



# YG Policy Center

## National Survey of Registered Voters Regarding Health Care Reform

March 11-14, 2012

Full survey results available at: <http://ygpolicy.org>

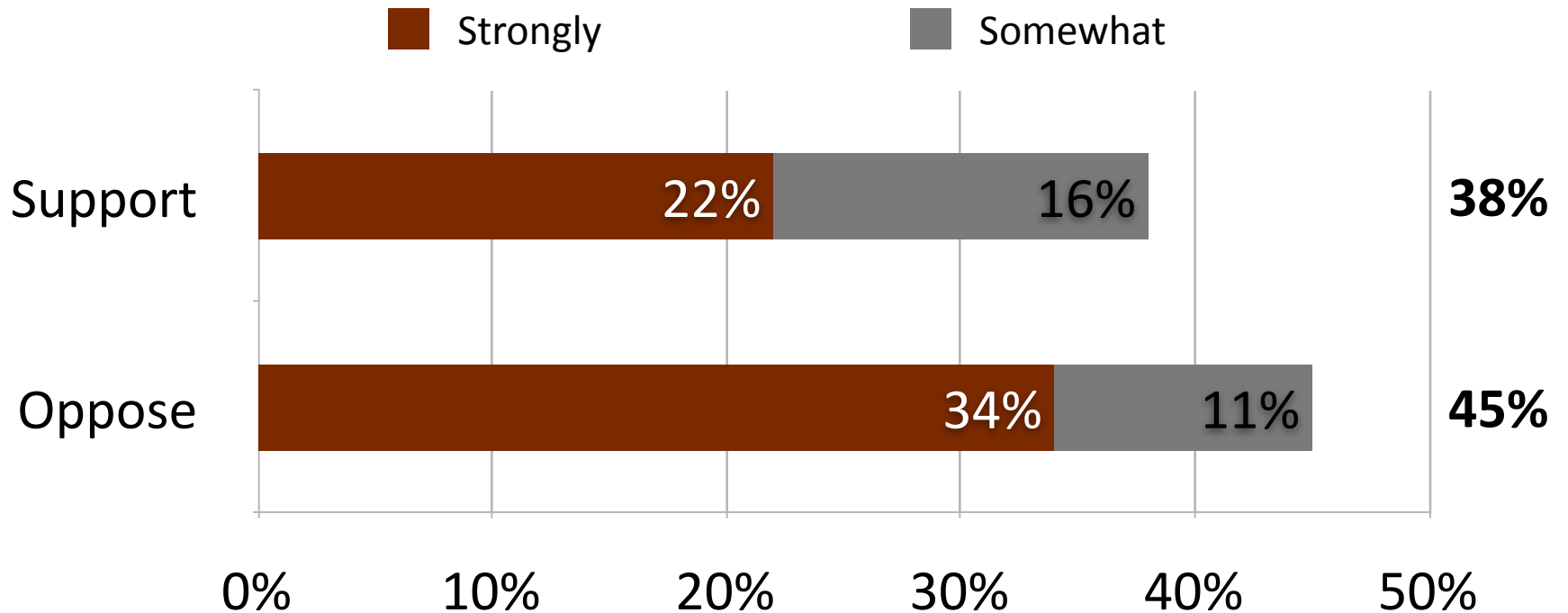


# Methodology

- ◆ Survey conducted March 11-14, 2012 for the YG Policy Center, using live interviewers.
- ◆ Sample includes 1,000 registered voters, with a margin of error of  $\pm 3.10$  percent.
- ◆ Quotas were set for state, race, gender, and age, reflecting past turnout.
- ◆ Party identification is 34 percent Democrat, 33 percent independent, and 29 percent Republican.
- ◆ Results analyzed for the YG Network.

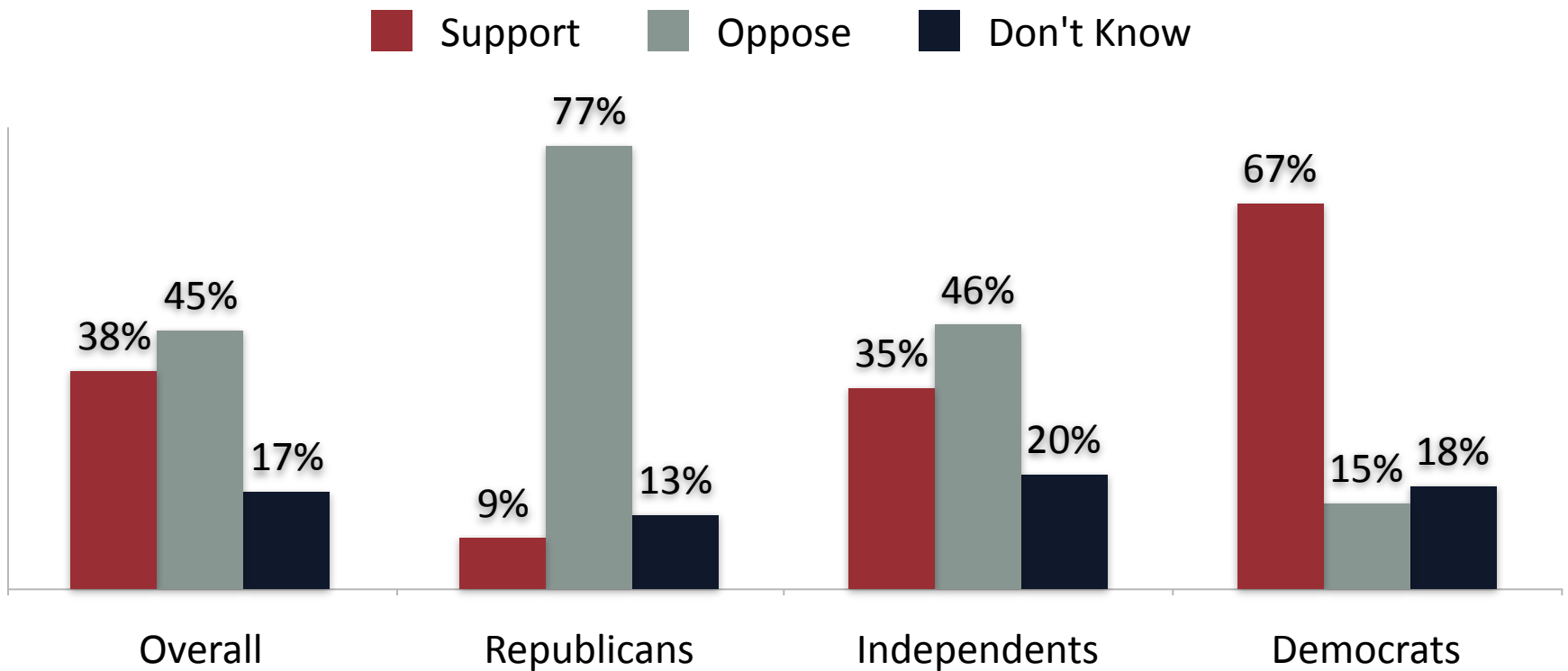
# Voters oppose the health care law, with a double-digit margin in intensity ...

