



NORTH STAR OPINION RESEARCH

Crossroads GPS Survey on ObamaCare Policy Options: Key Senate and House Targets

August 11-15, 2013

Methodology

- Survey conducted August 11-15, 2013
- Senate Target Seats include 600 interviews from AK, AR, GA, IA, KY, LA, MI, NC, SD, and WV (MoE ± 4.0 percent).
- Lean Republican House seats include 300 interviews from House districts with PVI between R+4 and R+9 (MoE ± 5.7 percent).
- Swing House seats include 300 interviews from House districts with PVI between D+2 and R+3 (MoE ± 5.7 percent).
- Party results are for all three categories of seats, and include 376 Republicans (MoE ± 5.1 percent), 394 independents (MoE ± 4.9 percent), and 378 Democrats (MoE ± 5.0 percent).

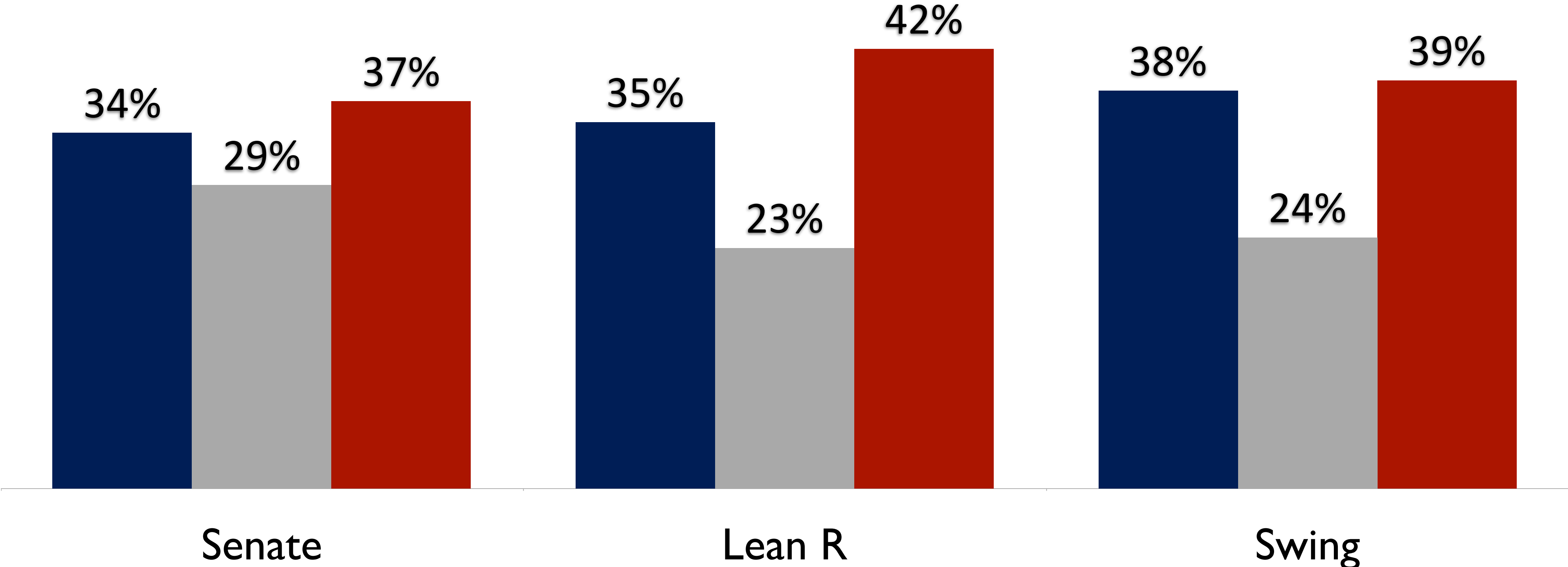


General Election Environment

These swing targets lean Republican in the generic ballot.

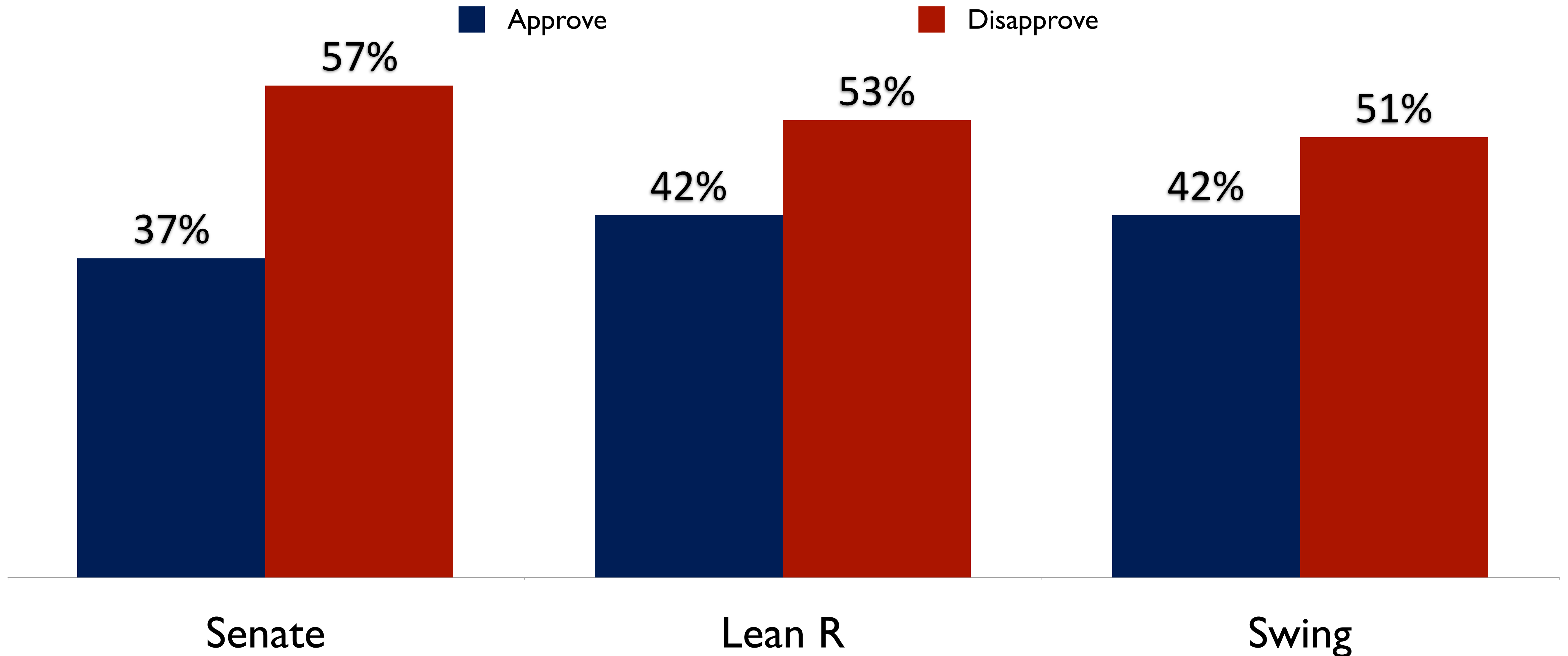
Would you prefer a Democrat or a Republican as your next congressman?

