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Malinowski Competitive in Newly Drawn District

Survey results among 600 likely 2022 voters

To: Interested Parties
From: GQR

The race for Congress in New Jersey’s new 7th Congressional District is very competitive. A recent survey shows Congressman Tom Malinowski tied with potential challenger Tom Kean, Jr., 46-46 percent (8 percent undecided) even though the district is rated lean Republican and arguably we are at a low point in the national Democratic brand.

Both Malinowski and Kean also have equal standing. Malinowski is recognized by 67 percent of the voters with 28 percent favorable and 25 percent unfavorable. Kean has 64 percent name identification with 22 percent favorable and 24 percent unfavorable.

New Jersey’s 7th Congressional District, Vote Choice

This is still the kind of suburban district that reviles MAGA; nearly two thirds of voters believe President Biden was legitimately elected, and Trump is deeply disliked with only 38 percent favorable, 56 percent unfavorable. President Biden won this district by 4 points even though party registration favors the Republicans by 3 points (36 percent Republican, 33 percent Democratic, 31 percent Unaffiliated).

Post-redistricting, it is one of just 17 districts left in the country where the margin between Biden and Trump was under 5 points, and thus one of the few remaining districts likely to decide the House majority.
This memo is based on a survey of 600 likely voters in New Jersey’s 7th Congressional District, with 50 percent surveyed on their cell phone. The survey was conducted by live interviewers from January 19-27, 2022. The overall margin of error is +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence interval. Margin of error is higher among subgroups.