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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Kentucky Republican Primary Remains Toss Up

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A new Public Policy Polling survey of the Republican primary for Governor in Kentucky, conducted Wednesday and Thursday, finds that the race remains a toss up. All three candidates are within 3 points of each other, and many voters remain up for grabs with less than two weeks remaining until election day.

Key findings from the survey include:

-The candidates are tightly clustered with James Comer at 28%, Hal Heiner at 27%, and Matt Bevin at 25%. 20% of voters remain undecided, and beyond that 43% of voters who *are* currently supporting one of the candidates say they're open to changing their minds. So that leaves only 46% of the electorate firmly committed to someone at this point, with the other 54% of voters still persuadable.

-James Comer emerges from this week still having the highest favorability rating of the three candidates. 50% of voters have a positive opinion of him to 25% with a negative one for a +25 spread. Matt Bevin at +24 (48/24) is not far behind with Hal Heiner clearly lagging the field at only +11 with 44% of voters seeing him favorably and 33% unfavorably.

-Voters think Heiner is easily running the most negative campaign of the trio. 33% think he is to only 36% who believe he is not running one. Comer (19%) and Bevin (17%) meanwhile have few voters who think they are running a negative campaign.

Bottom line there are a lot of undecideds and a lot of the support the candidates do have right now is pretty soft. That leaves the race wide open for any of the three to emerge victorious in this closing stretch.

Public Policy Polling surveyed 501 Republican primary voters on May 6th and 7th on behalf of Kentucky Family Values. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.4%.





Kentucky Survey Results

Q1 This is a short survey on behalf of Kentucky Family Values about the Republican primary for Governor this month. Are you willing to participate in a survey?

Yes.....100%
No..... 0%
Not sure..... 0%

Q2 What are the chances that you will vote in the May 19th Republican primary for Governor: will you definitely vote, probably vote, are the chances 50/50, or will you probably not vote?

Will definitely vote..... 93%
Will probably vote..... 7%
Chances are 50/50..... 0%
Will probably not vote..... 0%

Q3 The candidates in the Republican primary for Governor are Matt Bevin, James Comer, and Hal Heiner. If the primary election was today, who would you vote for?

Matt Bevin..... 25%
James Comer..... 28%
Hal Heiner..... 27%
Undecided..... 20%

Q4 Are you open to changing your mind about who to vote for in the next two weeks, or are you completely committed to voting for that candidate?

Open to changing your mind about who to vote for..... 43%
Completely committed to voting for that candidate..... 57%

Q5 Given the same list of candidates, who would be your second choice in the Republican primary for Governor?

Matt Bevin..... 26%
James Comer..... 24%
Hal Heiner..... 18%
Undecided..... 33%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Matt Bevin?

Favorable..... 48%
Unfavorable..... 24%
Not sure..... 28%

Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of James Comer?

Favorable..... 50%
Unfavorable..... 25%
Not sure..... 25%

Q8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Hal Heiner?

Favorable..... 44%
Unfavorable..... 33%
Not sure..... 23%

Q9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mitch McConnell?

Favorable..... 58%
Unfavorable..... 34%
Not sure..... 8%





Q10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rand Paul?

Favorable..... 62%
Unfavorable 22%
Not sure 16%

Q11 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Tea Party?

Favorable..... 54%
Unfavorable 23%
Not sure 24%

Q12 Do you think Matt Bevin is running a negative campaign or not?

Bevin is running a negative campaign 17%
Bevin is not running a negative campaign 47%
Not sure 36%

Q13 Do you think James Comer is running a negative campaign or not?

Comer is running a negative campaign..... 19%
Comer is not running a negative campaign..... 50%
Not sure 31%

Q14 Do you think Hal Heiner is running a negative campaign or not?

Heiner is running a negative campaign..... 33%
Heiner is not running a negative campaign..... 36%
Not sure 31%

Q15 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 45%
Man..... 55%

Q16 If you are 18 to 45 years old, press 1. If 46 to 65, press 2. If you are older than 65, press 3.