■ Democrat ■ Depends/Don't Know ■ Republican



Majorities disapprove of the job President Obama is doing ...

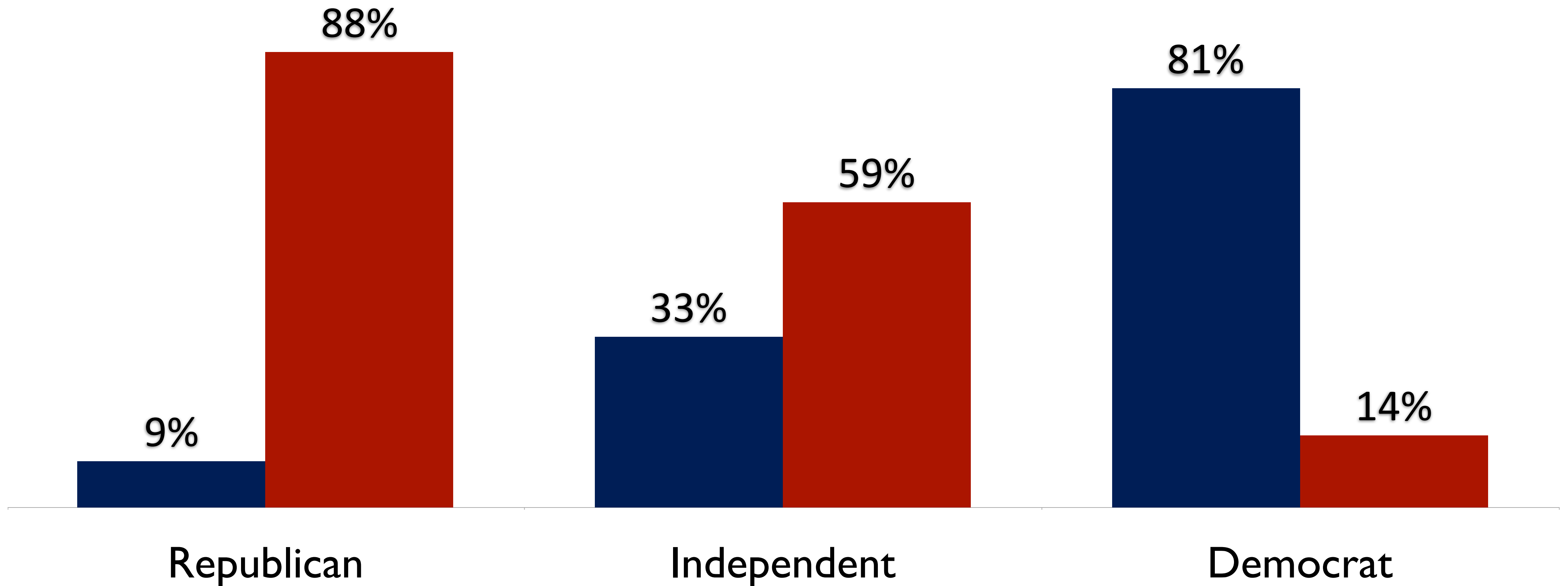
Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?



... including three-fifths of independents.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

