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TO: CLUB FOR GROWTH

FROM: BRYON ALLEN

SUBJECT: IOWA REPUBLICAN CAUCUS GOERS WANT A SOLUTION TO AVOID SOCIAL SECURITY INSOLVENCY

DATE: AUGUST 8, 2023

A WPA Intelligence poll of likely Iowa Republican caucus voters conducted July 30 – August 2, 2023, shows that a plurality supports a new federal retirement investment program to help avoid Social Security becoming insolvent and causing an automatic benefit cut. The poll also shows that a super-majority thinks that it is very important that a candidate for President address how they will deal with this impending Social Security shortfall.

Likely caucus voters see a new federal retirement investment fund as the best solution to Social Security's impending insolvency.

When likely caucus voters learn that the Social Security trust fund will be insolvent within the next decade and that, under current law, when this happens there will be an automatic 24 percent cut in Social Security benefits to everyone who is receiving or will receive these benefits, a plurality wants to see a new, independently managed, federal investment fund formed to cover Social Security payments.

- Nearly half (47%) of likely GOP caucus voters support this plan.
- Fewer than 15% support any other alternative, whether it be a payroll tax hike, benefit cuts, or borrowing to cover Social Security's needs.

Plans to Address Social Security Insolvency	
Start a new, independently managed, federal retirement investment fund which would grow over time to cover Social Security payments. This would ensure that American workers who paid into the system receive their expected benefits.	47%
Raise the Social Security payroll tax that workers pay by 27 percent instead of cutting benefits.	13%
Cut Social Security payments by 24 percent to everyone who is receiving or will receive Social Security benefits.	7%
Borrow the money to pay Social Security benefits and add 560 trillion dollars to the national debt over the next 75 years.	5%
Don't Know	27%

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Likely caucus voters think that it is very important that a candidate for President address this impending Social Security shortfall.

- Three-in-five likely caucus voters say it is very important that a candidate address this issue.
- Another 30% say it is somewhat important.
- Just 10% say it is not important to them that a candidate addresses this issue.

How important is it to you personally that someone running for President address the Social Security shortfall?	
Very Important	59%
Somewhat Important	30%
Not too important	7%
Not important at all	3%
Don't Know	1%

Methodology
WPAi conducted a poll of n = 600 likely Republican caucus voters in Iowa. Data was collected by live telephone interview July 30 – August 2, 2023. Forty-eight percent (48%) of interviews were conducted to cell phones and 52% to landline phones. The sample was selected from the Iowa voter file and was stratified by geography, age, gender, educational attainment, and past caucus participation to ensure a representative sample. The survey has a margin of error of ±4.0% at the 95% confidence level.