Q Overall, do you support or oppose the health care reform plan that passed in 2010?



... and a double-digit margin of opposition among independents.

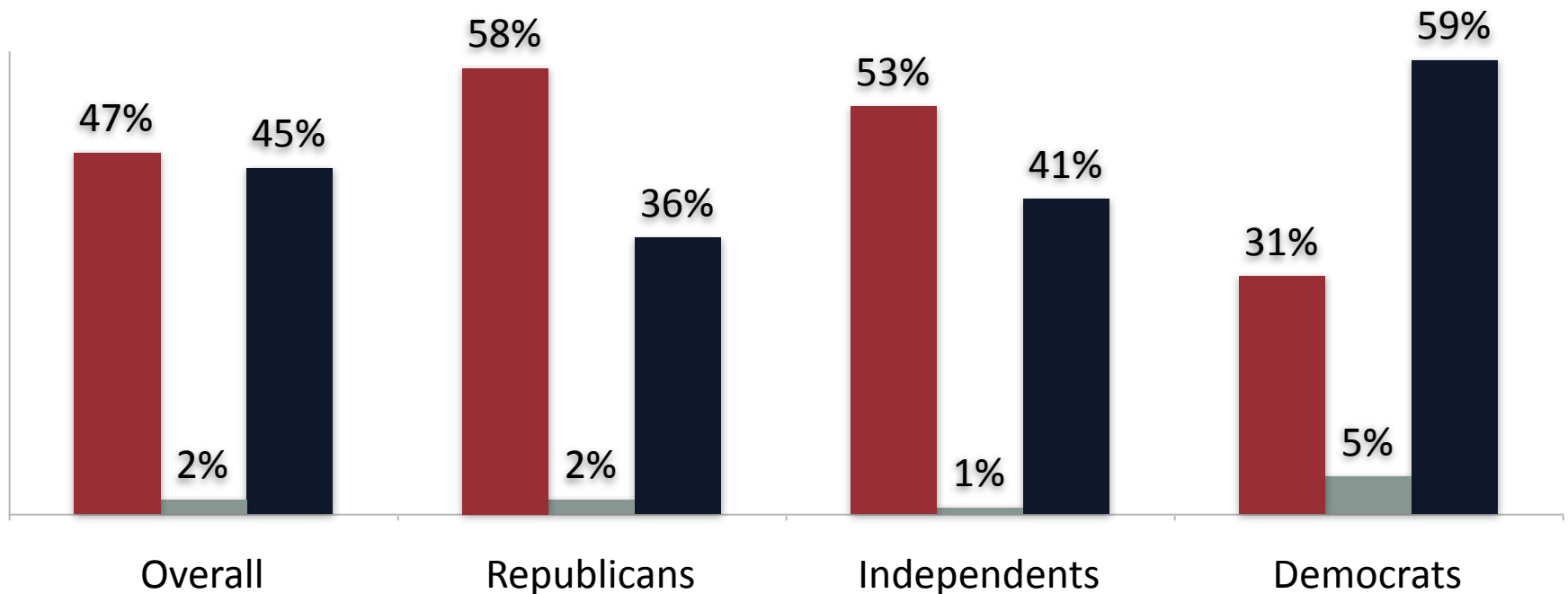
Q Overall, do you support or oppose the health care reform plan that passed in 2010?



# A plurality of voters says their health care costs are going up.

Q Since health care reform was passed in 2010, are your health care costs going up, going down, or staying about the same?

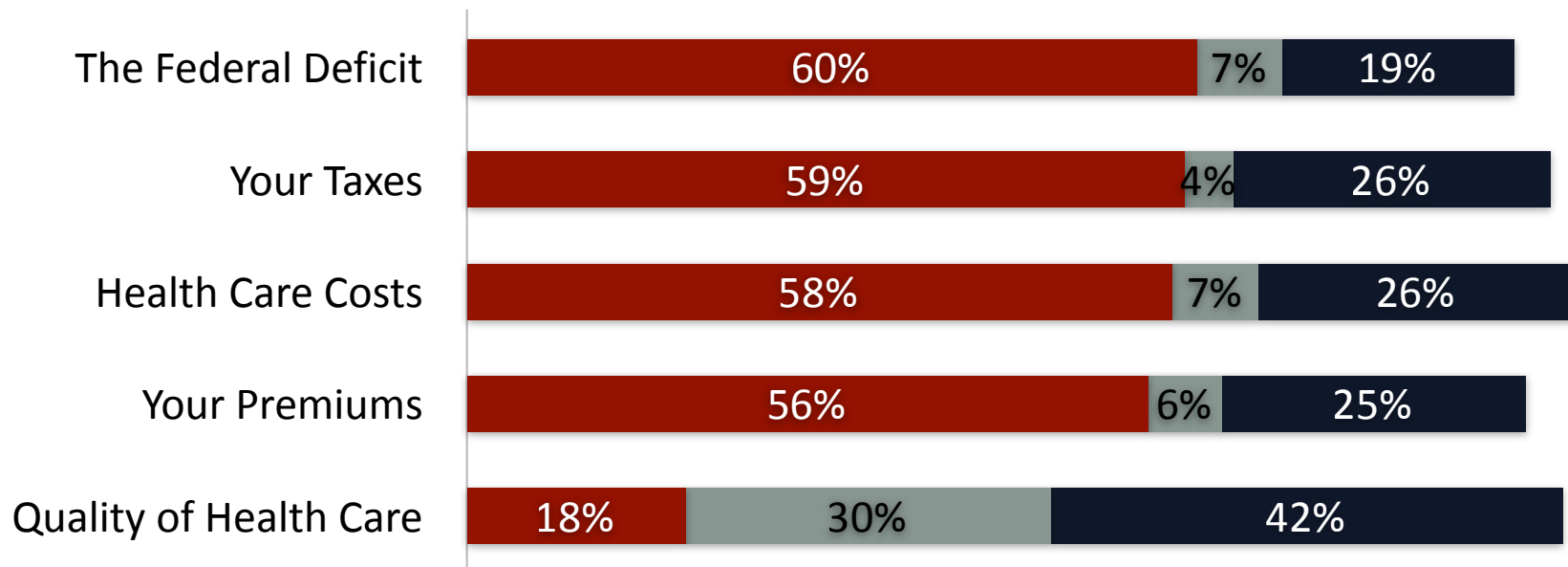
■ Going Up ■ Going Down ■ Staying the Same