■ Approve ■ Disapprove

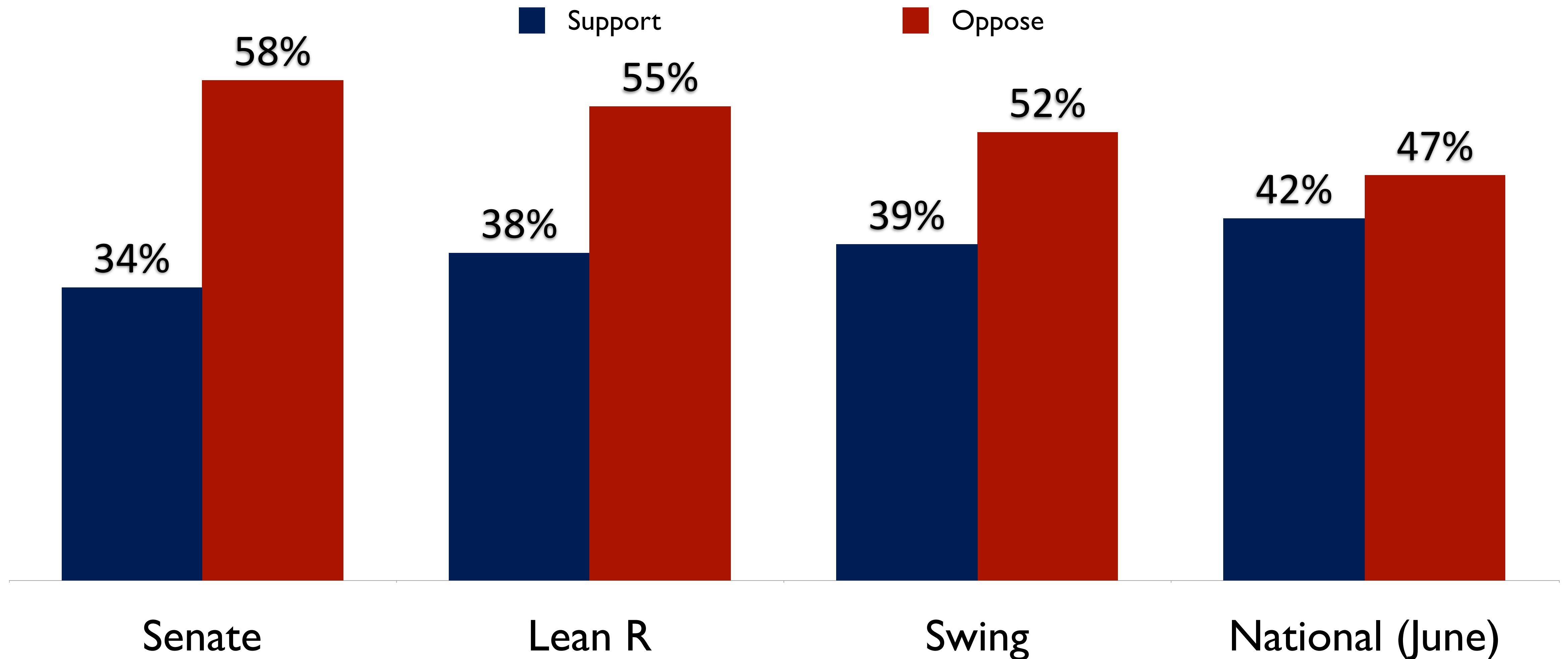




General Attitudes Toward ObamaCare

Voters in these targets are more opposed to ObamaCare than voters nationally.

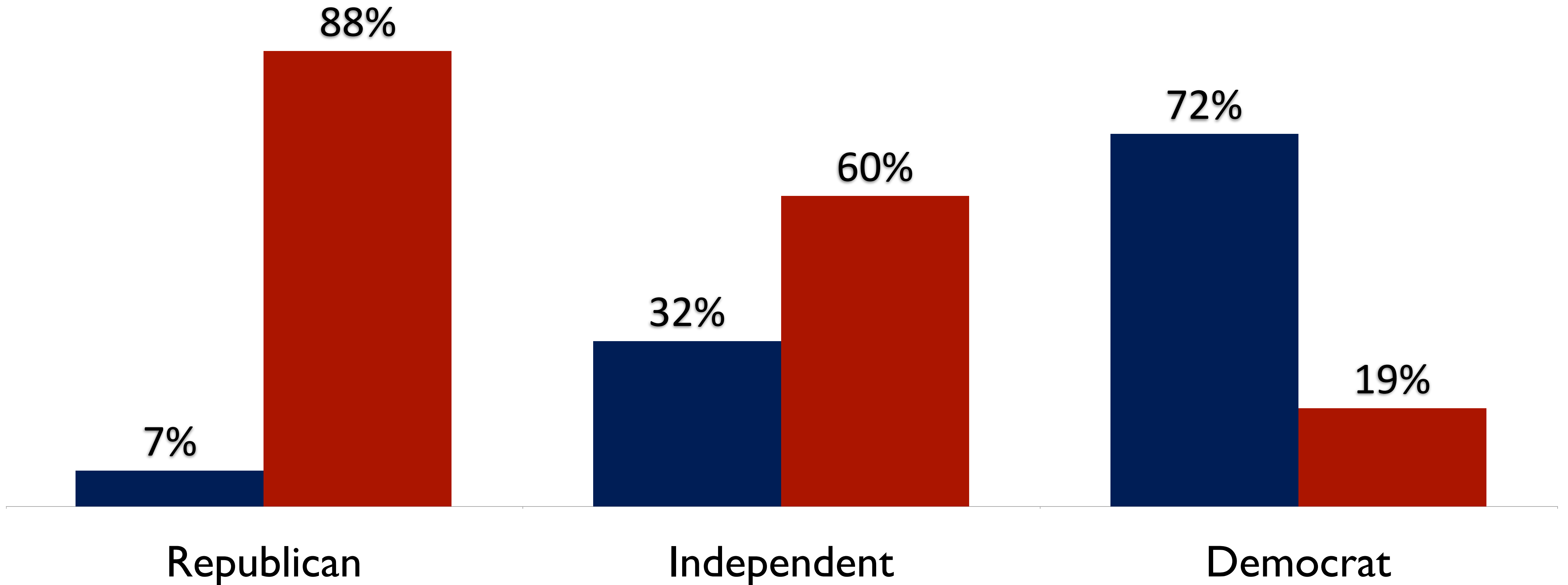
Do you support or oppose the health care reform law that passed in 2010, also known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare?



Three-fifths of target seat independents oppose ObamaCare.

Do you support or oppose the health care reform law that passed in 2010, also known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare?

■ Support ■ Oppose

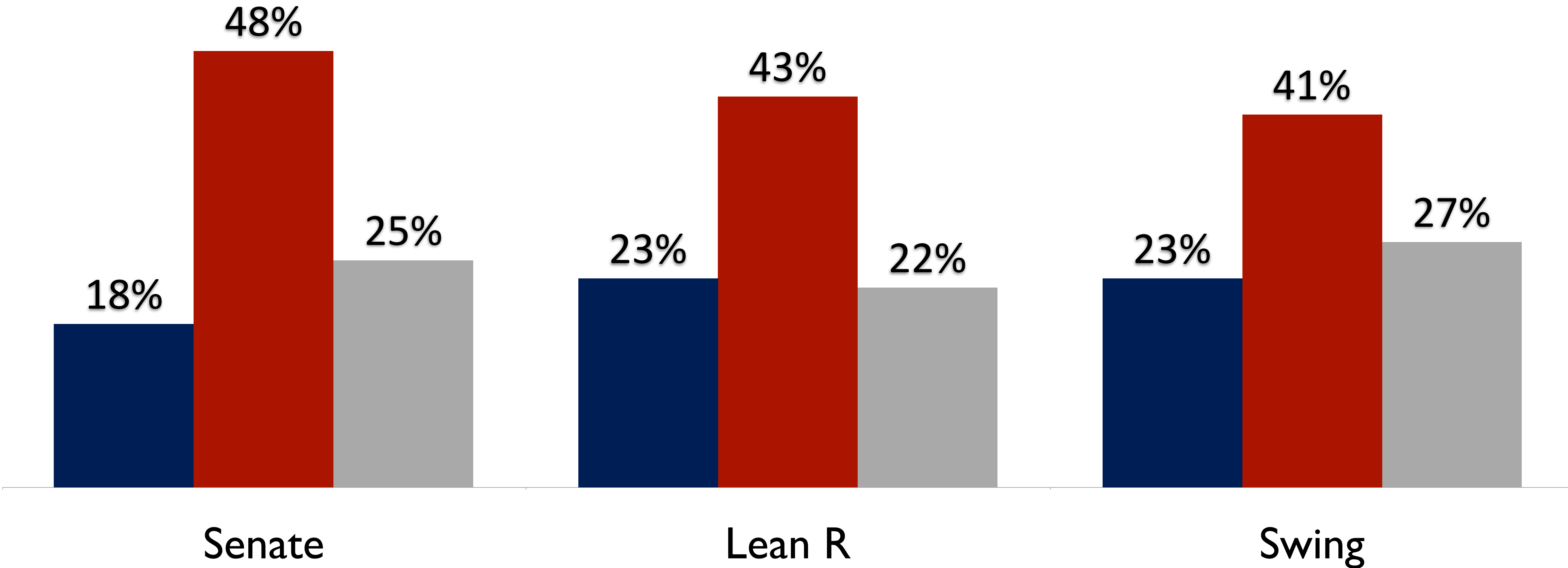


Pluralities believe the law will impact them negatively.

