

Fil-Ams lean towards Romney – survey

Friday, 19 October 2012 22:44 Mico Letargo | AJPress



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LOS ANGELES – Based on the findings of the 2012 National Asian American Survey (NAAS), Filipinos are showing the most support for presidential candidate Mitt Romney among all Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPI) racial groups.

According to the survey, the 38 percent of Filipinos supporting the former Massachusetts governor is the strongest degree of endorsement for Romney among all AAPIs.

Among Filipinos, 27 percent identify themselves as Republicans, while only 24 percent identify themselves as Democrats. Meanwhile, almost half of Filipinos (45 percent) claim to be independent or non-partisan.

Filipinos who identify themselves as Republicans outnumber those who identify themselves as Democrats. The survey also found that a larger portion of Filipinos now identify with the Republican Party than any other Asian American group. This sudden growth of Republican support is a big shift from prior surveys, according to the NAAS.

In 2008, 50 percent of the Filipino community voted for President Barack Obama (the Democrat candidate back then) while 46 percent voted for Republican Senator John McCain.

In contrast to this previous trend, Filipino voters who prefer Gov. Romney now outnumber those who prefer a second term for Pres. Obama.

In a US average obtained from an average of polls in RealClearPolitics, the NAAS pointed out that 38 percent of Filipinos prefer to vote for Romney, while only 32 percent expressed their preference for Obama. About 28 percent remain undecided, while the remaining 2 percent gave a different answer.

According to the NAAS website (www.naasurvey.com), it is a scientific and nonpartisan effort to gauge the opinions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. It started its first survey in 2008, which focused primarily on issues of civic engagement and political participation.

Currently, the NAAS is in partnership with various community organizations to provide an in-depth look at where AAPIs stand on a variety of important public policy issues.

Republican Asian Americans express strong belief in Romney

In a statement to the press after the second presidential debate, Romney is once again affirmed by Republican Asian Americans as ‘the right man for the presidency.’

After what CNN has called ‘a bruising debate’ between Pres. Obama and Gov. Romney, the Republican Asian Americans emphasized their belief that for the next few years, the former Massachusetts governor ‘would better steer the country’ than Obama.

The statement pointed to economic issues where Romney has come out strong in the second debate, which took place Tuesday night at the Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York. The debate, using the town hall format, saw both candidates on the offensive early and often, lasted for a little more than 90 minutes, according to CNN.

Talking about small businesses, the Republican Asian Americans were in the belief that Romney would champion the cause of this segment of the business sector, which is also responsible for 49 percent of all private-sector employment.

The statement also explained that Romney would ensure ‘the most hospitable environment’ for small businesses to operate by streamlining and ensuring fair regulations so that they can prosper ‘without unnecessary interference’ from the government.

Romney also solidified his stance on tax policies, which would ‘prioritize middle-class growth,’ saying “It’s about time we can get the middle class of this country a bright and prosperous future.”

The Republican Asian Americans lauded Romney in their statement for his proposal of a 20 percent cut in income-tax rates with ‘no loss to federal revenue, funded by eliminating tax deductions for high-income individuals.’

“I’m not looking to cut taxes for wealthy people,” Romney said in Tuesday’s debate. “I’m looking to cut taxes for middle-income people.” The extra money in the hands of middle-income Asian Americans, say the statement, will boost hiring by businesses.

Financial stability is also an aspect that will be ensured under Romney’s leadership, said the statement, because of his proposed efforts to reduce and eliminate federal budget deficit and debt. This renewed sense of stability will promote investor confidence, boosting America’s capability to secure adequate resources for its future needs.

In bringing up issues on energy, Romney made an effective case that the president is anti-oil, anti-gasoline, and anti-coal; and that this stance by Obama has led to skyrocketing prices at the pump.

The Republican Asian Americans were stern in their statement on this matter, saying that Romney would work towards reducing the prices of gasoline and other power sources by pursuing the fullest development of our nation’s energy resources. A more prosperous supply of energy sources would translate into more affordable energy bills for Asian American families and businesses alike, the statement said.

(www.asianjournal.com)

(LA Weekend October 20-23, 2012 Sec. A pg.1)

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