

TULCHIN RESEARCH

To: Interested Parties

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■ Polling Shows Strong Majority of Californians Back Action to Rein in Big Tech and Protect Jobs from A.I. and Automation

A recent Tulchin Research poll of California voters reveals the public is concerned about the impact Big Tech is having on people, jobs and safety. Additionally, voters overwhelmingly view the expansion of artificial intelligence (A.I.) and automation as a serious threat to jobs across the state. In response to these concerns, the poll finds broad support for proposed legislation requiring all self-driving delivery vehicles operating in California to have a trained human safety operator on board. The following memo provides a detailed breakdown of the poll's findings.

Voters Are Deeply Concerned About Big Tech's Power and A.I. Threatening California Jobs and Workers

Our poll of registered voters across California reveals widespread unease about the growing influence of the Big Tech industry and its impact on everyday workers and consumers. When asked whether they agree with the statement, **"Big tech companies have too much power and we need to do more to stand up for consumers and workers,"** an overwhelming 86% of California voters agreed, including 60% who "strongly" agreed.

Concerns Over Big Tech	
Please indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement:	
<i>"Big Tech companies have too much power and we need to do more to stand up for consumers and workers."</i>	
Total Agree	86%
<u>"Strongly" Agree</u>	60%
Total Disagree	10%
Don't Know	4%

Concerns about Big Tech’s influence extend to the rapid expansion of artificial intelligence (A.I.) and automation, with voters troubled by their potential impact on California jobs and workers. When asked how concerned they are about A.I. and automation eliminating jobs and displacing workers, an overwhelming 84% of respondents expressed concern, including a significant 55% who said they are “very concerned.”

Voters’ Opinions on A.I. and Automation Threatening California Jobs	
<i>How concerned are you personally about the following? Please indicate whether you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about the following statement:</i>	
<i>“Artificial intelligence—or A.I.— and automation eliminating jobs and displacing workers”</i>	
Total Concerned	84%
“Very” Concerned	55%
Total Not Concerned	15%
Don’t Know	0%

Strong Public Support for Requiring Human Safety Operators in Self-Driving Delivery Vehicles

With a clear consensus on the threats posed by Big Tech deploying A.I. that could displace workers and threaten public safety, this survey finds broad support for a legislative proposal requiring all self-driving trucks and delivery vehicles operating on California’s public roads and freeways to have a human safety operator present at all times. According to the poll, nearly four out of five voters (79%) support this proposal, including 58% who “strongly” support it. In contrast, only 17% of voters oppose the proposal, while 4% remain undecided.

Support for Mandatory Human Safety Operators in Commercial Self-Driving Vehicles	
<i>Please indicate if you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the following statement:</i>	
<i>“Requiring a trained human safety operator to be present in any self-driving truck or delivery vehicle operating on public roads and freeways in California.”</i>	
Total Support	79%
“Strongly” Support	58%
Total Oppose	17%
Don’t Know	4%
Support – Oppose	+62

Conclusion

In conclusion, the poll highlights a strong consensus among California voters that Big Tech has too much power and more needs to be done to protect workers and consumers from the expansion of A.I. in our everyday lives, such as self-driving delivery vehicles. This widespread concern has fueled a growing demand for action to better protect workers and prioritize their livelihoods. As a result, a strong majority of voters support legislative efforts to regulate the self-driving vehicle industry by requiring all self-driving delivery vehicles to have a trained human safety operator on board.

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Survey Methodology: From January 13-20, 2025, Tulchin Research conducted a multi-modal survey of 800 registered voters across California. The survey was available in both English and Spanish to ensure accessibility. The margin of error for the full sample of 800 respondents is $\pm 3.5\%$.