Do you believe that you and your family will be personally impacted by the health care reform law passed in 2010, also known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare?

IF YES, ASK: Do you think those changes will be good or bad for you and your family?

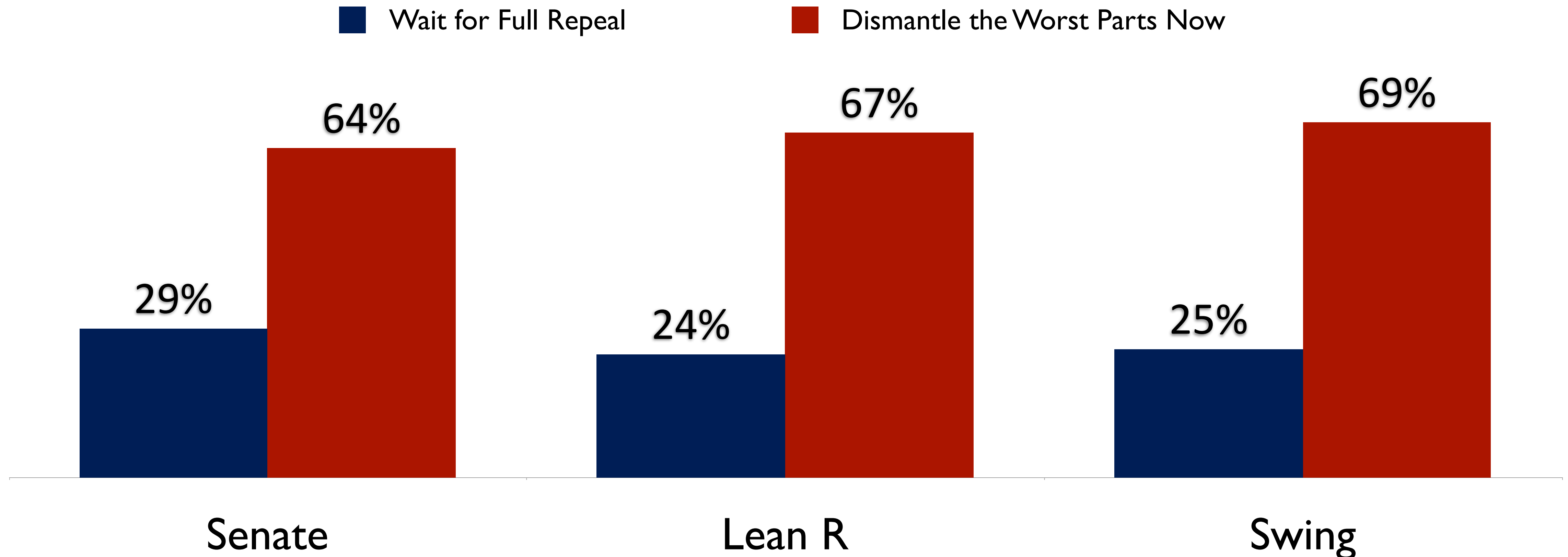
■ Yes/Good ■ Yes/Bad ■ No Impact



Two-thirds of opponents say we should “dismantle the worst parts now” ...

Some people believe that ObamaCare will have a negative effect on health care and the economy. Which comes closer to your view about the best way to prevent these problems that the healthcare law may cause: (ROTATE)

- a. Opponents of the law should not try to fix these problems with ObamaCare now, but wait until they are in a position to repeal the entire law at once. Fixing it piece-by-piece will only improve ObamaCare and reduce the pressure to get rid of the law entirely.*
- b. Opponents of the law should force action to dismantle the worst parts of ObamaCare now, because the earliest they could fully repeal the law would be in 2017 after Obama leaves office, and once the law is implemented it will be even harder to get rid of.*



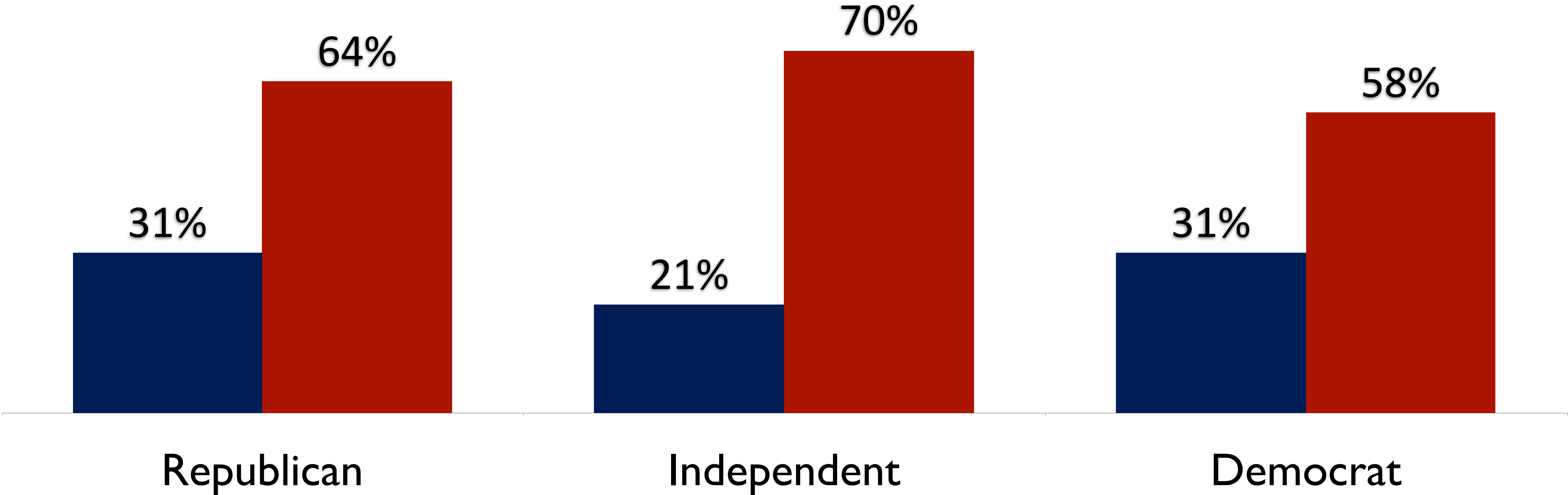
... including two-thirds of Republicans.

