


McLaughlin & Associates

To: Chip DeMoss: Chairman/CEO – Compact for America
From: John McLaughlin
Re: National Survey – Executive Summary
Date: January 14, 2013

Survey Summary: Six in ten voters favor a balanced budget amendment and at least 70% favor Compact for America's specific and common sense proposals to rein in the federal deficit. These survey results demonstrate that Compact for America has the potential to obtain broad support.

- ✓ After being probed about the failed leadership in Washington and the fiscal instability of the United States, 62% favor a constitutional amendment to balance the federal budget annually, while 24% oppose. Intensity is strong among those who favor the amendment, 41% strongly favor to 21% somewhat favor.

President Obama and Congress have failed to provide leadership, which is causing gridlock and partisanship in Washington and has made it impossible to pass meaningful legislation to balance the federal budget. Currently, the United States is borrowing over 40 cents on every dollar it spends and the credit of the United States has been downgraded for the first time in history. Knowing all of this, would you favor or oppose a constitutional amendment that would require the President and Congress to operate the federal government under an annual balanced budget?

	TOTAL
Favor	62%
Strongly Favor	41%
Somewhat Favor	21%
Oppose	24%
Somewhat Oppose	9%
Strongly Oppose	15%
DK/Refused	13%

More specifically, please tell me if you would favor or oppose each of the following provision in a balanced budget amendment.

	Favor/Oppose
Requiring a roll call vote by each member of Congress when a tax increase is proposed.	81%/11%
Limiting the amount of money the federal government can borrow.	75%/20%
Prohibiting the federal government from spending more than it takes in each year.	72%/22%
Requiring the President to make the appropriate spending cuts to remain within the debt limit when Congress is unable to borrow more money or raise additional taxes.	72%/18%
Cutting spending FIRST before taxes are raised or additional money is borrowed if the federal government spends more than it takes in.	71%/21%

Methodology: This national survey of 1,000 likely general election voters was conducted on from June 10th – June 12th, 2012. All interviews were conducted via telephone by professional interviewers. Interview selection was random within predetermined geographic units. These units were structured to correlate with actual voter distributions in a nationwide general election. This national survey of 1,000 likely general election voters has an accuracy of +/- 3.1% at a 95% confidence interval.