

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 3, 2010**

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## **Stabenow Vulnerable But Engler Not Popular**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Senator Debbie Stabenow is not up for re-election until 2012, but in this anti-incumbent political environment, and with her job approval rating slightly negative, a bare plurality of voters say they plan to vote for her unnamed Republican opponent next election. Stabenow can be reassured, however, that a name which is frequently speculated as that potential challenger, former Governor John Engler, is not very well liked either.

40% of Michigan voters approve of the job Stabenow is doing in Washington, to 43% who disapprove. Unusually, Democrats are a little more intensely in favor of her than Republicans are against her, with 77% of Democrats approving of her job performance and 73% of Republicans disapproving. 12% of Democrats disapprove, though, to only 9% of Republicans who approve. Independents mirror the overall numbers, at 37-43.

When asked if they would vote to re-elect Stabenow in two years, 43% say they would, to 48% who say they would cast a vote for a generic Republican. Independents go for the Republican 42-37, while 8% of Democrats do the same, to 3% of Republicans who pledge for Stabenow.

Engler is not the universally popular figure who could easily take advantage of Stabenow's vulnerability. His personal favorability margin is 37-49, and he is only in the black with his own base. Republicans express a positive opinion, 60-21, but Democrats are down on him, 11-77, and independents, 38-50.

“Stabenow's numbers are artificially low because Republicans are much more fired up than Democrats for the midterm election and that will probably change by the time 2012 comes around,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Still she seems likely to face tougher opposition in her second bid for reelection than she did in her first one.”

PPP surveyed 890 Michigan voters from May 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.3%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

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



## Michigan Survey Results

- Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?
- Approve* ..... 46%
  - Disapprove*..... 50%
  - Not Sure*..... 4%
- Q2** Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion?
- Support* ..... 41%
  - Oppose* ..... 51%
  - Not Sure*..... 8%
- Q3** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Carl Levin's job performance?
- Approve* ..... 44% *Not Sure*.....14%
  - Disapprove*..... 41%
- Q4** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Debbie Stabenow's job performance?
- Approve* ..... 40%
  - Disapprove*..... 43%
  - Not Sure*..... 16%
- Q5** Generally speaking, would you vote to re-elect Debbie Stabenow in 2012, or would you vote for her Republican opponent?
- Stabenow*..... 43%
  - Republican opponent*..... 48%
  - Not sure* ..... 10%
- Q6** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of John Engler?
- Favorable*..... 37%
  - Unfavorable* ..... 49%
  - Not sure* ..... 14%
- Q7** Who did you vote for President last year?
- John McCain*..... 46%
  - Barack Obama*..... 48%
  - Someone Else/Don't Remember*..... 6%
- Q8** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?
- Liberal*..... 19%
  - Moderate*..... 41%
  - Conservative*..... 40%
- Q9** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.
- Woman* ..... 53%
  - Man*..... 47%
- Q10** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.
- Democrat* ..... 35%
  - Republican*..... 37%
  - Independent/Other* ..... 28%
- Q11** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.
- White* ..... 83%
  - African-American* ..... 14%
  - Other*..... 3%
- Q12** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.
- 18 to 29*..... 8%
  - 30 to 45*..... 26%
  - 46 to 65*..... 42%
  - Older than 65*..... 24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	5%	88%	27%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	92%	8%	58%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	3%	4%	15%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	41%	2%	81%	31%
<b>Oppose</b>	51%	90%	11%	67%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	8%	8%	2%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Levin Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	44%	14%	74%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	41%	67%	17%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	19%	9%	23%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Stabenow Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	40%	10%	71%	32%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	73%	14%	45%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	16%	15%	23%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Stabenow Re-elect</b>				
<b>Stabenow</b>	43%	5%	80%	33%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	48%	88%	10%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	7%	10%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
<b>Engler Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	65%	10%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	20%	78%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	15%	13%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	85%	61%	12%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	11%	33%	85%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	4%	6%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	41%	73%	57%	10%
<b>Oppose</b>	51%	17%	34%	85%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	10%	9%	5%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Levin Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>44%</b>	72%	62%	13%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>41%</b>	19%	27%	66%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>14%</b>	9%	11%	21%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Stabenow Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	<b>40%</b>	70%	56%	11%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>43%</b>	15%	30%	71%
<b>Not Sure</b>	<b>16%</b>	15%	15%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Stabenow Re-elect</b>				
<b>Stabenow</b>	<b>43%</b>	79%	60%	8%
<b>Republican     opponent</b>	<b>48%</b>	16%	29%	82%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>10%</b>	5%	12%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Engler Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>37%</b>	14%	26%	59%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>49%</b>	72%	63%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>14%</b>	14%	11%	17%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	46%	49%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	46%	54%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	5%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Health Care</b>			
<b>Support</b>	41%	43%	38%
<b>Oppose</b>	51%	48%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	9%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Levin Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	44%	43%	45%
<b>Disapprove</b>	41%	35%	48%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	21%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Stabenow Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	40%	42%	38%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	38%	50%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	20%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Stabenow Re-elect</b>			
<b>Stabenow</b>	43%	42%	43%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	48%	47%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	11%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Engler Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	31%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	53%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	16%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	91%	5%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	6%	91%	50%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	2%	4%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	41%	82%	4%	39%
<b>Oppose</b>	51%	11%	89%	51%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	7%	6%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Levin Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	44%	81%	15%	37%
<b>Disapprove</b>	41%	13%	65%	45%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	6%	20%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Stabenow Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	40%	77%	9%	37%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	12%	73%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	10%	18%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Stabenow Re-elect</b>				
<b>Stabenow</b>	43%	89%	3%	37%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	48%	8%	90%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	3%	7%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Engler Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	11%	60%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	77%	21%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	11%	19%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	46%	39%	88%	29%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	56%	13%	60%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	5%	-	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	41%	35%	81%	24%
<b>Oppose</b>	51%	57%	13%	64%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	8%	6%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Levin Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	44%	40%	69%	38%
<b>Disapprove</b>	41%	44%	25%	49%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	16%	6%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Stabenow Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	40%	37%	63%	33%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	48%	13%	60%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	15%	25%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Stabenow Re-elect</b>				
<b>Stabenow</b>	43%	37%	75%	36%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	48%	54%	13%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	9%	13%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Engler Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	42%	6%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	43%	88%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	15%	6%	25%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	46%	46%	51%	38%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	50%	48%	44%	58%	43%
<b>Not Sure</b>	4%	6%	5%	4%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	41%	34%	43%	37%	48%
<b>Oppose</b>	51%	49%	49%	57%	45%
<b>Not Sure</b>	8%	17%	8%	6%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Levin Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	44%	24%	45%	45%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	41%	55%	39%	40%	42%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	21%	16%	16%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Stabenow Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	40%	26%	38%	41%	48%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	43%	48%	43%	40%
<b>Not Sure</b>	16%	31%	13%	17%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Stabenow Re-elect</b>					
<b>Stabenow</b>	43%	36%	43%	38%	52%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	48%	37%	48%	53%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	27%	9%	9%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Engler Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	37%	26%	44%	36%	35%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	49%	40%	44%	50%	56%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	35%	12%	15%	9%

