



MEMO

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Russell Verney — Political Advisor, Troiano for Congress

DATE: September 23, 2014

RE: State of the Race in PA-10

With less than six weeks to go until Election Day, Nick Troiano's independent campaign for U.S. House of Representatives conducted a poll among likely voters for a snapshot of the race. The poll shows that the voters see independent Nick Troiano as the clear alternative to incumbent Congressman Tom Marino. Among key findings:

Troiano Is Uniquely Positioned to Defeat Marino in November

Only 28% of likely voters believe Congressman Marino deserves to be reelected. Although Marino (38%) leads both of his challengers, Democrat Scott Brion (26%) and independent Nick Troiano (16%), he is most vulnerable to Troiano. In a traditional two-way race between Marino and Brion, Marino benefits from the significant Republican registration advantage in Pennsylvania's 10th District and easily beats his opponent: Marino 48%, Brion 34%. However, in a head-to-head matchup against Troiano, the race is neck and neck: Marino 38%, Troiano 33% (within the margin of error of 4.4%), and 29% of voters undecided. Troiano is nine points more competitive against the incumbent than the Democratic candidate.

Voters Want an End to the Do-Nothing Congress

A majority of voters (55%) believe that the partisan gridlock and special interest corruption in Washington is so bad that one solution is to elect independents, rather than Democrats or Republicans, to Congress. In addition, more voters desire their leaders to compromise in order to get things done rather than sticking to their beliefs even if little gets done (44%-16%).

Troiano's Coalition of Support Transcends Partisanship

If Troiano were not in the race, 40% of Troiano supporters would support Marino, 36% would support Brion, and 23% are undecided. This demonstrates that Troiano's support derives roughly equally from *both sides*, rather than "taking votes away" from one candidate in particular.

The bottom line is that Congressman Tom Marino is a very vulnerable incumbent, and independent Nick Troiano is the only candidate who can defeat him in November. A vote for Democrat Scott Brion is simply a vote for Congressman Tom Marino and more partisan gridlock in Washington.

ABOUT THIS POLL: This survey was conducted September 18-21, 2014 and collected responses from 492 voting households in Pennsylvania's 10th Congressional District. The margin of error, with a 95% confidence interval, was 4.4%. This survey was commissioned by Nick Troiano for Congress and conducted by JMC Enterprises of Louisiana. Pollster John Couvillon has polled for statewide and federal candidates in 18 states.

ABOUT RUSSELL VERNEY: Russell Verney was the 1992 political advisor and 1996 Campaign Manager for Ross Perot's presidential campaigns. He was the founding Chairman of a nationally recognized political party, the Reform Party. Born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts, Mr. Verney attended Northeastern University. He is a decorated US Army veteran and now resides in Dallas, Texas with his wife Gayle.