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CONTACT: Brad Luna, LUNA+EISENLA media
brad@lunaesennamedia.com | 202-812-8140 (mobile)

Exclusive Analysis of Youth Participation in Nevada Caucuses & Early Election Cycle

Young Republicans Participating in Record Numbers in 2016, Youth Only Age Group Trump Does Not Win in Nevada

Medford/Somerville, MA – Youth participation in last night’s Nevada Republican caucus continues a record-breaking participation trend in 2016, according to youth vote experts from the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning & Engagement (CIRCLE) – the preeminent, non-partisan research center on youth engagement at Tufts University’s Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service.

Highlights of the youth vote in Nevada include:

- Following a national trend, young Republicans in Nevada broke their record of participation, the fourth state in which young Republicans did so in 2016.
- Young Republicans in Nevada clearly favored Senator Marco Rubio (37%) over Donald Trump (31%), the only age group to do so in a contest in which Trump won by a large margin (22 points).
- Young people were 13% of the caucus participants statewide - 18% of the Democratic caucus and 7% of the Republican caucus. The youth presence in the Democratic caucus was far larger than its share in 2008, which was 13%.
- Overall, an estimated 5% of young eligible citizens in Nevada (19,665) participated in the caucuses, a tie with the state’s highest youth participation record, which was set in 2008.

“Record numbers of young people have participated in the 2016 election so far. They have made it very clear that they care, that they often prefer different candidates than older voters, and most importantly, that they are willing to participate in this process,” said Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, Director of CIRCLE. “With this level of participation, young people are sure to be a formidable influence on the upcoming state contests and the general election. Any candidate who is hoping to win a nomination needs strong youth support.”

For CIRCLE’s full analysis of Nevada’s results, see here. While these summary data provide important indicators of youth impact on the primary, there are many perspectives and narratives about young people and elections to consider. CIRCLE has gathered some reflections on youth engagement in this year’s primary.
Throughout this election season, CIRCLE’s 2016 Election Center will offer new data products and analyses providing a comprehensive picture of the youth vote, both nationally and in targeted states and congressional districts across the country, including an exclusive Youth Electoral Significance Index.

CIRCLE youth vote experts also are available for interviews and/or analysis. Media outlets should contact: Brad Luna at brad@lunaeisenlamedia.com or 202-812-8140 (mobile).

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CIRCLE (www.civicyouth.org) is a nonpartisan, independent, academic research center that studies young people in politics and presents detailed data on young voters in all 50 states. CIRCLE is part of the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University.

The Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service (http://activecitizen.tufts.edu/) is a national leader whose model and research are setting the standard for higher education’s role in civic engagement education. Serving every school of Tufts University, Tisch College creates an enduring culture that prepares students to be lifelong active citizens.

Tufts University (http://www.tufts.edu/), located on three Massachusetts campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, and in Talloires, France, is recognized as one of the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university’s schools is widely encouraged.