

Supreme Court Vacancy

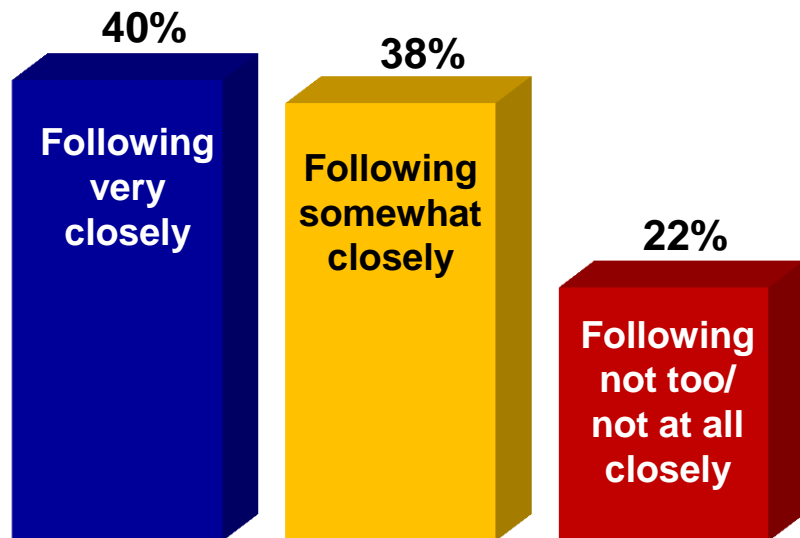
*Key findings from a survey among likely voters in
battleground states, conducted February 2016*

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

- Telephone survey among 800 likely 2016 voters in battleground states, conducted February 19 to 22, 2016
- Battleground states: CO, FL, IA, IL, MO, NC, NH, NV, OH, PA, VA, WI
- Generic 2016 Presidential Vote: 39% Democrat, 45% Republican
- Generic 2016 Senate Vote: 43% Democrat, 45% Republican
- Race: 79% whites, 10% blacks, 7% Hispanics

Voters Are Following the Vacancy Issue

US Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia recently passed away, creating a vacancy on the Supreme Court. How closely are you following news about the vacancy on the Supreme Court and discussion of how the president and the Senate should address this issue?

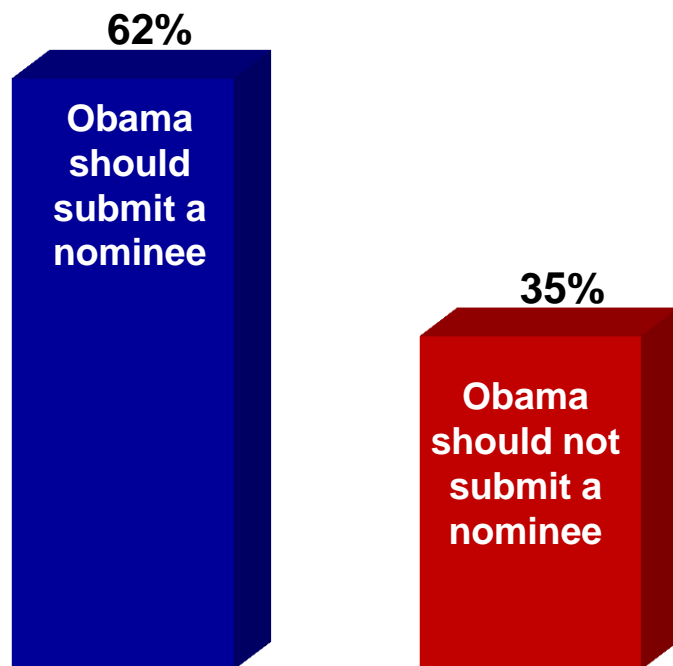


Following very closely

Democrats	41%
Independents	28%
Republicans	44%
Men	45%
Women	37%
Age 18 to 35	18%
Age 35 to 49	39%
Age 50 to 64	46%
Age 65/over	54%
Non-college grads	35%
College grads	47%