Some people believe that ObamaCare will have a negative effect on health care and the economy. Which comes closer to your view about the best way to prevent these problems that the healthcare law may cause: (ROTATE)

a. Opponents of the law should not try to fix these problems with ObamaCare now, but wait until they are in a position to repeal the entire law at once. Fixing it piece-by-piece will only improve ObamaCare and reduce the pressure to get rid of the law entirely.

b. Opponents of the law should force action to dismantle the worst parts of ObamaCare now, because the earliest they could fully repeal the law would be in 2017 after Obama leaves office, and once the law is implemented it will be even harder to get rid of.

■ Wait for Full Repeal ■ Dismantle the Worst Parts Now



Voters want ObamaCare delayed for at least a year.

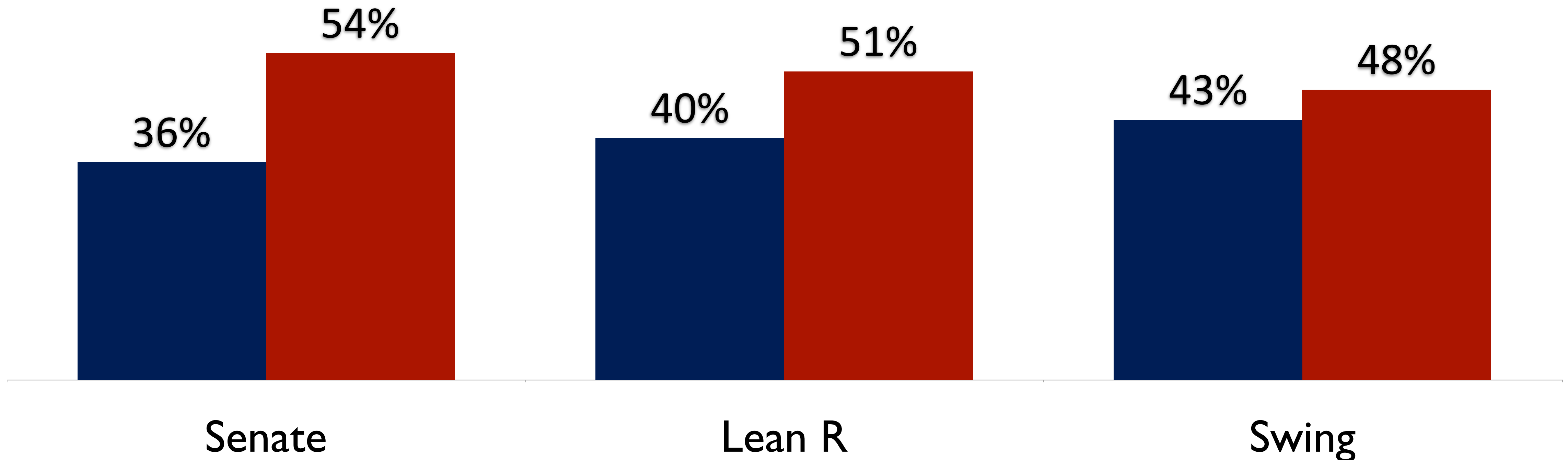
Which of the following comes closer to your view (ROTATE):

a. The health care reform law known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare should be implemented on schedule and not delayed. Any problems can be worked out in the course of implementation, and delaying it now is just an excuse to not let the law go into effect.

b. The health care reform law known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare should be delayed for at least a year. The Administration has already delayed the requirement for employers to provide health care, and the IRS is not ready to determine the income eligibility for subsidies, creating a huge loophole that will allow fraud in the law.