# Voters say the health care law will increase the deficit, taxes, costs, and premiums ... while decreasing quality.

*Do you think the health care reform law passed in 2010 will increase, decrease, or have no effect on each of the following:*

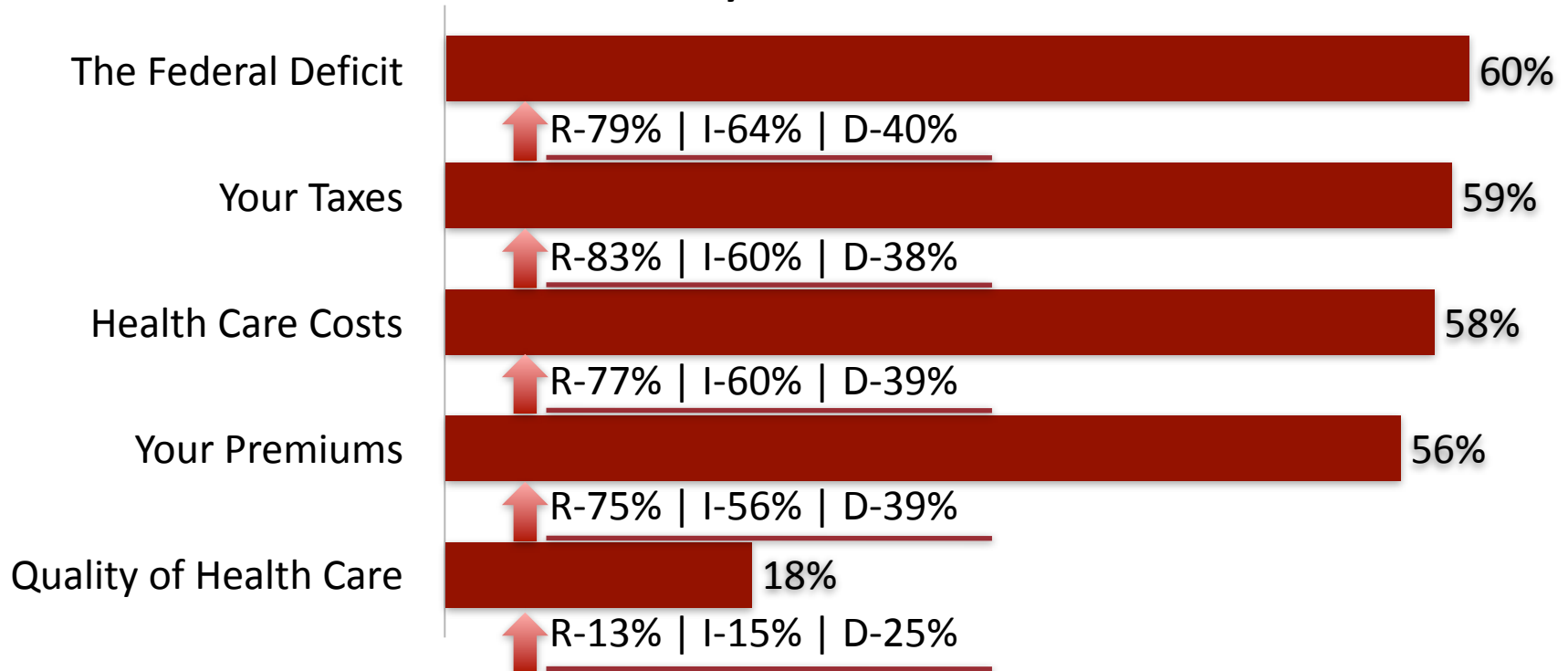
■ Increase   ■ Decrease   ■ No Effect



# Even Democratic voters say the law will increase rather than decrease the deficit, taxes, costs, and premiums.

Q Do you think the health care reform law passed in 2010 will increase, decrease, or have no effect on each of the following:

## Ranked By Percent "Increase"



# Remember the statements used to support the bill in 2009 and 2010?

The plan will not add one dime to the federal budget.

The plan will lower health insurance premiums for the average family by \$2,500 per year.

The plan will lower health care costs for individuals, businesses, and the federal government.

The plan will not require cuts in Medicare.

The plan will not increase taxes for anyone who earns under \$250,000 a year.