Battleground Voters Say Obama Should Submit Nominee

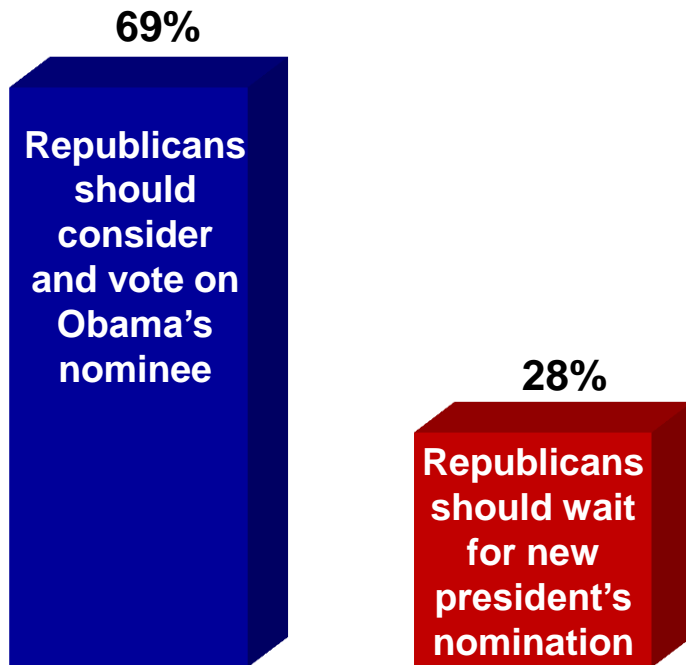
Should President Obama submit a nominee to fill this vacancy on the Supreme Court, or should President Obama not submit a nominee and wait to let the next president make the nomination?



	Obama should submit nominee	Obama should not submit nominee
Democrats	88%	9%
Independents	67%	30%
Republicans	36%	61%

Large Majority Say Senate Should Consider Obama Nominee and Take Up-or-Down Vote

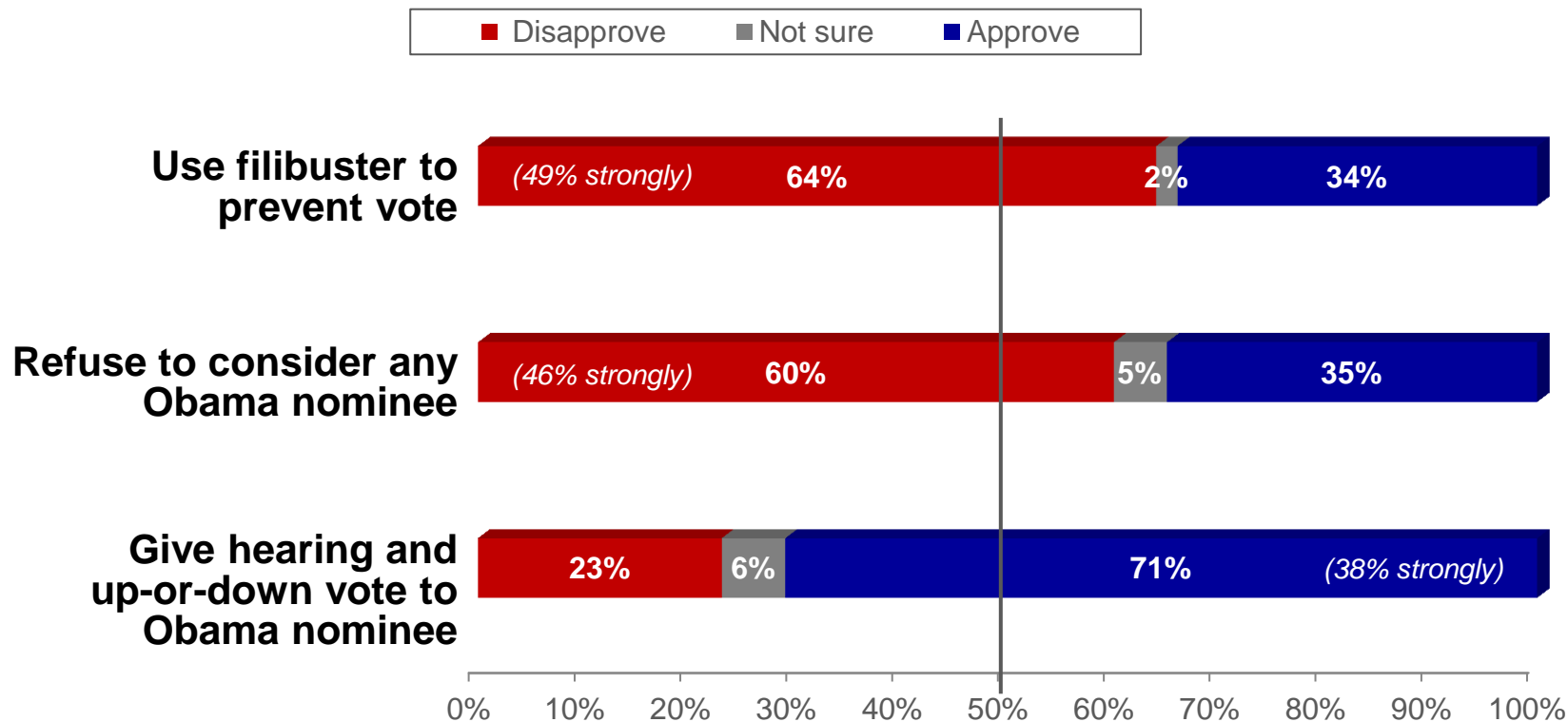
President Obama has said that he will make a nomination to fill this vacancy on the Supreme Court in the next few weeks, in accordance with the US Constitution. Should the Republican majority in the Senate consider Obama's nominee and take an up-or-down confirmation vote on that person, or ...wait for a new president to submit a nomination?