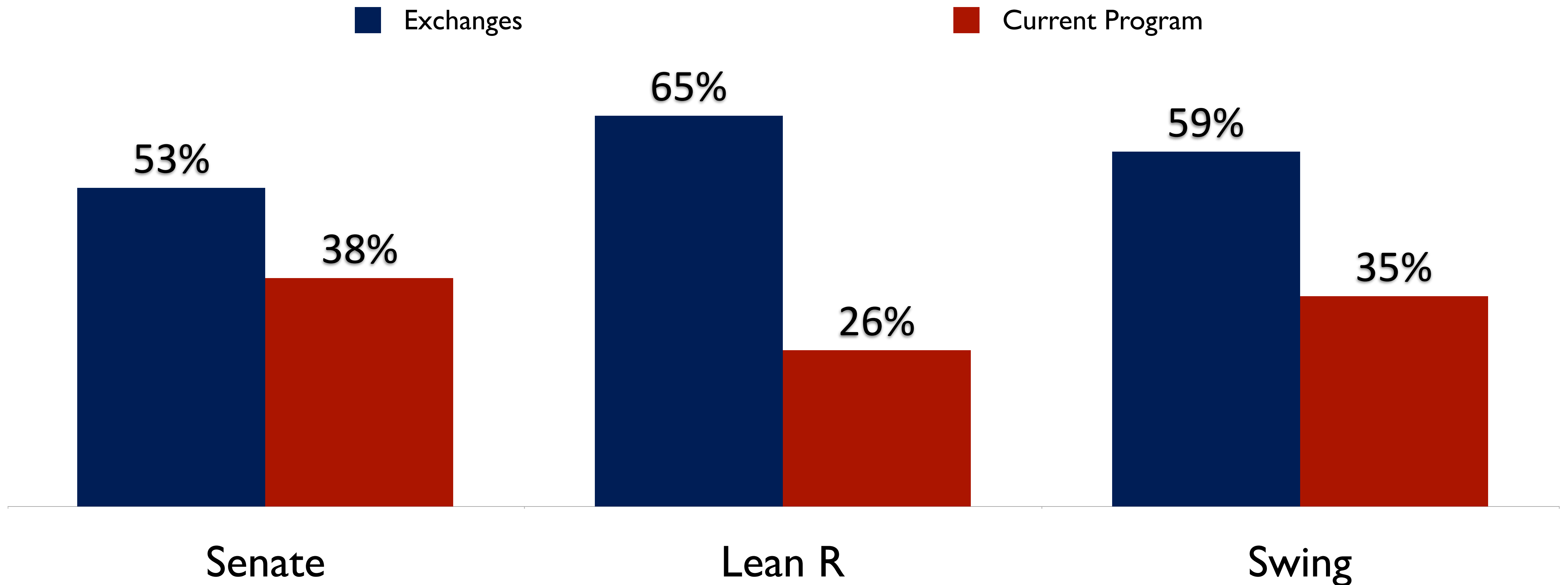
■ Implement on Schedule

■ Delay for At Least a Year



Voters want Congress under the same exchanges as everyone else ... not their own program.

When the health care reform law known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare was passed in 2010, it required Members of Congress and their staffs to get coverage through the same health exchanges that ordinary Americans have to use. But in response to congressional pressure, the Obama Administration announced it would use a loophole in the law to allow Congress to keep the more generous benefits their current coverage provides. Do you think Members of Congress and their staffs should get their coverage through the exchanges created by the health care law, or do you think they should continue to get the coverage they are receiving now?

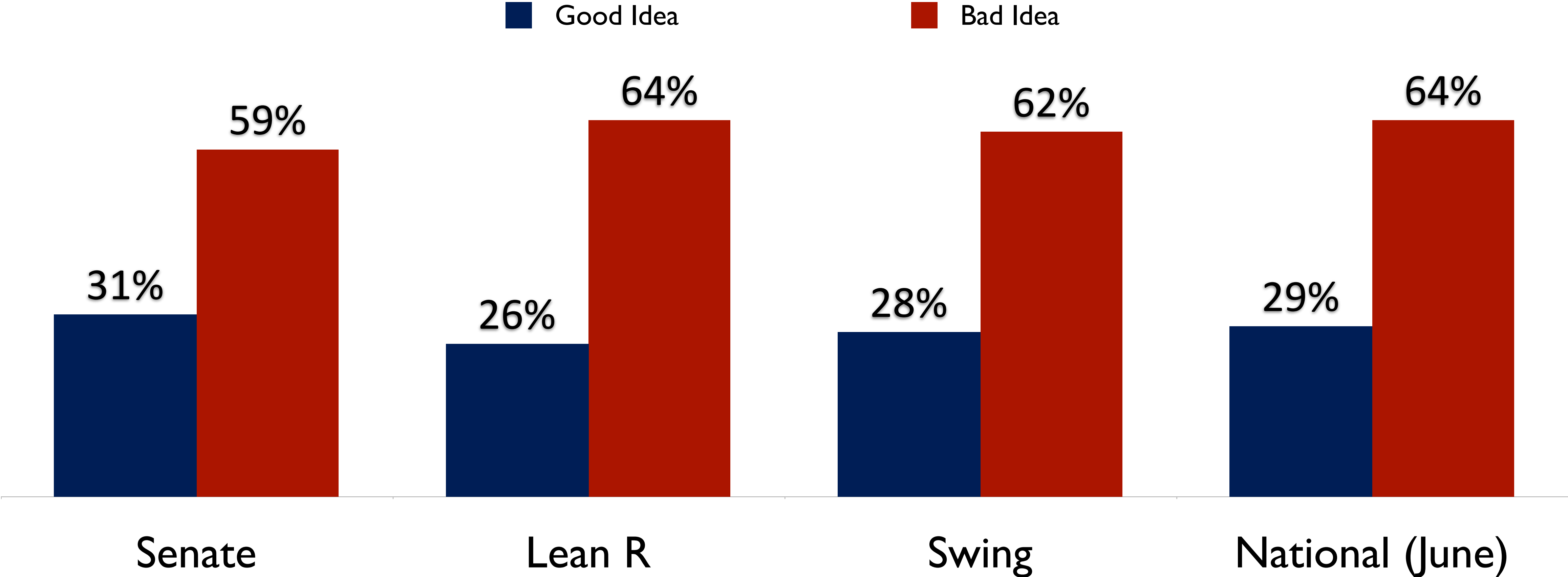




Views About Changing ObamaCare

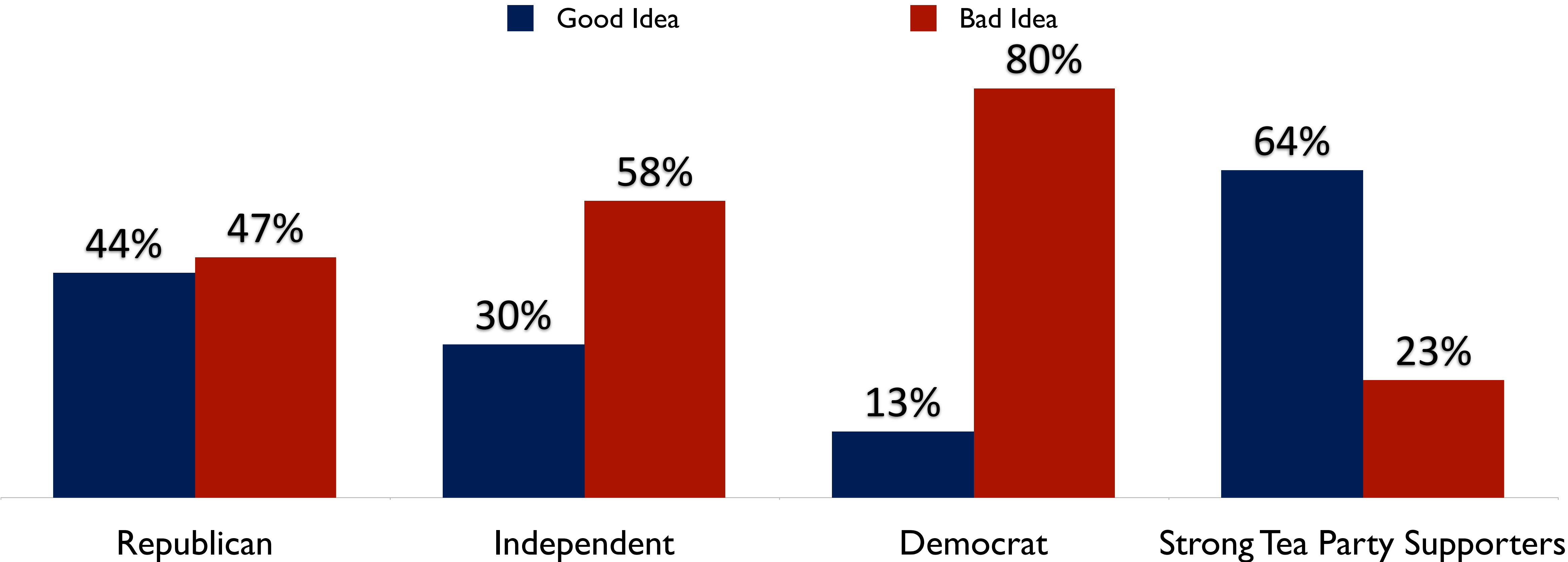
Despite opposition to ObamaCare, voters say it is a bad idea to risk shutting down the government.