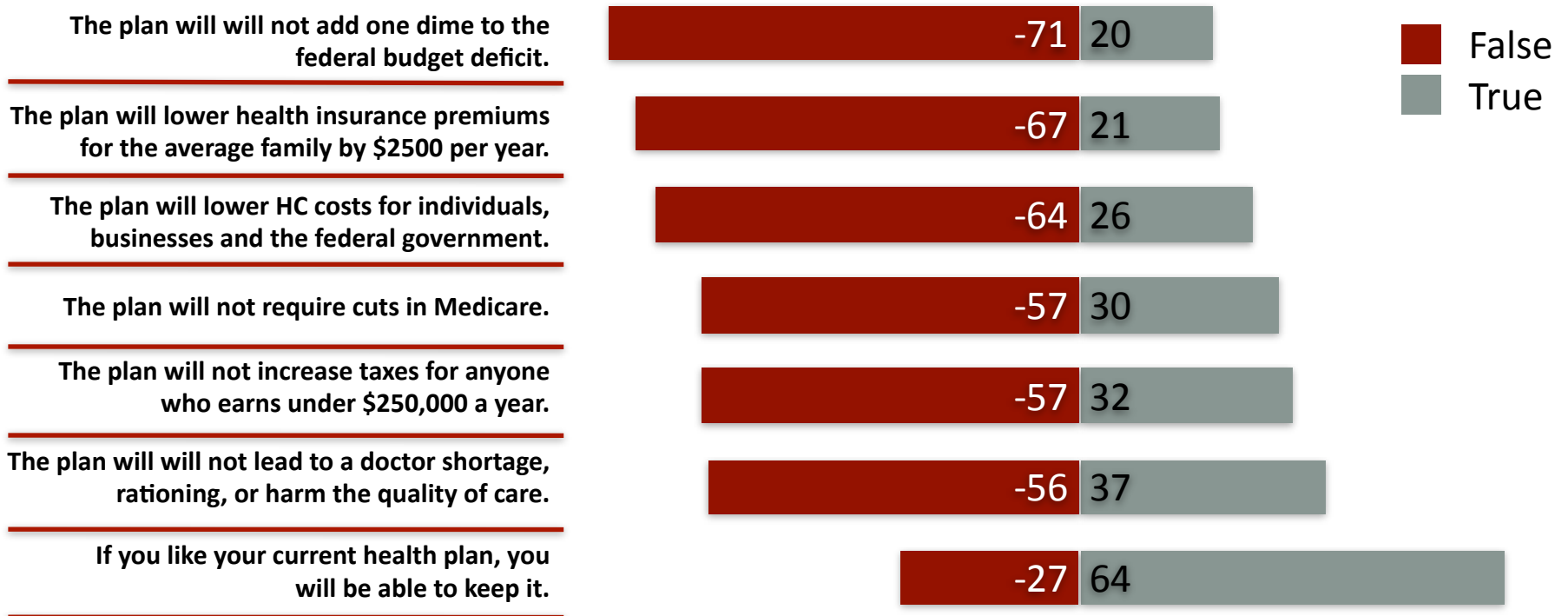
The plan will not lead to a doctor shortage, rationing, or harm the quality of care.

If you like your current health plan, you will be able to keep it.



# Voters think six of those seven statements are false.

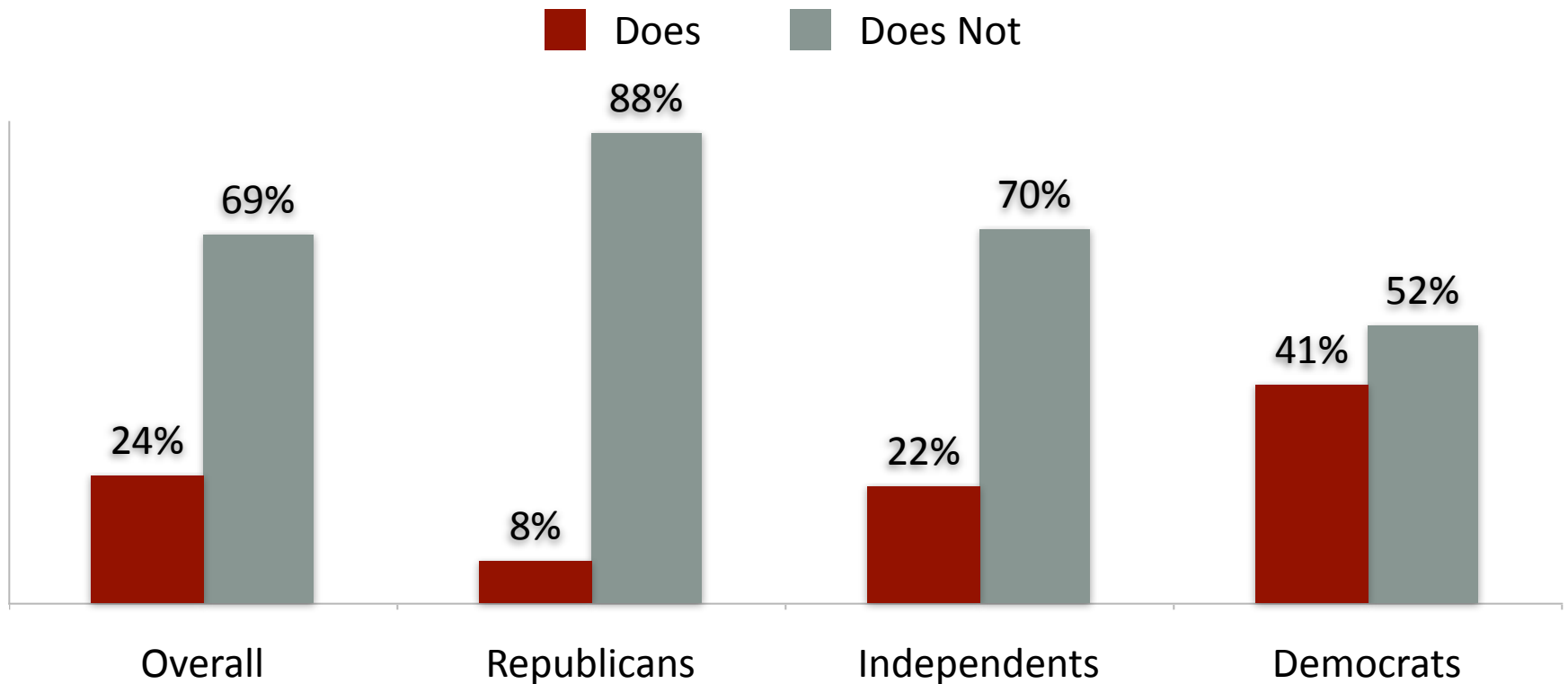
*Now I am going to read a list of statements that have been made about the health care reform plan that passed in 2010. For each one, would you please tell me if you think that statement is true or false:*



# Two-thirds of voters – including a majority of Democrats – think the federal government does not have the authority to impose a mandate.