	Consider/ vote on Obama nominee	Wait for new president's nominee
Democrats	90%	9%
Independents	69%	25%
Republicans	49%	46%

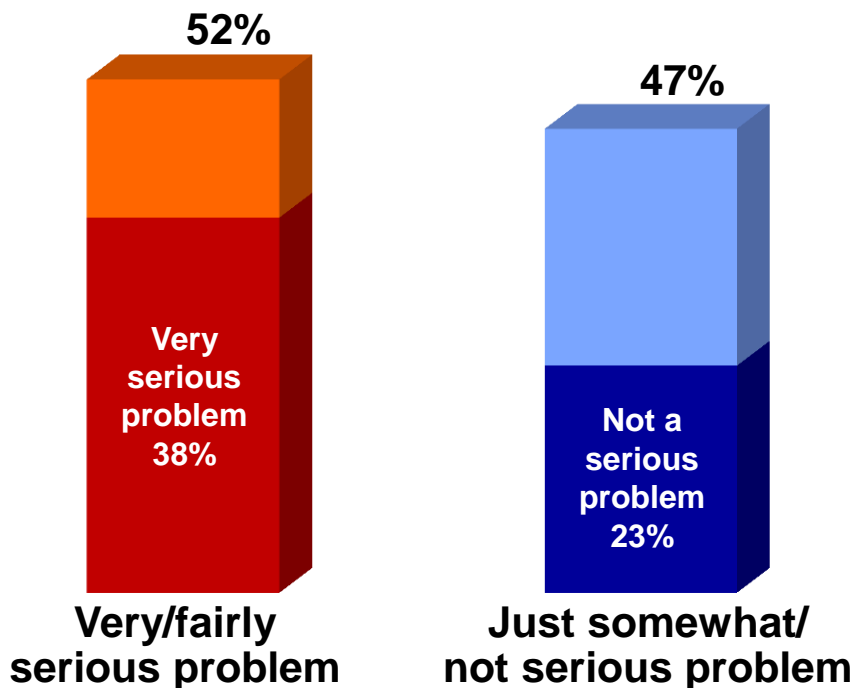
Strong Opposition to GOP Senate Majority Refusing to Consider Nominee

Support for possible Republican Senate actions regarding an Obama Supreme Court nominee



Concern over 14-Month Vacancy

If the Senate waits for a new president to be elected before considering a nominee, that means there will be a vacancy on the Supreme Court for at least 14 months, perhaps longer. In your view, how serious a problem would that be for the country?



Very serious problem

Democrats	61%
Independents	44%
Republicans	14%
Senate vote:	
Democrat	63%
Republican	12%
Swing	38%

Democrats Win Debate on Proceeding with Nomination and Consideration

With which statement about whether the Senate should consider President Obama's nominee do you agree more?

