



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 20, 2008**

**INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888**

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

## **McCrory, Smith knotted for Governor**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Pat McCrory’s shrinking lead in the Republican race for Governor has now vanished. McCrory is now tied with Fred Smith at 29%, according to the newest survey from Public Policy Polling.

Bill Graham, Bob Orr, and Elbie Powers are further back at 8%, 7%, and 1% respectively.

McCrory had the lead in all previous public polling since he entered the GOP race in mid-January.

“It is no surprise that Fred Smith and Pat McCrory are pulling away from the Republican field,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “They are the only candidates currently running television ads, and that’s the key to a statewide race in North Carolina.”

Even while losing the lead, McCrory is actually up to 30% in the Triangle after his first week of advertising, the best standing he has shown in any region outside of Charlotte thus far in the campaign.

Smith actually leads the field among registered Republicans, but McCrory has a large lead among unaffiliated voters that’s allowing him to keep the race tied overall.

PPP also surveyed the Republican Senate race, where Elizabeth Dole is facing a primary challenge from Pete DiLauro. Dole leads that contest 83-11.

PPP surveyed 553 likely Republican primary voters on March 17th. The survey’s margin of error is +/- 4.2%. 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](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

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

###





## Republican Primary Survey Results

**Q1** The Republican candidates for Governor are Bill Graham, Pat McCrory, Bob Orr, Elbie Powers, and Fred Smith. If the primary was today, who would you vote for? If Bill Graham, press 1. If Pat McCrory, press 2. If Bob Orr, press 3. If Elbie Powers, press 4. If Fred Smith, press 5. If you're undecided, press 6.

*Graham*..... 8%    *Powers*..... 1%  
*McCrory* ..... 29%    *Smith*..... 29%  
*Orr*..... 7%    *Undecided*..... 26%

**Q2** The candidates for US Senate are Pete DiLauro and Elizabeth Dole. If the primary was today, who would you vote for? If Pete DiLauro, press 1. If Elizabeth Dole, press 2. If undecided, press 3.

*DiLauro*..... 11%  
*Dole* ..... 83%  
*Undecided*..... 6%

**Q3** I am going to name 7 issues. Which of these is most important to you? The War in Iraq, education, the economy and jobs, taxes, moral or family values, health care, or immigration. If the War in Iraq is most important, press 1. If education, press 2. If the economy and jobs, press 3. If taxes, press 4. If moral and family values, press 5. If health care, press 6. If immigration, press 7. If some other issue is most important, press 8.

*War in Iraq* ..... 14%    *Moral or Family values*..... 18%  
*Education* ..... 3%    *Health care*..... 3%  
*Economy and jobs*. 37%    *Immigration* ..... 16%  
*Taxes* ..... 8%    *Other*..... 1%

**Q4** Are you registered as a Republican, or are you registered as unaffiliated? If you are a registered Republican, press 1. If you are registered unaffiliated, press 2.

*Republican*..... 90%  
*Unaffiliated*..... 10%

**Q5** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Women* ..... 51%    *Men*..... 49%

**Q6** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 96%    *Other*..... 2%  
*Black*..... 2%

**Q7** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 60, press 3. If older, press 4.

*18-29*..... 7%    *46-60*..... 34%  
*30-45*..... 24%    *Older than 60*..... 36%





**Republican Primary Crosstabs**

	Base	Party	
		Republican	Unaffiliated
<b>Governor</b>			
Graham	8%	8%	11%
McCrary	29%	29%	27%
Orr	7%	7%	13%
Powers	1%	0%	2%
Smith	29%	30%	16%
Undecided	26%	26%	31%

	Base	Party	
		Republican	Unaffiliated
<b>Senate</b>			
DiLauro	11%	11%	16%
Dole	83%	84%	76%
Undecided	6%	5%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>Governor</b>			
Graham	8%	8%	8%
McCrary	29%	28%	31%
Orr	7%	5%	9%
Powers	1%	-	1%
Smith	29%	28%	29%
Undecided	26%	31%	22%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>Senate</b>			
DiLauro	11%	8%	15%
Dole	83%	88%	78%
Undecided	6%	4%	7%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>Governor</b>				
Graham	8%	8%	8%	10%
McCrary	29%	29%	58%	20%
Orr	7%	7%	8%	-
Powers	1%	1%	-	-
Smith	29%	29%	-	20%
Undecided	26%	26%	25%	50%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>Senate</b>				
DiLauro	11%	11%	17%	30%
Dole	83%	83%	83%	60%
Undecided	6%	6%	-	10%





**Republican Primary Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-60	Older than 60
<b>Governor</b>					
<b>Graham</b>	8%	14%	8%	9%	7%
<b>McCrary</b>	29%	31%	29%	26%	32%
<b>Orr</b>	7%	3%	4%	7%	11%
<b>Powers</b>	1%	-	-	1%	1%
<b>Smith</b>	29%	22%	22%	35%	28%
<b>Undecided</b>	26%	31%	37%	22%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-60	Older than 60
<b>Senate</b>					
<b>DiLauro</b>	11%	14%	12%	12%	10%
<b>Dole</b>	83%	77%	80%	82%	86%
<b>Undecided</b>	6%	9%	8%	5%	4%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Governor</b>							
<b>Graham</b>	8%	8%	13%	3%	5%	11%	6%
<b>McCrary</b>	29%	10%	17%	68%	28%	11%	30%
<b>Orr</b>	7%	12%	5%	7%	13%	4%	6%
<b>Powers</b>	1%	-	1%	-	-	-	2%
<b>Smith</b>	29%	47%	27%	13%	23%	43%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	26%	24%	37%	10%	31%	30%	24%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Senate</b>							
<b>DiLauro</b>	11%	16%	14%	10%	10%	13%	7%
<b>Dole</b>	83%	80%	82%	84%	79%	79%	90%
<b>Undecided</b>	6%	4%	3%	7%	10%	9%	3%





**Republican Primary Crosstabs**

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and jobs	Taxes	Moral or Family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Governor</b>									
<b>Graham</b>	8%	9%	-	9%	9%	9%	6%	6%	-
<b>McCrary</b>	29%	32%	56%	26%	30%	22%	44%	34%	38%
<b>Orr</b>	7%	9%	-	11%	9%	2%	-	5%	13%
<b>Powers</b>	1%	-	-	1%	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Smith</b>	29%	24%	11%	22%	34%	37%	31%	41%	13%
<b>Undecided</b>	26%	25%	33%	31%	19%	30%	19%	15%	38%

	Base	Issues							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and jobs	Taxes	Moral or Family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
<b>Senate</b>									
<b>DiLauro</b>	11%	15%	6%	12%	17%	6%	-	12%	25%
<b>Dole</b>	83%	83%	82%	82%	81%	85%	88%	86%	63%
<b>Undecided</b>	6%	3%	12%	6%	2%	9%	13%	2%	13%