*Do you think the federal government does or does not have the authority to require every American to buy health care insurance or pay a fine?*

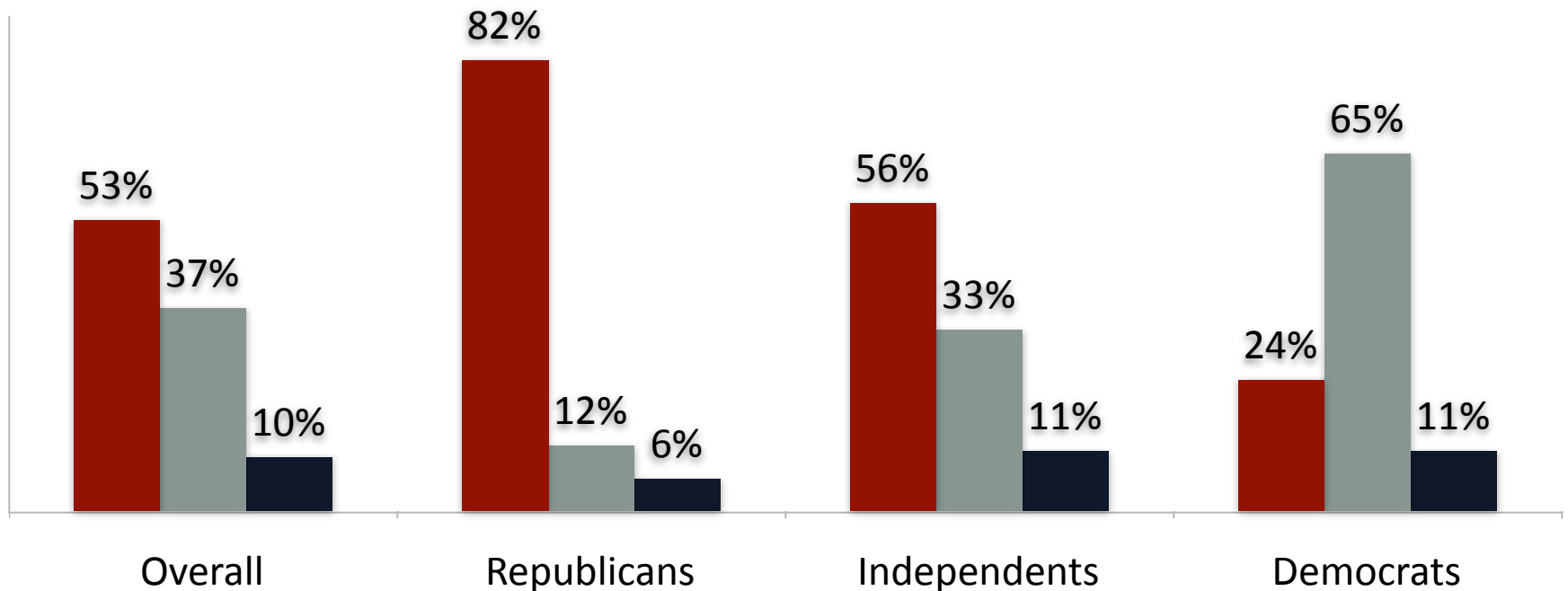


# A majority of voters says the law should be repealed and replaced ...



*Do you think Congress should or should not repeal and replace the health care reform law passed in 2010?*

Should Repeal    Should Not Repeal    Don't Know



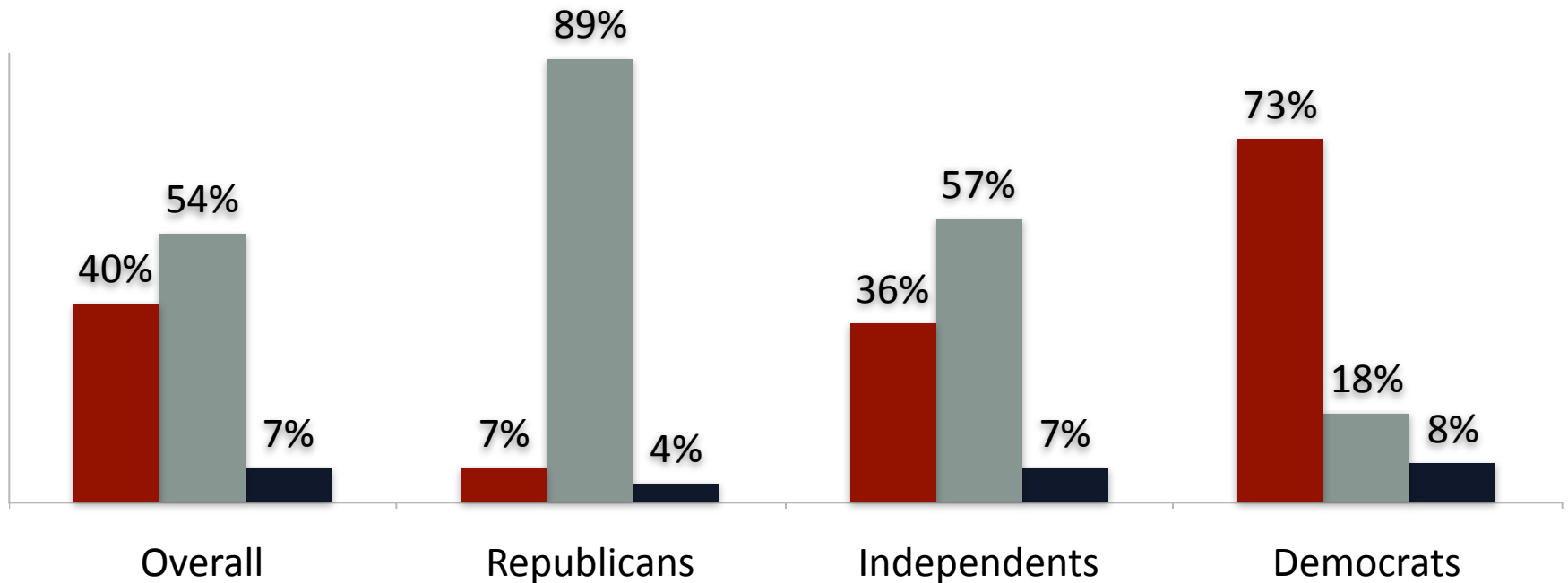
# ... even when reasons are given on both sides.