Democrats: The Constitution gives the president the responsibility for nominating justices and the Senate the responsibility for confirming them, and the Constitution does not make any exceptions for election years.



Republicans: No Supreme Court justice has been nominated and confirmed in an election year in the past 80 years, and there is no reason to rush such an important decision now.



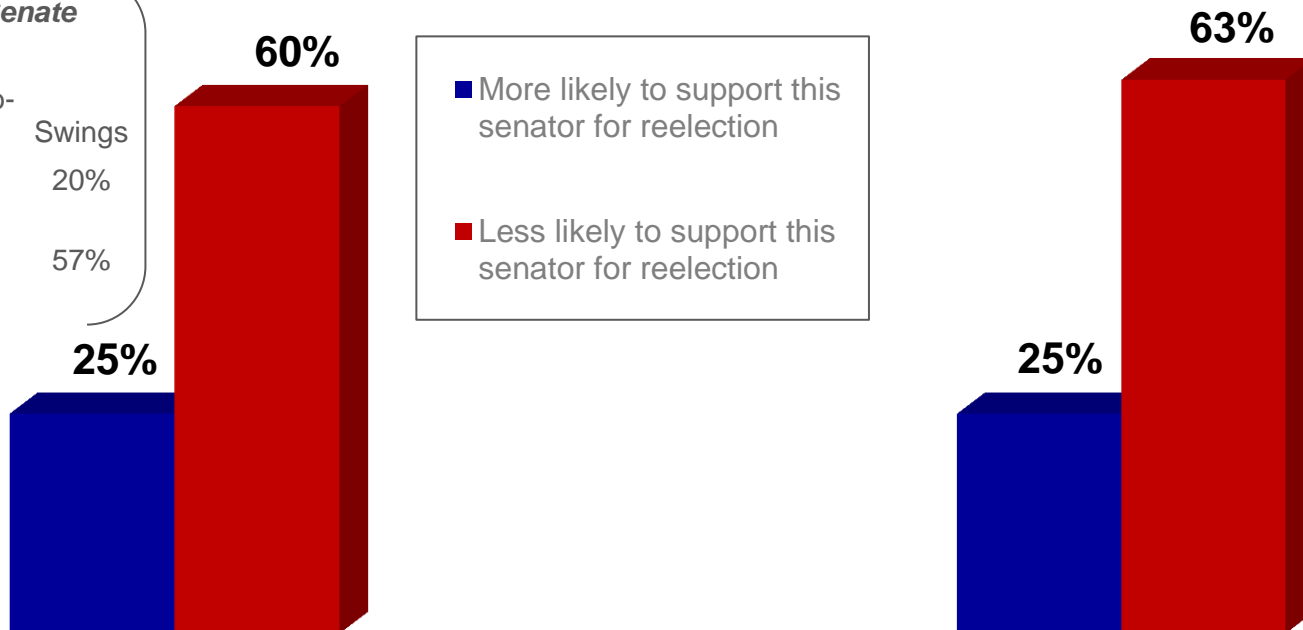
Voters Less Likely to Support Senator Who Opposes Consideration or Puts Ideology before Qualifications

Senator who says Senate should refuse to consider or vote on Obama SC nominee

Senator who says he/she would oppose Obama SC nominee who is not a strong conservative even if qualified

By 2016 vote for Senate

	Vote Democrat	Vote Republican	Swings
More likely to support	10%	43%	20%
Less likely to support	83%	37%	57%



GOP Majority's Handling of Nomination Raises Concerns for Many Voters

Proportions saying each raises very/fairly MAJOR CONCERNS about the way the Republican majority in the Senate is dealing with the Supreme Court vacancy

- 63%** They are **following the lead of extreme voices** such as Donald Trump and Ted Cruz, and putting politics ahead of their constitutional duties.
- 63%** Refusing to consider any nominee of the president—even if the nominee has excellent qualifications and was recently overwhelmingly confirmed by these senators as a federal judge—is **extreme and irresponsible**.
- 62%** This is the **first Senate majority in American history to refuse** to consider any nominee from the president, no matter how qualified they are.

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