Some people say that ObamaCare is so bad that an effort to repeal it should be attached to a bill necessary to keep the government running, which could lead to a temporary government shutdown. Do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for opponents of ObamaCare to risk shutting down the government temporarily in an effort to get rid of the law? (June National survey referred to the “health care reform law.”)



Only Tea Party backers embrace the idea, while independents reject it two-to-one.

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Voters strongly support dismantling and delaying ObamaCare ...

Congress is considering a number of actions that could address problems in the health care reform law known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare. For each one, please tell me if you support or oppose that change:

■ Oppose ■ Support

Get rid of every provision that lessens Medicare coverage for seniors and restore full funding for Medicare Advantage.



Remove the IRS from enforcing the mandates and penalties in the law.



Get rid of every provision in the law that would drive up health insurance costs for young people.



... but oppose risking a temporary government shutdown.

Congress is considering a number of actions that could address problems in the health care reform law known as the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare. For each one, please tell me if you support or oppose that change:

■ Oppose ■ Support

Delay the insurance mandates and tax penalties on individuals and families.



Delay the insurance mandates and tax penalties on businesses.



Require the defunding of ObamaCare ... even if that risks a temporary government shutdown.



Independents back Republicans on dismantling and delaying ObamaCare ...

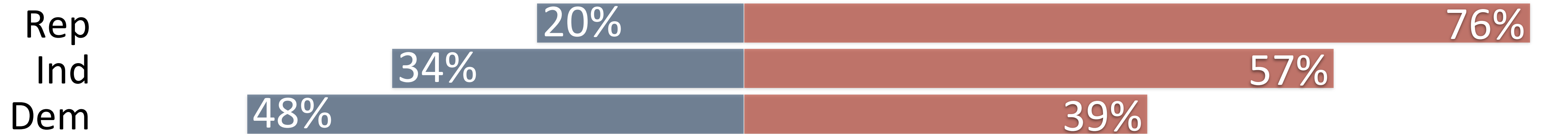
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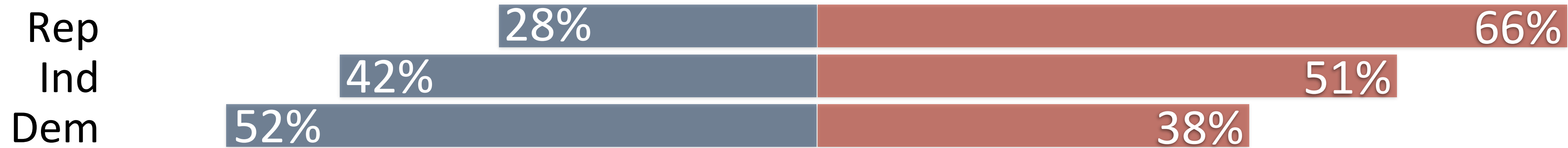


... but desert Republicans if it risks a government shutdown.

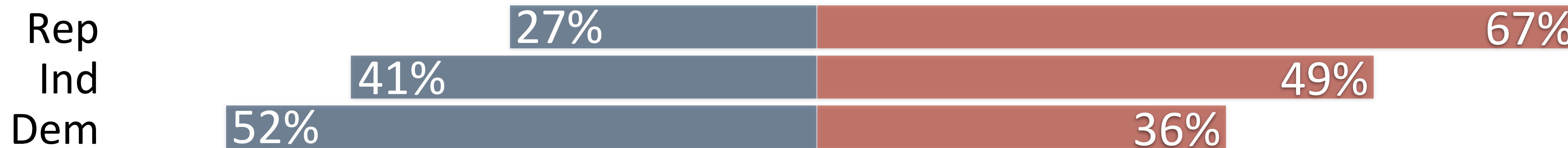
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Delay the insurance mandates and tax penalties on businesses.



Require the defunding of ObamaCare ... even if that risks a temporary government shutdown.





Final Messages on Defunding ObamaCare

We tested the “defund message” against an “Obama message” ...

Here are some things political leaders are saying about the issue of defunding President Obama’s health care law. Which of the following statements comes closer to your view:

(ROTATE)