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

- a) *President Obama's health care plan is an important achievement that will allow all Americans to have access to health insurance, and should be implemented as soon as possible.*
- b) *President Obama's health care plan will add too much to the deficit, raise taxes, and give the government too much power over health care, and should be repealed and replaced.*

■ Should Be Implemented   ■ Should Be Repealed   ■ Don't Know



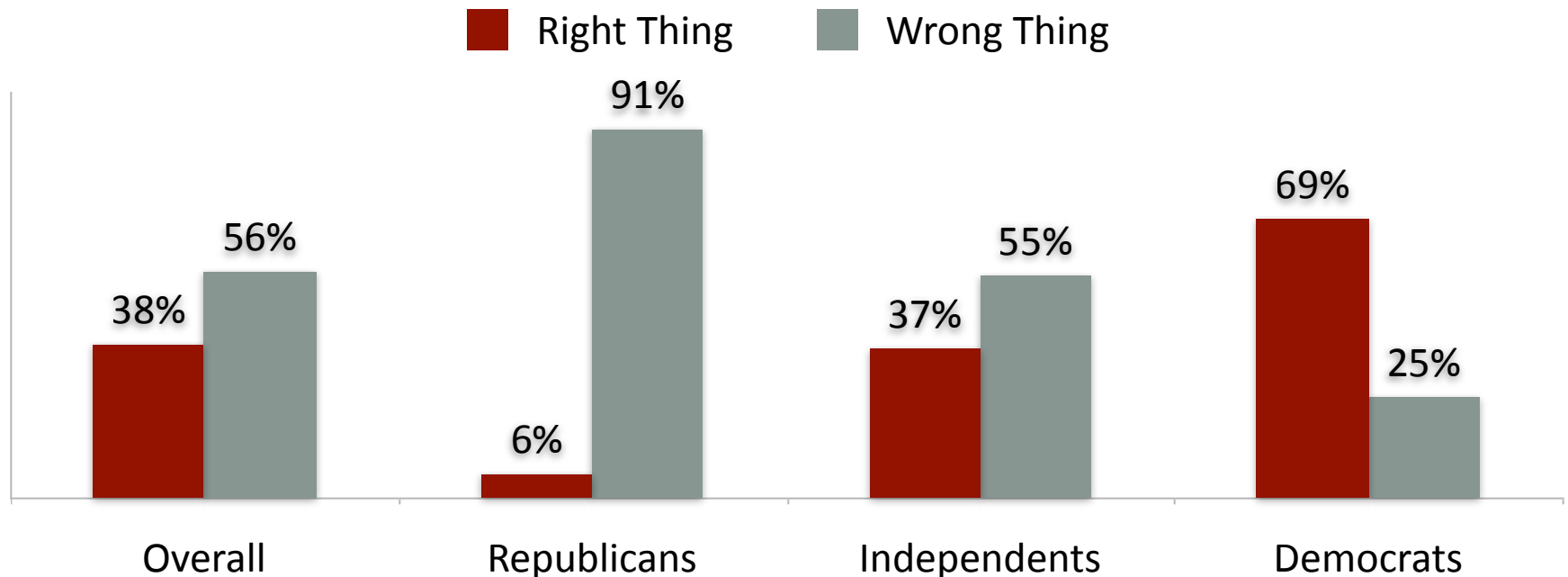
# Voters think the President did the wrong thing by focusing on reform his first year in office.



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

a) President Obama did the right thing by focusing on passing health care reform his first year in office. Rising health care costs and the uninsured were major problems we could no longer wait to address.

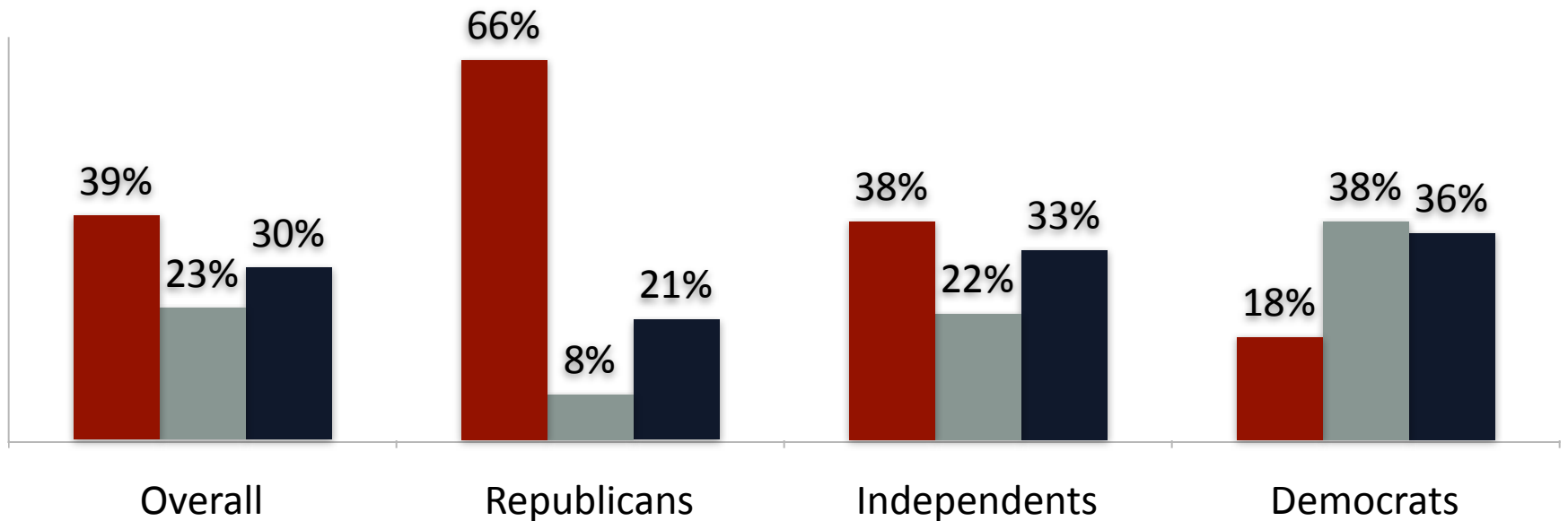
b) President Obama did the wrong thing by focusing on passing health care reform his first year in office. He should have worked harder to get the economy going and creating jobs before moving on to other issues.



