

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shelby safe for reelection

Raleigh, N.C. – Barack Obama and his health care plan are not very popular in Alabama, and as a result Senator Richard Shelby has nothing to worry about when it comes to winning reelection this year.

Only 42% of Alabama voters approve of the job Obama's doing with 55% disapproving. He has the support of 88% of Democrats but stands at only 36% with independents and 5% with Republicans. There is a huge racial gap in how voters feel about him, with 96% of African Americans but only 23% of whites giving him good marks.

Obama's health care plan is even less popular than the President himself. 56% of voters say they're opposed to it with only 39% expressing support. There is also strong support to repeal the bill in the wake of its passage last week. 54% say they would support such a move with only 40% opposing it.

Richard Shelby's reelection already looked like a foregone conclusion due to the lack of serious Democratic opposition, and his poll numbers back that up. 44% of voters approve of the job he's doing to 34% disapproving. That's an above average level of popularity in a time when Congress is very unpopular.

Tested against a generic Democratic opponent Shelby holds a 55-37 advantage. He predictably gets 93% of Republicans but only 11% of Democrats, while also holding a 54-29 edge with independents.

“There's been very little change in how Alabama voters feel about Barack Obama since he was first elected,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “He continues to be very popular with blacks while getting little support from whites.”

PPP surveyed 1,270 Alabama voters from March 27th to 29th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-2.8%. 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.



Alabama Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 42%
Disapprove..... 55%
Not Sure..... 4%

Q2 Do you think that Republicans should work to repeal the health care bill that was passed this week? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 54%
No..... 40%
Not Sure..... 6%

Q3 Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't have an opinion, press 3.

Support 39%
Oppose..... 56%
No Opinion..... 5%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Jeff Sessions' job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 41%
Disapprove..... 34%
Not Sure..... 25%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Richard Shelby's job performance? If you agree, press 1. If you disagree, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 44%
Disapprove..... 34%
Not Sure..... 22%

Q6 Generally speaking this fall would you vote for Republican Senator Richard Shelby or his Democratic opponent? If Richard Shelby, press 1. If his Democratic opponent, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Shelby.....55% *Not Sure*..... 8%
Democrat.....37%

Q7 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain.....57%
Obama.....41%
Someone Else/Don't Remember..... 3%

Q8 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 13%
Moderate..... 37%
Conservative..... 50%

Q9 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 55%
Man..... 45%

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 36%
Republican..... 43%
Independent/Other 21%

Q11 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 72%
African-American 24%
Other..... 4%





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..... | 14% |
| 30 to 45..... | 26% |
| 46 to 65..... | 42% |
| Older than 65..... | 18% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | 2008 Vote | | |
|-----------------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------------------------|
| | | McCain | Obama | Someone Else/Don't Remember |
| Obama Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 42% | 3% | 94% | 56% |
| Disapprove | 55% | 93% | 4% | 33% |
| Not Sure | 3% | 4% | 2% | 11% |

| | Base | 2008 Vote | | |
|-----------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------------------------|
| | | McCain | Obama | Someone Else/Don't Remember |
| Repeal | | | | |
| Yes | 55% | 85% | 13% | 37% |
| No | 40% | 7% | 84% | 52% |
| Not Sure | 6% | 8% | 3% | 11% |

| | Base | 2008 Vote | | |
|--------------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------------------------|
| | | McCain | Obama | Someone Else/Don't Remember |
| Health Care | | | | |
| Support | 39% | 2% | 89% | 48% |
| Oppose | 56% | 94% | 5% | 37% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 3% | 6% | 15% |

| | Base | 2008 Vote | | |
|--------------------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------------------------|
| | | McCain | Obama | Someone Else/Don't Remember |
| Sessions Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 41% | 64% | 10% | 22% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 11% | 64% | 52% |
| Not Sure | 25% | 25% | 25% | 26% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | 2008 Vote | | |
|------------------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------------------------|
| | | McCain | Obama | Someone Else/Don't Remember |
| Shelby Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 44% | 67% | 13% | 37% |
| Disapprove | 33% | 12% | 62% | 56% |
| Not Sure | 22% | 21% | 24% | 7% |

