DESCRIPTION OF METHODOLOGY

LHK Partners, Inc, a polling firm located in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, fielded the WPRI survey from January 2 to 4, 2015. In total, 600 completed surveys were collected from a representative sample of Wisconsin residents, 18 years and older. The survey was administered over the telephone, lasting an average of 15 minutes. Approximately 40 percent of the calls were made to cell phones, with the remainder made to landlines. Telephone numbers for the study were developed using Random Digit Dialing (RDD) within the state of Wisconsin. Respondents were selected by asking for the youngest adult member in the household age 18 and over. By six standard AAPOR definitions, response rates ranged from 3 to 11 percent, with response rates for landlines consistently appearing higher than those for cell phones. To improve the representativeness of the sample, raking weights were constructed on the basis of respondent demographics and geographic indicators.

POLLSTER

William Howell is the Sydney Stein Professor in American Politics at the University of Chicago, where he holds appointments in the Harris School of Public Policy, the Department of Political Science, and the College. Between 2005 and 2013, Professor Howell served as the national polling director for Education Next, and he currently serves as a consultant on the ABC News national election decision desk. He has written widely on separation-of-powers issues and American political institutions, especially the presidency. He currently is working on research projects on President Obama’s education initiatives, distributive politics, and the normative foundations of executive power.

Professor Howell is the author of numerous books, including, along with coauthors Saul Jackman and Jon Rogowski, The Wartime President: Executive Influence and the Nationalizing Politics of Threat (University of Chicago Press, 2013); and, along with David Brent, Thinking about the Presidency: The Primacy of Power (Princeton University Press, 2013).

Before coming to the University of Chicago, Professor Howell taught in the government department at Harvard University and the political science department at the University of Wisconsin. In 2000, he received a PhD in political science from Stanford University.

WPRI

The Wisconsin Policy Research Institute, established in 1987, is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit think tank working to engage Wisconsinites in discussions and timely action on key public policy issues critical to the state’s future.

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