# Independents are more likely to support a candidate for Congress who supports repealing and replacing the health care law.

*Would you be (ROTATE: more likely or less likely) to vote for a candidate for Congress who supported repealing and replacing the 2010 health care reform law, or would the issue have no effect on your support?*

More Likely   Less Likely   No Effect



# What would reform look like?

# Strong majorities support reforming the medical malpractice system.

*Q Now I would like to ask you about several other proposals some people have made to reform health care. For each of the following, please tell me if you support or oppose that proposal:*

**Reforming the medical malpractice system to reduce the number of lawsuits against doctors and hospitals.**

**Percent "Support"**



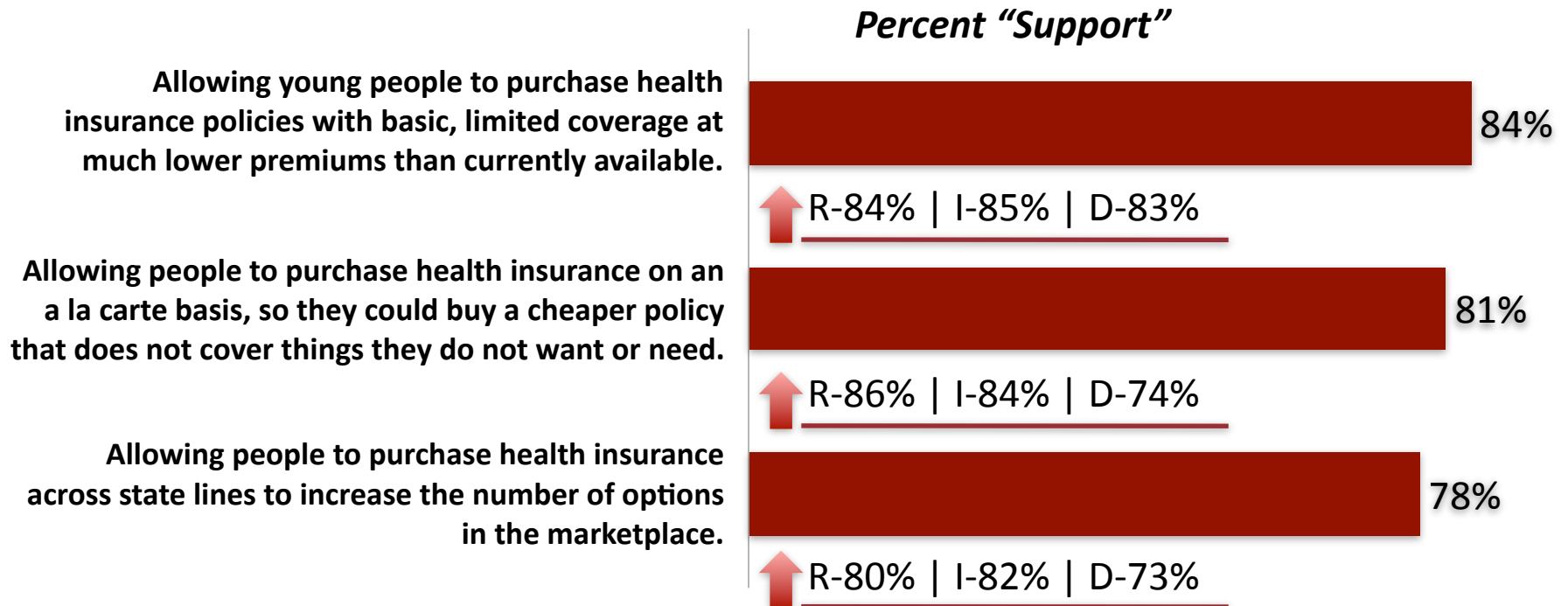
**↑ R-81% | I-74% | D-61%**



# There is strong bipartisan support for allowing new purchase options to reduce costs.

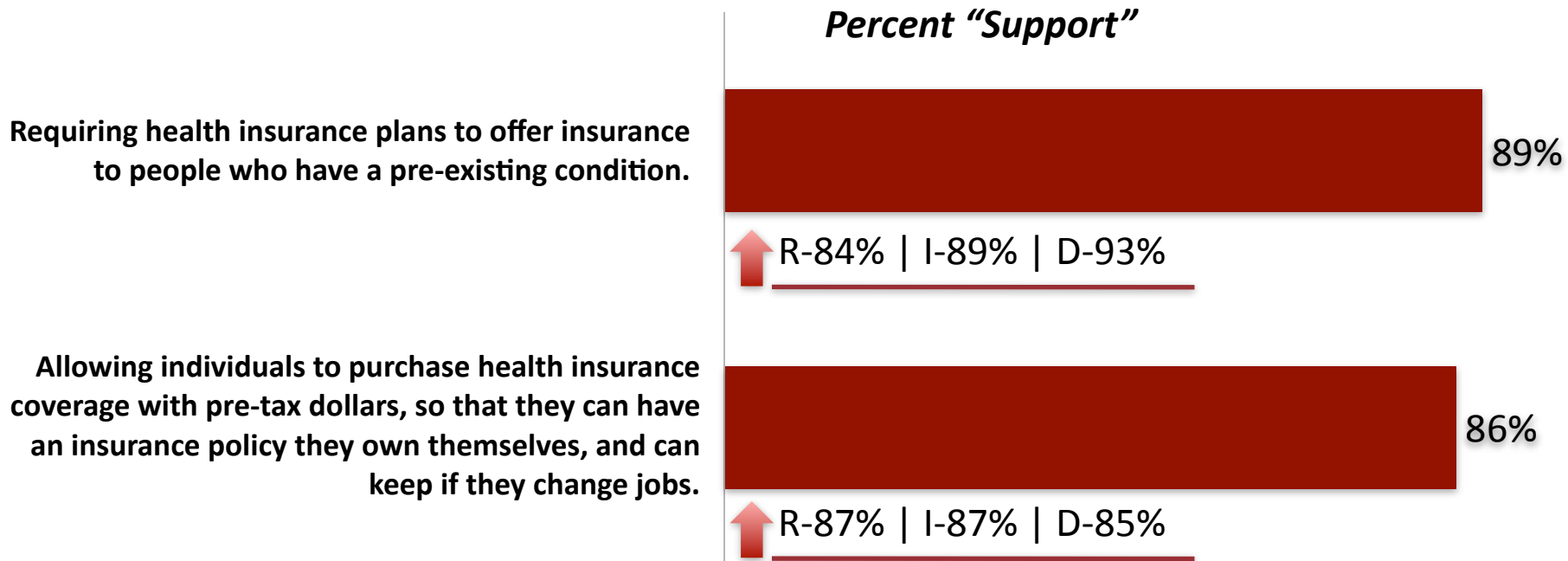


*Now I would like to ask you about several other proposals some people have made to reform health care. For each of the following, please tell me if you support or oppose that proposal:*



# More than four-fifths support proposals to preserve access to coverage.

*Q Now I would like to ask you about several other proposals some people have made to reform health care. For each of the following, please tell me if you support or oppose that proposal:*

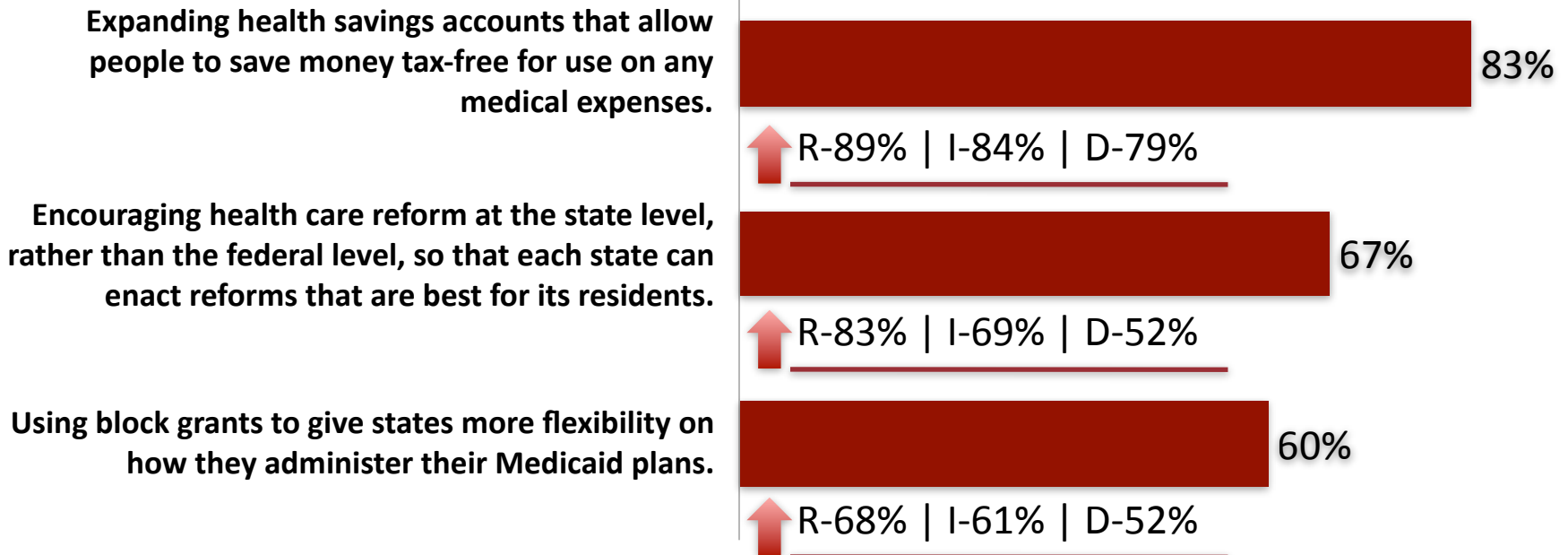


