## G B A O

To: Interested Parties

From: GBAO

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## **Recent Wisconsin Survey Results On Impeachment**

As Republicans in the Wisconsin state legislature consider overturning the decisive April election of State Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz, a survey of registered voters shows few agree. Impeaching Protasiewicz is deeply unpopular; majorities assume political motivations and would prefer to see their officials prioritize other issues.

GBAO conducted a survey of 600 registered voters in Wisconsin on behalf of A Better Wisconsin Together from September 7-10, 2023. The survey was conducted by phone and text-to-web with the phone portion using live interviewers to reach voters on cell phones and landlines. A random sample was drawn from a voter file and weighted to reflect the registered voter electorate. The survey is subject to a 4.0 percentage point margin of error at the 95% confidence level.

## **Key Findings**

 Months after her decisive election, Justice Protasiewicz has positive job ratings. In April, Protasiewicz was elected by 11 points (56% - 45%) in a spring election with recordbreaking turnout. Months later and just weeks after being sworn in, voters approve of the job

**Protasiewicz Job Approval** 

Darker shade = Stronger intensity

she's doing by a similar 11–point margin (41% approve – 29% disapprove). She is also net positive with independents (38% approve – 27% disapprove).

By contrast, Republicans in the State
Legislature are under water. A
majority (51%) of voters disapprove of
the Republicans in the Wisconsin state

Approve

Approve

Approve

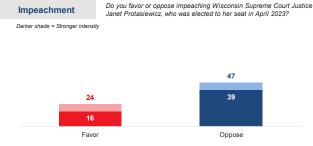
Approve

Disapprove

legislature (41% approve). Democrats are more consolidated in their disapproval (95% disapprove) than Republicans are in their approval (83% approve), while about half (48%) of independents—a plurality—disapprove.

Wisconsinites oppose impeaching Supreme Court Justice Protasiewicz by a 24-point

margin. Nearly twice as many oppose impeachment (47%) as support it (24%). In fact, a plurality of voters (39%) strongly opposes impeachment and independents oppose impeachment by a larger 27-point margin. And Democrats are more consolidated against impeachment (80%) than Republicans are in support of it (55%).









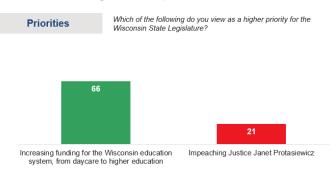
Reps in State Leg Job

**Approval** 

Darker shade = Stronger intensity

• Wisconsinites overwhelmingly prefer the State Legislature prioritize education over

impeachment. Two-in-three voters (66%) want the State Legislature to prioritize "increasing funding for the Wisconsin education system, from daycare to higher education" rather than impeaching Justice Protasiewicz. Prioritizing education transcends party lines—nearly all Democrats, nearly two-thirds of independents, and a plurality of Republicans agree (91%, 63%, 44%, respectively).



• Republican motivation to impeach is seen as political. Only a third of voters (33%) believe Republicans want to impeach Protasiewicz because they "believe she did something wrong and should be removed" while nearly half (46%) think it is because Republicans "are upset their candidate who could have helped them hold on to political power didn't win." Even 14% of Republicans believe it is because their party's chosen candidate didn't win.

