

To: Interested Parties

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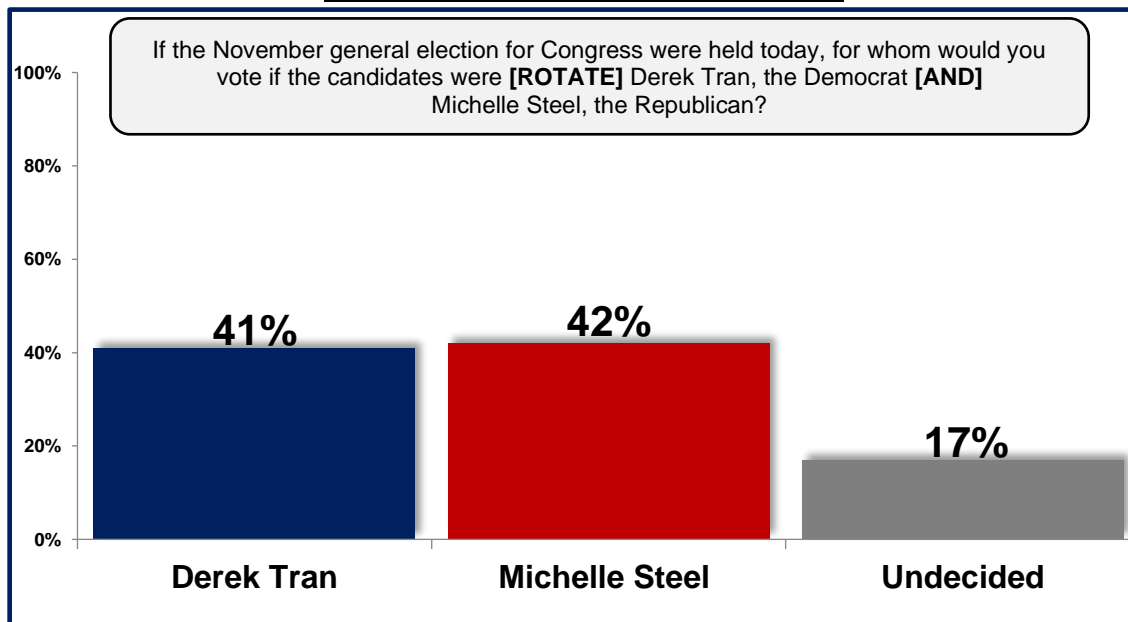
## **■ Polling of Voters in California's 45<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Finds Democrat Derek Tran Tied with Republican Congresswoman Michelle Steel**

A recent Tulchin Research poll among likely November 2024 voters in California's 45th Congressional District reveals a highly competitive race for Congress, with Democrat Derek Tran in a strong position against Republican Congresswoman Michelle Steel. Tran is statistically tied with Steel and outperforms both President Biden and a generic Democrat in the district, thanks in part to support from Vietnamese voters in the district with the largest Vietnamese community in the country. Additionally, he pulls into a lead once voters learn more about the candidates. Detailed findings from the poll are presented below.

### **Democrat Derek Tran in Dead-Heat with Republican Incumbent Michelle Steel**

The results are very encouraging for Derek Tran and Democrats in Congress, highlighting a highly competitive contest with the Republican incumbent, Congresswoman Michelle Steel. Despite securing the Democratic nomination only a couple of months ago, Tran—a workers' rights attorney, city commissioner, and small business owner—has gained significant support and is now statistically tied with Steel, attracting 41% of the vote compared to Steel's 42%, with under 1-in-5 voters (17%) undecided.

#### **CA-45 General Election Horserace**



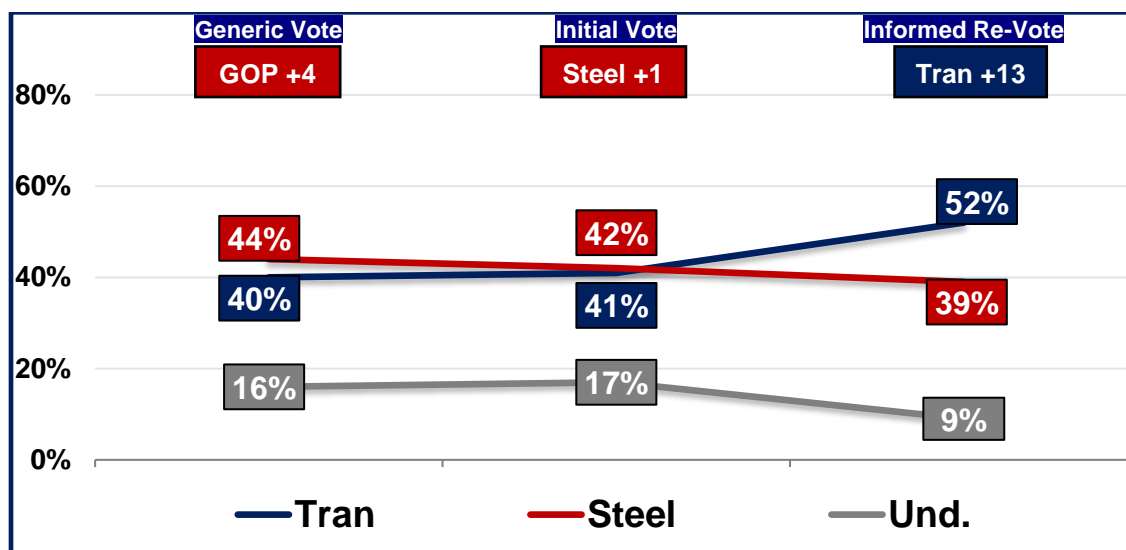
Tran’s strength in this poll is particularly impressive given what is a challenging overall political environment for Democrats, especially at the top of the ticket. While Tran is statistically tied with his Republican opponent, the same poll shows President Joe Biden trailing Donald Trump by 6 points in a presidential horserace, meaning Tran is currently outperforming Biden by a net +5 points in a district that the President won by 6 points in 2020. Moreover, Tran is also currently outperforming the Democrat’s performance on the generic Congressional ballot by a net +3 points, with Republicans leading 44% to 40% (Republican +4).