# Voters support both HSAs for individuals and block grants for states to improve flexibility.



*Now I would like to ask you about several other proposals some people have made to reform health care. For each of the following, please tell me if you support or oppose that proposal:*

## Percent "Support"



# Three-fifths of voters – including a majority of Democrats – support allowing seniors to choose private coverage.



*Now I would like to ask you about several other proposals some people have made to reform health care. For each of the following, please tell me if you support or oppose that proposal:*

## Percent "Support"

**Ensuring that patients and doctors can make health care decisions without the interference of government bureaucrats.**

85%

↑ R-93% | I-87% | D-76%

**Allowing seniors who choose to do so to purchase private health insurance coverage with Medicare money, instead of using traditional Medicare.**

62%

↑ R-71% | I-61% | D-56%

# Conclusions

- ◆ Voters do not believe the President's claims about the health care law were true.
- ◆ Voters think the law will have a negative effect on costs, premiums, taxes, the deficit, and the quality of care.
- ◆ Voters think the President erred by focusing on health care rather than the economy.
- ◆ Voters do not think the federal government has the authority to require all Americans to purchase health care insurance.
- ◆ Voters want to see the bill repealed and replaced with alternative policies that control costs, ensure access to health insurance, improve flexibility, expand choice, and reform medical malpractice.



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