18 to 45..... 27%
46 to 65..... 38%
Older than 65..... 35%

Q17

Bowling Green 5%
Charleston-Huntington..... 6%
Cincinnati..... 10%
Evansville..... 2%
Knoxville 2%
Lexington 34%
Louisville..... 30%
Nashville 5%
Paducah..... 3%
Tri Cities..... 2%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Governor Vote			
Matt Bevin	25%	24%	25%
James Comer	28%	29%	27%
Hal Heiner	27%	24%	30%
Undecided	20%	23%	18%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Open to Changing Mind Yes/No			
Open to changing your mind about who to vote for	43%	43%	43%
Completely committed to voting for that candidate	57%	57%	57%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Governor Second Choice			
Matt Bevin	26%	29%	23%
James Comer	24%	19%	28%
Hal Heiner	18%	20%	16%
Undecided	33%	33%	33%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bevin Favorability			
Favorable	48%	46%	50%
Unfavorable	24%	20%	27%
Not sure	28%	34%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Comer Favorability			
Favorable	50%	46%	53%
Unfavorable	25%	23%	27%
Not sure	25%	31%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Heiner Favorability			
Favorable	44%	41%	47%
Unfavorable	33%	32%	34%
Not sure	23%	27%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McConnell Favorability			
Favorable	58%	60%	57%
Unfavorable	34%	33%	35%
Not sure	8%	7%	8%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Paul Favorability			
Favorable	62%	60%	63%
Unfavorable	22%	24%	21%
Not sure	16%	16%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Tea Party Favorability			
Favorable	54%	49%	58%
Unfavorable	23%	23%	23%
Not sure	24%	28%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bevin Negative Campaign Yes/No			
Bevin is running a negative campaign	17%	17%	17%
Bevin is not running a negative campaign	47%	43%	50%
Not sure	36%	40%	33%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Comer Negative Campaign Yes/No			
Comer is running a negative campaign	19%	20%	17%
Comer is not running a negative campaign	50%	43%	56%
Not sure	31%	37%	27%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Heiner Negative Campaign Yes/No			
Heiner is running a negative campaign	33%	30%	35%
Heiner is not running a negative campaign	36%	34%	38%
Not sure	31%	36%	27%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Governor Vote				
Matt Bevin	25%	31%	25%	20%
James Comer	28%	21%	32%	30%
Hal Heiner	27%	24%	26%	29%
Undecided	20%	24%	18%	21%





	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Open to Changing Mind Yes/No				
Open to changing your mind about who to vote for	43%	48%	45%	37%
Completely committed to voting for that candidate	57%	52%	55%	63%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Governor Second Choice				
Matt Bevin	26%	21%	31%	23%
James Comer	24%	22%	24%	24%
Hal Heiner	18%	17%	19%	17%
Undecided	33%	39%	26%	36%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bevin Favorability				
Favorable	48%	51%	52%	43%
Unfavorable	24%	24%	20%	27%
Not sure	28%	25%	28%	30%





	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Comer Favorability				
Favorable	50%	40%	54%	53%
Unfavorable	25%	29%	24%	23%
Not sure	25%	31%	22%	24%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Heiner Favorability				
Favorable	44%	37%	46%	49%
Unfavorable	33%	39%	31%	29%
Not sure	23%	24%	23%	22%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McConnell Favorability				
Favorable	58%	47%	60%	65%
Unfavorable	34%	44%	32%	28%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	7%





	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Paul Favorability				
Favorable	62%	59%	63%	63%
Unfavorable	22%	28%	17%	23%
Not sure	16%	13%	20%	14%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Tea Party Favorability				
Favorable	54%	53%	55%	53%
Unfavorable	23%	32%	18%	21%
Not sure	24%	15%	27%	26%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bevin Negative Campaign Yes/No				
Bevin is running a negative campaign	17%	15%	15%	20%
Bevin is not running a negative campaign	47%	56%	43%	45%
Not sure	36%	29%	42%	35%





	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Comer Negative Campaign Yes/No				
Comer is running a negative campaign	19%	25%	14%	18%
Comer is not running a negative campaign	50%	44%	50%	54%
Not sure	31%	31%	35%	27%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Heiner Negative Campaign Yes/No				
Heiner is running a negative campaign	33%	39%	30%	31%
Heiner is not running a negative campaign	36%	30%	34%	43%
Not sure	31%	31%	36%	26%