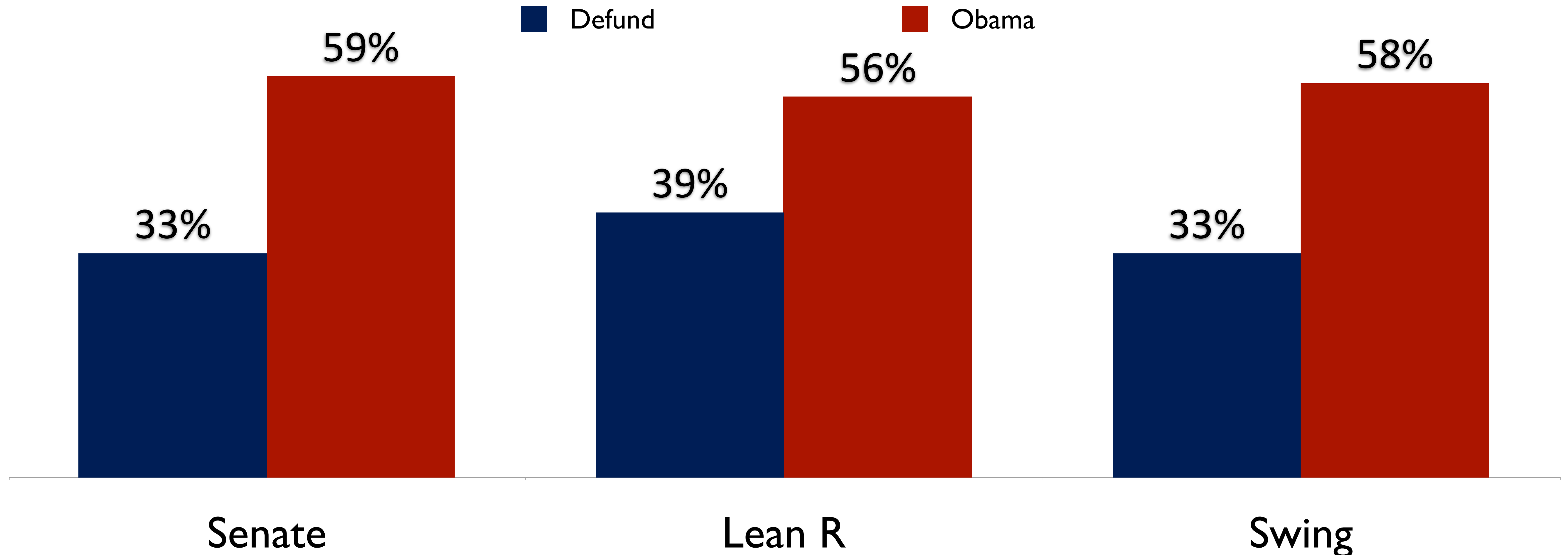
Republicans in Congress say that if they won’t make a stand on blocking funding for ObamaCare, what will they stand for? The spending bill that funds the government’s operations is their last chance to block ObamaCare, and once an entitlement program goes into effect, it never gets undone in Washington. President Obama is already implementing this law selectively, and exempting big companies from key provisions. Americans should be asking why President Obama is willing to shut down the federal government to save his broken law.

President Obama says that at a time when the economy is starting to recover, when we’re making progress putting people back to work, the last thing we need is a government shutdown caused by Republicans in Congress. Millions of people who depend on government services, like farmers and veterans, would be hurt. Instead of threatening to shut down the government in order to block a law they don’t like, Republicans should be working with Democrats to pass a responsible spending bill and help more people get back to work.

... and found Obama's messaging wins by double digits ...

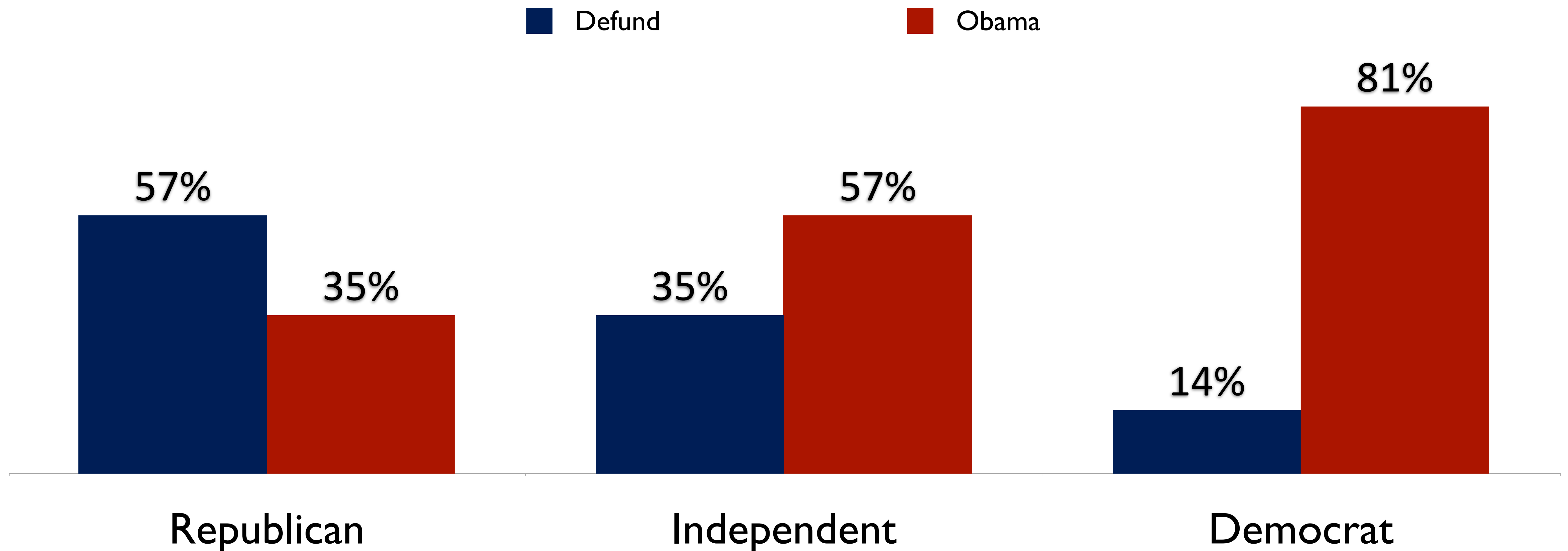
"Defund": Republicans in Congress say that if they won't make a stand on blocking funding for ObamaCare, what will they stand for? The spending bill that funds the government's operations is their last chance to block ObamaCare ...

"Obama": President Obama says that at a time when the economy is starting to recover, when we're making progress putting people back to work, the last thing we need is a government shutdown caused by Republicans in Congress.



... helped by a strong majority of independents.

“Defund”: Republicans in Congress say that if they won’t make a stand on blocking funding for ObamaCare, what will they stand for? The spending bill that funds the government’s operations is their last chance to block ObamaCare ...
“Obama”: President Obama says that at a time when the economy is starting to recover, when we’re making progress putting people back to work, the last thing we need is a government shutdown caused by Republicans in Congress.



Conclusions

- These results show strong opposition to ObamaCare in swing seats for control of the Senate and House.
- Voters want Congress to dismantle the worst parts of ObamaCare now.
- Swing seat voters support a variety of proposals to address ObamaCare problems ...
- ... but stop short of endorsing a path that risks a government shutdown.
- President Obama's likely message on a shutdown beats a "make a stand" message by nearly two-to-one.
- Health care remains a good issue for Republicans, but they need to continue to work at the issue. Kaiser found 44 percent of adults don't know if the law is still in place, or wrongly think it has been overturned.