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New Poll: Communities of Color View Climate Change As Imminent Threat Support Carbon Pollution Standards & Environmental Candidates

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Green For All (GFA) released the results of a first of its kind national poll on the <u>state of climate change among communities of color</u>. According to the poll, 75 percent of minority voters pay attention to new information on climate change and 68 percent feel it is an issue we need to be worried about right now, not something we can put off into the future.

"There is a lot of rumor and speculation surrounding what people of color think about climate change and the environment," Green For All Executive Director Nikki Silvestri said. "Yet, too often the communities that are hit first and worst by the impacts of climate change are not part of the discussion. But, the answer is clear. People of color care deeply about the environment and the impacts of climate change. We understand the urgency of these threats because we experience the effects every single day."

Minority voters not only care about climate change, but support climate action:

- 75 percent agree that new EPA carbon pollution standards will spur research and innovations to keep energy prices low and create whole new industries with good-paying jobs
- 70 percent of minority voters said that they were more likely to support candidates willing to expand resources to tackle the issue and grow new industries over those arguing that addressing climate change will cost jobs and hurt our economy
- 62 percent say not enough attention and resources are being devoted to climate change

At a more fundamental level, minority voters make sense of climate change and environmental issues through the prism of their values and pragmatism.

- A plurality of voters, 31 percent, identified our moral duty to leave our children a habitable planet as the most significant reason for supporting new carbon emissions standards.
- The economic impacts of rising energy costs and gas prices were first and foremost in voters' minds, followed closely by health impacts of exposure to air pollution, water pollution, and toxic waste.

"We know that tackling climate change won't be easy," Silvestri said. "We're ready to come to the table to find solutions, so we can help communities of color not only survive the next climate disaster, but leap forward and thrive."

Brilliant Corners conducted the poll this summer. They surveyed 400 African American and 400 Latino Likely Voters from key Battleground States (FL, GA, MI, NV, NC, OH, TX, and VA), as well as 100 Asian Likely Voters from Los Angeles & the Bay Area.

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