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Governor Vote											
Matt Bevin	25%	14%	38%	42%	19%	27%	23%	21%	14%	33%	32%
James Comer	28%	62%	7%	27%	15%	8%	31%	21%	56%	36%	23%
Hal Heiner	27%	11%	23%	21%	15%	54%	28%	37%	2%	12%	9%
Undecided	20%	14%	31%	10%	51%	12%	18%	21%	28%	20%	36%





	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Open to Changing Mind Yes/No											
Open to changing your mind about who to vote for	43%	35%	74%	56%	-	91%	44%	33%	17%	55%	36%
Completely committed to voting for that candidate	57%	65%	26%	44%	100%	9%	56%	67%	83%	45%	64%

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Governor Second Choice											
Matt Bevin	26%	27%	11%	12%	25%	52%	31%	26%	19%	25%	36%
James Comer	24%	17%	25%	20%	15%	17%	27%	26%	7%	22%	29%
Hal Heiner	18%	16%	8%	16%	10%	22%	19%	21%	8%	19%	-
Undecided	33%	39%	56%	53%	49%	9%	23%	27%	66%	34%	36%

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Bevin Favorability											
Favorable	48%	40%	48%	46%	19%	81%	49%	50%	20%	67%	82%
Unfavorable	24%	20%	19%	33%	33%	12%	20%	28%	27%	18%	-
Not sure	28%	40%	33%	21%	48%	8%	31%	22%	52%	15%	18%





	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Comer Favorability											
Favorable	50%	82%	30%	44%	28%	23%	54%	46%	67%	58%	32%
Unfavorable	25%	9%	20%	27%	50%	35%	27%	27%	11%	12%	41%
Not sure	25%	9%	49%	29%	23%	42%	19%	27%	22%	29%	27%

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Heiner Favorability											
Favorable	44%	23%	38%	41%	25%	65%	46%	55%	13%	38%	32%
Unfavorable	33%	32%	26%	33%	52%	19%	34%	28%	48%	33%	59%
Not sure	23%	45%	36%	26%	23%	15%	20%	17%	39%	29%	9%

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
McConnell Favorability											
Favorable	58%	39%	53%	47%	63%	42%	59%	66%	50%	59%	91%
Unfavorable	34%	44%	34%	49%	37%	58%	34%	27%	30%	41%	9%
Not sure	8%	17%	13%	4%	-	-	7%	7%	20%	-	-

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Paul Favorability											
Favorable	62%	60%	57%	63%	44%	65%	60%	64%	65%	76%	68%
Unfavorable	22%	27%	29%	24%	43%	19%	23%	20%	11%	24%	9%
Not sure	16%	13%	15%	13%	13%	15%	17%	17%	24%	-	23%





	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Tea Party Favorability											
Favorable	54%	52%	44%	54%	39%	46%	56%	57%	28%	77%	41%
Unfavorable	23%	25%	22%	30%	38%	19%	21%	24%	16%	18%	9%
Not sure	24%	24%	33%	16%	23%	35%	23%	19%	56%	5%	50%

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Bevin Negative Campaign Yes/No											
Bevin is running a negative campaign	17%	23%	9%	15%	5%	8%	18%	17%	23%	18%	9%
Bevin is not running a negative campaign	47%	36%	46%	54%	41%	35%	45%	56%	28%	21%	46%
Not sure	36%	41%	46%	30%	53%	58%	36%	27%	50%	61%	45%

	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Comer Negative Campaign Yes/No											
Comer is running a negative campaign	19%	9%	13%	29%	12%	15%	17%	22%	10%	12%	27%
Comer is not running a negative campaign	50%	76%	40%	40%	43%	27%	52%	51%	63%	34%	41%
Not sure	31%	16%	47%	31%	46%	58%	30%	27%	27%	54%	32%





	Base	Media Market									
		Bowling Green	Charleston-Huntington	Cincinnati	Evansville	Knoxville	Lexington	Louisville	Nashville	Paducah	Tri Cities
Heiner Negative Campaign Yes/No											
Heiner is running a negative campaign	33%	41%	11%	45%	29%	-	38%	26%	47%	28%	59%
Heiner is not running a negative campaign	36%	36%	35%	25%	25%	46%	33%	49%	15%	32%	23%
Not sure	31%	23%	54%	31%	46%	54%	30%	25%	39%	40%	18%

