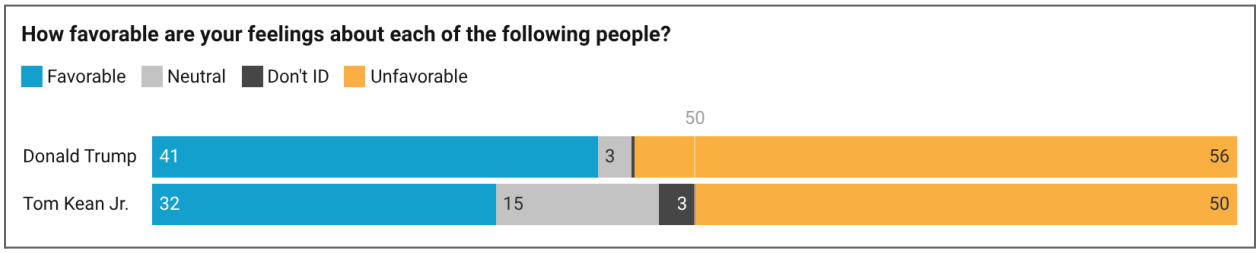
May 27, 2026

TO: 314 Action
FROM: Nancy Zdunkewicz, Z to A Research
MEMO: Results of NJ-7 Poll

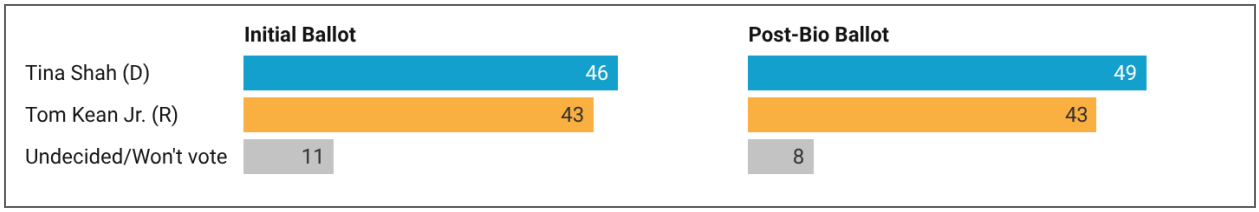
NEW POLL: 314-Backed Dr. Tina Shah Leads Republican Kean in Swing NJ-7

Democratic candidate Dr. Tina Shah is already leading Republican incumbent Tom Kean in the critical race for New Jersey's 7th congressional district. This is according to a new survey of 430 likely 2026 voters conducted by Z to A Research from May 24-26, 2026.

Tom Kean is not popular, and Trump is an albatross. As Kean's unexplained absence from Congress continues, just 32% of likely voters express favorable opinions of the congressman, and half are unfavorable. Even more unpopular is his party's president. Despite voting for him in 2024, a 56% majority of voters are now unfavorable toward the President.



Dr. Tina Shah is already leading Kean in the ballot. Dr. Tina Shah leads Shah by 3 points in the initial ballot (46% Shah, 43% Kean). Her advantage grows to 6 points after voters hear positive biographies from each candidate in their own voices. (See Appendix.) Independent voters favor Shah by 16 points (50% Shah, 34% Kean).



This survey also finds that Kean's vote to increase the cost of NJ health insurance marketplace plans for middle-class families to pay for tax cuts for billionaires is their top concern about him, and 78% of independent voters would trust a doctor more than a politician like Kean to fight for more affordable, quality healthcare.

On behalf of 314 Action Fund, Z to A Research surveyed 430 likely November 2026 voters in NJ-7 from May 24-26, 2026. Respondents were recruited to an online survey via SMS from a voterfile sample. The margin of error, as traditionally calculated, is ±4.73%.

Appendix:

Tom Kean Jr., the Republican, is serving his second term in the US Congress and is the former Republican majority leader in the New Jersey State Senate. He is the son of former Governor Thomas Kean Sr. In the US Congress, he protects NJ taxpayers by fighting to restore the SALT tax deduction. Endorsed by President Trump, he has passed historic tax cuts and delivered funding for infrastructure and law enforcement. He calls himself an independent leader committed to finding common ground. He is running to keep delivering lower taxes, a lower cost of living, and a safer America at home and abroad.
Tina Shah, a Democrat, is an ICU physician at Rahway Hospital who has been a senior advisor to three U.S. Presidents from both parties, increasing veterans' access to healthcare. She has a record of taking on the corrupt health insurance companies and winning – leading the state effort to ban insurers from using "pre-authorization" to delay care. She's running to fight for lower healthcare costs for the middle class, will stand up to Trump's threats to our democracy, abolish ICE in its current form, and stand up to billionaire interests and fight corruption in politics.