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New polling data shows strong public support for employer-provided health, retirement plans *Voters trust employers more than other sources; favor bipartisanship, federal standards, tax-advantaged health care*

WASHINGTON, DC – “Results from two different election-night surveys underscore Americans’ trust and satisfaction with the employer-provided health and retirement benefit system,” American Benefits Council President James A. Klein said today. “These findings should inspire lawmakers to strengthen these important middle-class programs in the remaining days of the 115th Congress and next year.”

[In one survey, conducted by nationally-renowned polling firm Public Opinion Strategies](#), we learned:

- Voters trust employers more than other sources for high-quality health care coverage, with 48 percent compared to 20 percent for the individual health care market and 15 percent for the federal government. Among the employed, this sentiment was even stronger, with 61 percent trusting employers over the individual market (18 percent) and the federal government (8 percent).
- Likewise, nearly one-half (47 percent) of voters trust employers to help them achieve a secure retirement, compared to 33 percent for the individual financial services market. Among the employed, the difference was even greater, 53 percent to 35 percent.
- By a margin of 60 percent to 28 percent, voters want standards for retirement savings and health care coverage determined at the federal level – not the state

level – to ensure that employees of the same company receive consistent benefits no matter where they live or work.

- Despite deep divisions in the electorate, large majorities of voters believe a bipartisan approach to legislation would do most to improve their ability to save for a secure retirement (78 percent) and improve access to quality health care (71 percent).

[A separate survey, conducted by prominent pollster Frank Luntz on behalf of the Alliance to Fight the 40](#), found:

- An overwhelming 81 percent of voters believe that employer provided health insurance should continue to be tax-free because it encourages employers to provide good-quality coverage at a more affordable price for workers and their families.

“The people have spoken,” Klein said. “In light of this compelling new data, we urge policymakers to redouble their efforts to repeal the 40 percent tax on employer-provided health coverage and pass a sensible package of retirement savings reforms.”

For more information on retirement policy matters, or to arrange an interview with Klein, contact Jason Hammersla, Council senior director of communications, at jhammersla@abcstaff.org or by phone at 202-289-6700 (office) or (202) 422-4652 (cell).

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The American Benefits Council is the national trade association for companies concerned about federal legislation and regulations affecting all aspects of the employee benefits system. The Council’s members represent the entire spectrum of the private employee benefits community and either sponsor directly or administer retirement and health plans covering more than 100 million Americans.