| | Base | 2008 Vote | | |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------|-------|-----------------------------|
| | | McCain | Obama | Someone Else/Don't Remember |
| Shelby/Generic Democrat | | | | |
| Shelby | 55% | 90% | 8% | 41% |
| Democrat | 37% | 4% | 82% | 48% |
| Not Sure | 8% | 6% | 9% | 11% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|-----------------------|------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Obama Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 42% | 84% | 63% | 14% |
| Disapprove | 55% | 13% | 32% | 83% |
| Not Sure | 4% | 4% | 5% | 3% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|-----------------|------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Repeal | | | | |
| Yes | 54% | 21% | 33% | 79% |
| No | 40% | 74% | 61% | 15% |
| Not Sure | 6% | 6% | 6% | 6% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|--------------------|------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Health Care | | | | |
| Support | 39% | 77% | 63% | 12% |
| Oppose | 56% | 19% | 32% | 84% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 4% | 6% | 5% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|--------------------------|------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Sessions Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 41% | 14% | 24% | 61% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 64% | 49% | 14% |
| Not Sure | 25% | 22% | 27% | 25% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|------------------------|------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Shelby Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 44% | 20% | 28% | 62% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 59% | 49% | 15% |
| Not Sure | 22% | 22% | 23% | 22% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|--------------------------------|------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Shelby/Generic Democrat | | | | |
| Shelby | 55% | 21% | 32% | 81% |
| Democrat | 37% | 73% | 56% | 13% |
| Not Sure | 8% | 5% | 12% | 5% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Gender | |
|-----------------------|------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Obama Approval | | | |
| Approve | 42% | 41% | 43% |
| Disapprove | 55% | 54% | 55% |
| Not Sure | 4% | 5% | 2% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|-----------------|------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Repeal | | | |
| Yes | 54% | 53% | 56% |
| No | 40% | 40% | 40% |
| Not Sure | 6% | 7% | 5% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|--------------------|------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Health Care | | | |
| Support | 39% | 39% | 40% |
| Oppose | 56% | 55% | 57% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 6% | 4% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|--------------------------|------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Sessions Approval | | | |
| Approve | 41% | 38% | 44% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 29% | 39% |
| Not Sure | 25% | 33% | 16% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Gender | |
|------------------------|------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Shelby Approval | | | |
| Approve | 44% | 42% | 47% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 29% | 39% |
| Not Sure | 22% | 29% | 14% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|--------------------------------|------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Shelby/Generic Democrat | | | |
| Shelby | 55% | 53% | 58% |
| Democrat | 37% | 39% | 35% |
| Not Sure | 8% | 9% | 7% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|-----------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Obama Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 42% | 88% | 5% | 36% |
| Disapprove | 55% | 8% | 92% | 58% |
| Not Sure | 4% | 3% | 3% | 5% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|-----------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Repeal | | | | |
| Yes | 54% | 14% | 88% | 54% |
| No | 40% | 83% | 7% | 35% |
| Not Sure | 6% | 3% | 5% | 11% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Party | | |
|--------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Health Care | | | | |
| Support | 39% | 85% | 5% | 31% |
| Oppose | 56% | 9% | 93% | 60% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 5% | 2% | 9% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|--------------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Sessions Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 41% | 11% | 66% | 40% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 64% | 9% | 32% |
| Not Sure | 25% | 25% | 25% | 27% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|------------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Shelby Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 44% | 15% | 69% | 44% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 61% | 11% | 32% |
| Not Sure | 22% | 24% | 20% | 24% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|--------------------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Shelby/Generic Democrat | | | | |
| Shelby | 55% | 11% | 93% | 54% |
| Democrat | 37% | 82% | 3% | 29% |
| Not Sure | 8% | 7% | 4% | 17% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Race | | |
|-----------------------|------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | White | African-American | Other |
| Obama Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 42% | 23% | 96% | 51% |
| Disapprove | 55% | 73% | 3% | 41% |
| Not Sure | 4% | 4% | 1% | 8% |

| | Base | Race | | |
|-----------------|------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | White | African-American | Other |
| Repeal | | | | |
| Yes | 54% | 67% | 16% | 44% |
| No | 40% | 26% | 81% | 46% |
| Not Sure | 6% | 6% | 3% | 10% |

| | Base | Race | | |
|--------------------|------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | White | African-American | Other |
| Health Care | | | | |
| Support | 39% | 22% | 90% | 51% |
| Oppose | 56% | 74% | 4% | 44% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 5% | 6% | 5% |

| | Base | Race | | |
|--------------------------|------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | White | African-American | Other |
| Sessions Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 41% | 51% | 11% | 38% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 26% | 57% | 44% |
| Not Sure | 25% | 23% | 32% | 18% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Race | | |
|------------------------|------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | White | African-American | Other |
| Shelby Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 44% | 55% | 12% | 38% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 25% | 57% | 49% |
| Not Sure | 22% | 20% | 31% | 13% |

| | Base | Race | | |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | White | African-American | Other |
| Shelby/Generic Democrat | | | | |
| Shelby | 55% | 71% | 8% | 51% |
| Democrat | 37% | 22% | 83% | 38% |
| Not Sure | 8% | 7% | 9% | 10% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|-----------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Obama Approval | | | | | |
| Approve | 42% | 54% | 41% | 43% | 30% |
| Disapprove | 55% | 39% | 57% | 54% | 66% |
| Not Sure | 4% | 7% | 2% | 3% | 4% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|-----------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Repeal | | | | | |
| Yes | 54% | 45% | 57% | 54% | 57% |
| No | 40% | 47% | 39% | 43% | 31% |
| Not Sure | 6% | 8% | 4% | 4% | 12% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Age | | | |
|--------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Health Care | | | | | |
| Support | 39% | 48% | 40% | 42% | 26% |
| Oppose | 56% | 43% | 57% | 55% | 65% |
| No Opinion | 5% | 9% | 2% | 3% | 9% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|--------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Sessions Approval | | | | | |
| Approve | 41% | 31% | 35% | 43% | 52% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 40% | 36% | 33% | 28% |
| Not Sure | 25% | 29% | 29% | 24% | 20% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Shelby Approval | | | | | |
| Approve | 44% | 35% | 39% | 46% | 53% |
| Disapprove | 34% | 36% | 35% | 34% | 29% |
| Not Sure | 22% | 28% | 26% | 20% | 18% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Shelby/Generic Democrat | | | | | |
| Shelby | 55% | 48% | 56% | 53% | 63% |
| Democrat | 37% | 45% | 37% | 39% | 28% |
| Not Sure | 8% | 7% | 7% | 8% | 9% |

