

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

Sink Clings to Lead Over Scott for FL Gov.

Raleigh, N.C. – PPP last polled Florida just before the gubernatorial primary that shot insurgent Republican Rick Scott over establishment pick Bill McCollum, a surprising result to most but one in keeping with PPP’s final poll in that race. Since then, independent former Democrat Bud Chiles has dropped out of the race, and endorsed Sink, but with a larger enthusiasm gap at Scott’s back, and a consolidated GOP base, Sink now leads by a slightly smaller margin.

Sink tops Scott, 46-41; she had led, 41-34, with Chiles at 8%, in August. The biggest difference, aside from the four-point shift in Republican enthusiasm, is that Scott has made a huge gain post-primary, as expected, in sewing up GOP support. While embroiled in a nasty battle with McCollum, Scott was pulling only 57% of his party’s vote, with 22% undecided. Now, he has caught up with Sink, getting 77%; Sink is up slightly from 72% to 76% of Democrats.

Countering the trends favoring Scott is that Sink has become more popular with the 19% of the electorate calling themselves independents, while Scott has become less so, each by a 13- or 14-point magnitude. Because of that and Chiles’ exit, unaffiliateds have moved toward the Democrat by 18 points on the margin, from a 37-28-13 lead over Scott and Chiles to a more than 2:1 lead now, at 53-26.

“Alex Sink remains in strong shape to take the Florida governor’s mansion from the Republicans for the first time in 16 years, the last big Republican wave election,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “This would be one of the brightest spots for Democrats across the country and what is likely to be an otherwise dreary election night.”

PPP surveyed 448 likely Florida voters from October 9th to 10th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.6%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached, and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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Florida Survey Results

Q1 The candidates for Governor are Democrat Alex Sink and Republican Rick Scott. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Alex Sink..... 46%
Rick Scott..... 41%
Undecided..... 14%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Alex Sink?

Favorable..... 44%
Unfavorable 38%
Not sure 18%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Scott?

Favorable..... 33%
Unfavorable 52%
Not sure 15%

Q4 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 51%
Barack Obama..... 44%
Someone else/Don't remember 5%

Q5 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 21%
Moderate..... 40%
Conservative..... 39%

Q6 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q7 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat..... 41%
Republican..... 40%
Independent/Other..... 19%

Q8 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 15%
White 70%
African-American 11%
Other..... 4%

Q9 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 8%
30 to 45..... 20%
46 to 65..... 40%
Older than 65..... 32%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Sink/Scott				
Alex Sink	46%	13%	83%	49%
Rick Scott	41%	71%	7%	34%
Undecided	14%	16%	10%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Sink Favorability				
Favorable	44%	17%	74%	49%
Unfavorable	38%	61%	13%	27%
Not sure	18%	22%	13%	24%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Scott Favorability				
Favorable	33%	55%	5%	47%
Unfavorable	52%	24%	86%	37%
Not sure	15%	20%	9%	16%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Sink/Scott				
Alex Sink	46%	79%	65%	8%
Rick Scott	41%	12%	21%	76%
Undecided	14%	9%	14%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Sink Favorability				
Favorable	44%	78%	56%	13%
Unfavorable	38%	14%	25%	65%
Not sure	18%	8%	20%	22%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Scott Favorability				
Favorable	33%	16%	17%	58%
Unfavorable	52%	77%	68%	21%
Not sure	15%	6%	15%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sink/Scott			
Alex Sink	46%	46%	46%
Rick Scott	41%	38%	44%
Undecided	14%	17%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Sink Favorability			
Favorable	44%	46%	42%
Unfavorable	38%	33%	43%
Not sure	18%	21%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Scott Favorability			
Favorable	33%	32%	34%
Unfavorable	52%	51%	53%
Not sure	15%	18%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sink/Scott				
Alex Sink	46%	76%	10%	53%
Rick Scott	41%	13%	77%	26%
Undecided	14%	11%	13%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Sink Favorability				
Favorable	44%	70%	16%	45%
Unfavorable	38%	16%	65%	29%
Not sure	18%	14%	20%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Scott Favorability				
Favorable	33%	14%	59%	20%
Unfavorable	52%	75%	23%	61%
Not sure	15%	11%	18%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Sink/Scott					
Alex Sink	46%	55%	39%	74%	47%
Rick Scott	41%	31%	48%	11%	23%
Undecided	14%	13%	12%	15%	31%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Sink Favorability					
Favorable	44%	53%	39%	58%	57%
Unfavorable	38%	25%	46%	6%	29%
Not sure	18%	22%	15%	36%	14%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Scott Favorability					
Favorable	33%	33%	37%	12%	16%
Unfavorable	52%	54%	48%	69%	67%
Not sure	15%	13%	15%	20%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sink/Scott					
Alex Sink	46%	39%	60%	46%	38%
Rick Scott	41%	33%	27%	42%	50%
Undecided	14%	28%	13%	12%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Sink Favorability					
Favorable	44%	44%	62%	43%	33%
Unfavorable	38%	44%	20%	36%	50%
Not sure	18%	11%	18%	21%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Scott Favorability					
Favorable	33%	33%	27%	31%	39%
Unfavorable	52%	50%	62%	52%	45%
Not sure	15%	17%	11%	16%	16%

