Gay marriage opposition in New Jersey hits all-time low

Opposition to allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry has hit an all-time low in New Jersey. According to a Rutgers-Eagleton Poll of 799 registered voters released last week, 61 percent support gay marriage, while 27 percent remain opposed, the lowest the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll has measured since 2003.

"Beliefs about same-sex marriage have shifted rapidly," David Redlawsk, director of the Rutgers-Eagleton Poll and a professor of political science at Rutgers University, said in releasing the poll's findings. "Fully one-quarter of today's supporters tell us they were previously opposed."

The survey comes a week after Governor Christ Christie withdrew a state Supreme Court appeal to a lower court's decision ordering the state to begin issuing marriage licenses to gay couples as of October 21.

Pollsters also found that a large majority (59%) of respondents agree with the ruling and a majority (53%) said that the state should accept the ruling and not appeal it.

"Not long ago, a ruling like this would have created a significant backlash," Redlawsk said. "Now most voters agree with it."

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