U.S. Health Care
Likelihood to Vote for Candidate

Please tell me if you would be more likely or less likely to vote for a presidential candidate if he or she supported increased funding for the following? (% saying “More Likely”)

- Education: 82%
- Research to improve health: 82%
- Job creation: 80%
- Budget deficit reduction: 79%
- Health care reform: 76%
- Environmental protection: 74%
- Homeland security: 73%
- Tax cuts: 68%
- War on terrorism: 63%

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Health Care System Needs to Change

Which of the following statements best describes your view of the current health care system?

- 43%: Significant changes are needed to make our health care system work much better
- 31%: Our health care system is broken and needs a complete overhaul
- 25%: Overall, the health care system is working and just needs only some minor adjustments
- 1%: Don't know/Refused

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Americans Dissatisfied with Quality of U.S. Health Care

Thinking about the country as a whole, are you generally satisfied or dissatisfied with the quality of health care in the country?

- 43% Satisfied
- 55% Dissatisfied
- 2% Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Americans Dissatisfied with Cost of Health Care

Thinking about the country as a whole, are you generally satisfied or dissatisfied with the cost of health care in this country?

- Very satisfied: 1%
- Somewhat satisfied: 6%
- Somewhat dissatisfied: 21%
- Very dissatisfied: 49%
- Don't know: 23%

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Federal Government Responsible for Basic Health Care Coverage

Do you agree or disagree that it is the responsibility of the federal government to ensure all Americans have basic health care coverage?

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Gets Mixed Reviews

How well do you think the Medicare prescription drug benefit for seniors is working?

- 36% Somewhat well
- 29% Very well
- 11% Somewhat Poorly
- 11% Very Poorly
- 13% Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Increase Incentives for Health Care Professionals

Current evidence suggests that the U.S. is experiencing shortages and poor distribution of health care professionals. How important would you say it is for policy makers to create more incentives to encourage individuals to pursue careers as … (% saying “Very/Somewhat Important”)

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Patients/Doctors Should Maintain Control of Health Care Choices

Comparative effectiveness (CE) research compares two alternative treatments for the same condition to see which works better for the average patient. Many feel Medicare and private insurers should only cover the most effective treatment. Others feel, since CE only determines which treatment works best on average, the ultimate decision as to what treatment to be used should be left to doctors and not the government or insurance companies. Which of the following statements is closer to your own view?

- CE research should be used to inform patients and doctors but the decision on which treatment to use should be made by patients and doctors, not government or insurance companies
- CE research should be used by insurers and government to deny coverage for treatments that are less effective on average
- Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Cost of EHRs Private/Public Responsibility

Most agree that the use of standardized electronic health records will make the health care system more efficient and reduce medical errors. Do you think the cost of implementing electronic health records should be paid for by the public sector, the private sector, or some combination of the two?

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Mental Health Services Should be Part of All Health Care Plans

Do you agree or disagree that mental health services should be part of all health care plans in the public and private sectors?

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Few Americans Very Well Informed About Health Care Positions

How well informed would you say you are about the positions of your Senators and Representative on health care issues? Would you say…

- 45% Very well
- 28% Somewhat well
- 16% Somewhat Poorly
- 9% Very Poorly
- 2% Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Research & Investment
U.S. Competitive Edge in Innovation

Do you agree or disagree with this statement: The U.S. is in danger of losing its global competitive edge in science, technology and innovation.

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Americans More Likely to Vote for Candidates Who Support Research

The first presidential primaries are scheduled to take place in January of 2008. If a candidate is a strong supporter of federal spending for medical, health and scientific research, would that make you more or less likely to vote for that candidate?

- 69% More likely
- 25% Less likely
- 6% Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Few Americans Very Well Informed About Positions on Research

How well informed would you say you are about the positions of your Senators and Representative when it comes to their support of medical, health and scientific research?

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Americans Split on Commitment to Research

As we look for ways to manage health care costs in our country, do you think that the national commitment to health-related research should be higher, lower, or about the same as it is now?

- **48%** think it should be higher.
- **40%** think it should be about the same.
- **10%** think it should be lower.
- **2%** don’t know.

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Americans Want Increased Funding

The National Institutes of Health is the agency that funds most of the medical and health research paid for by U.S. taxpayers.

Since 2003, funding for the NIH has been outpaced by inflation.

Which of the following statements comes closest to your view on funding for NIH?

- 45%: The U.S. must increase investment in NIH as a critical strategy to improve health care
- 32%: Current U.S. funding for medical and health research is sufficient and other budget items are higher priorities now
- 15%: Funding for NIH is not a priority
- 8%: Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is the lead federal agency charged with funding health services research, which seeks to rapidly translate discoveries from research into medical practice and improve the quality, safety and effectiveness of health care. Since 2002, funding for AHRQ has been cut or remained flat. Which of the following statements most accurately reflects your view?

- 46%: AHRQ funding should be increased as a strategy to improve health care quality and safety in the U.S.
- 35%: Current funding for AHRQ is sufficient and other budget priorities exist
- 13%: Funding for AHRQ is not a priority
- 6%: Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is responsible for protecting the public health by assuring the safety and effectiveness of human and veterinary drugs, biological products, medical devices, our nation’s food supply, cosmetics and products that emit radiation. In recent years the FDA has been required to take on greater responsibilities without a corresponding increase in funding. Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion?

- Current funding levels for FDA are not keeping pace with accelerated drug and device creation or the increasing globalization of food supplies and should be increased
- Current funding levels are sufficient for FDA to fulfill its mission
- Funding for FDA is not a priority
- Don't know

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Majority of Americans Favor Federal Funding for ESCR

Do you favor or oppose expanding federal funding for medical research using embryonic stem cells?

- Favor: 55%
- Oppose: 37%
- Don't know: 8%

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Prevention & Public Health
Health Care System Should Focus on Preventing Illness

Do you agree or disagree that our health care system should be redesigned to encourage preventing illness rather than dealing with disease once symptoms are apparent?

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Americans Oppose Cuts to CDC Budget

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is charged with protecting the health and safety of Americans. In recent years, funding for core programs, such as chronic disease and injury prevention, tobacco control and environmental health, at CDC has been cut. Which of the following statements most accurately reflects your view?

- 54%: We should increase funding for core programs at CDC to improve public health
- 31%: We should maintain current funding levels for CDC core programs because other budget items take precedence
- 12%: Funding CDC core programs is not a priority
- 3%: Don't know/Refused

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
Strong Support for State and Local Health Department Funding

Do you favor or oppose increasing federal funding for state and local health departments and hospitals across the country that are expected to prepare for and respond to threats to our health?

- Favor: 75%
- Oppose: 22%
- Don't know: 3%

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
U.S. Should Work to Improve Health Globally

How important would you say it is that the U.S. work to improve health globally?

- Very: 33%
- Somewhat: 46%
- Not too: 9%
- Not at all: 11%
- Don't know: 1%

Source: Your Candidates—Your Health Survey, 2007
Charlton Research Company for Research!America