### CA-45: Congressional Horserace vs. Presidential & Generic Votes

Congressional Horserace	
Derek Tran	41%
Michelle Steel	42%
Undecided	17%
Tran – Steel	-1
Presidential Ballot	
Joe Biden	41%
Donald Trump	47%
Undecided	4%
Biden – Trump	-6
Generic Ballot	
Democrat	40%
Republican	44%
Undecided	16%
Democrat – Republican	-4

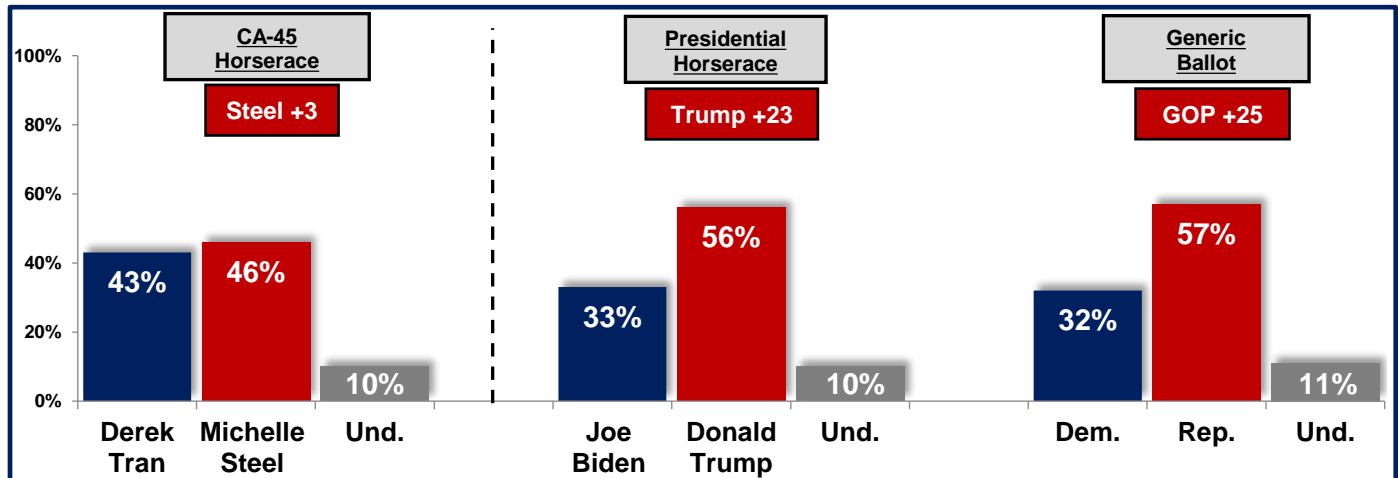
### Tran Pulls Ahead Following Additional Information, Including a Statistical Tie Among Vietnamese Voters

Additionally, our poll demonstrates Tran’s appeal and his ability to sway voters once they learn more about him and his opponent. After receiving additional information about both candidates, Tran pulls ahead of Steel, with his support growing by double-digits to 52% while Steel’s share falls to 39% while just under 1-in-10 voters (9%) are still undecided.



Underscoring Tran’s success in this poll is his appeal among Vietnamese voters in a district with the largest Vietnamese population in the country. As the son of Vietnamese refugees who fled communism for a better life, Tran’s story resonates powerfully with this key group of voters, with whom Democrats have historically struggled. Indeed, while Tran is statistically tied with Steel among Vietnamese voters, our poll shows these voters favoring Donald Trump over President Biden by 23 points (Trump 56% to Biden 33%) and Republicans over Democrats on a generic Congressional ballot by 25 points (Republicans 57% to Democrats 32%).

### **Tran’s Support Among Vietnamese Voters Compared to Biden/Generic Democrat**



### **Conclusion**

Our polling finds Democrat Derek Tran strongly positioned in his general election matchup with Republican incumbent Michelle Steel. Tran is already statistically tied with Steel, thanks in part to his unique appeal among Vietnamese voters in this heavily Vietnamese district. Furthermore, he consolidates his position and pulls into a solid lead after voters learn more about him. With just over five months until election day, Derek Tran is in a very favorable position to defeat Steel and flip this district from red to blue, provided his campaign has the necessary resources to communicate his compelling profile and agenda to voters while reminding them of Michelle Steel’s failure to advocate for their interests in Washington.

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**Survey Methodology:** From May 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, Tulchin Research conducted a survey among 600 likely November 2024 general election voters in California’s 45<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. The poll was conducted in English, Spanish and Vietnamese using live professional interviewers calling both landlines and cell phones as well as collecting data via online survey. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 4.0%.