority give a thumbs down to his leadership," Jenkins said.

Forty-two percent said they've grown to like Christie less since he became governor, while 13 percent they've come to like him more over the last five and a half years.

People feel better about Christie's personally than they do about his policies. Forty-seven percent of voters like him, compared with 46 percent who don't. Sixty-two percent don't like his policies, while 31 percent say they do. By and large, the poll found a grumpy New Jersey electorate:

- Twice as many registered voters think things in New Jersey are on the wrong track, 57 percent, rather than moving in the right direction, 28 percent.
- Just 24 percent approve of the job the state Legislature is doing, while 44 percent don't approve. Neither party is pleased, though Democrats are a bit less disenchanted.
- Half of voters say the biggest obstacle to addressing the state's biggest problems is political leadership, while just 23 percent said it's money and 19 percent say it's a divided public. (On a list of five issues, which didn't include taxes, pensions and unemployment were deemed tops.)

New York Times Editorial: Republicans Take Aim at Poor Women

Monday's New York Times editorial, "[Republicans Take Aim at Poor Women](#)," highlights the dangerous steps Republicans in Congress are taking to undermine the most basic women's health services.

Reminds us of the GOP presidential field:

- As governor, Jeb Bush [gutted](#) support for Planned Parenthood, family planning programs, and women's health screenings.
- Senator Rubio [introduced](#) legislation to let a boss deny a woman access to contraception if he or she were opposed to it.
- Senator Paul [introduced](#) legislation that could make some forms of birth control illegal.
- Governor Walker signed a budget that [strips](#) funding from women's health clinics, including for cancer screenings, HIV testing, and routine health exams for women.
- Governor Christie [made cuts](#) to women's health programs that led to the closure of six family centers in New Jersey.
- Governor Perry signed legislation to [shut down](#) family planning services, cutting services for thousands of women in Texas.

In The States

- On Wednesday, the Democratic Party of Louisiana released the following statement regarding Gov. Bobby Jindal's doomed presidential campaign: "After more than a year spent campaigning out-of-state on the taxpayers' dime, and months of time wasted in the legislature attempting to curry favor with GOP power-brokers, Gov. Bobby Jindal finally made it official today and declared his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination. As a late entrant to an extraordinarily crowded field, Jindal carries the baggage of his dismal record of failure as governor and polling numbers hovering in the low 0% range. The vanity campaign he formally kicked off in Kenner can be expected to have no actual impact on the 2016 race for president." Read the full press release [here](#).
- On Wednesday, the Wisconsin Democratic Party highlighted multiple editorials calling on Scott Walker to focus on his job as Governor, and not on running for president: "When he was running for re-election last year, he told a group of Journal Sentinel opinion writers and reporters that he really wanted to be Wisconsin's governor, and that he would act as such in his second term. He would actually govern. I don't think he's doing that; and that's certainly the perception of many in the public, who think he's running for president full-time. Maybe he's working behind the scenes, but if he is, it's so far back that no one knows he's there." Read the full press release [here](#).
- On Thursday, the Democratic Party of Texas compared the failed Governorships of Jeb Bush and Rick Perry: "As Jeb Bush visits Rick Perry's home turf on a fundraising swing, it got us thinking – if you put them side-by-side, who would win in a contest for Worst Former Governor Running for President? Turns out, it's a virtual tie! Both governors left behind a disastrous legacy. Check out the tale of the tape." Read the full press release [here](#).
- On Thursday, Iowa Democratic Party Chair Dr. Andy McGuire released the following statement on the Supreme Court's ruling on the Affordable Care Act: "Once again, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the tens of thousands of Iowans receiving health care because of the Affordable Care Act. Never again shall we return to the days when you could be denied health coverage because of a pre-existing condition, or be charged more for health insurance merely because of your gender. Every Iowan deserves access to quality, affordable health care. The time for political posturing on the issue from the 2016 GOP field and Republicans across Iowa is well past its expiration date. The Republicans coming to our state with no message beyond repeal and denying health care to thousands of Iowans must stop. Now, Iowans will continue to move forward to ensure all of our families can live safe and healthy lives." Read the full press release [here](#).
- On Friday, New Hampshire Democratic Party Chair Ray Buckley released the following statement on the Supreme Court's ruling on marriage equality: "Today's decision marks a truly historic day in our fight for equal rights, a victory that was only possible because of the tremendous leadership of courageous individuals in New Hampshire and across our nation. I have been extremely proud to stand with Governors Shaheen, Lynch and Hassan as they have fought to affirm true equality for all under the law, and our state's leadership on marriage equality and LGBT rights also wouldn't have been possible without the leadership of Senate President Larsen and Speaker Norelli. We must also recognize the extraordinary leadership of President Obama, Congresswoman Kuster, Congresswoman Shea-Porter and Congressman Hodes who have all fought tirelessly in Washington for the Granite State values of freedom and inclusion." Read the full press release [here](#).