

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

Beebe in good shape

Raleigh, N.C. – The news for Democrats in Arkansas may be bad overall, but one person who doesn't seem to have much to worry about is Governor Mike Beebe.

Beebe's approval rating is 63%, with only 17% of voters in the state disapproving of his job performance. Although that's down a little bit from a 68/20 spread when PPP surveyed Arkansas in March, it still makes him the most popular Governor in about 20 states where we've polled so far in 2009.

Beebe gets good marks from 76% of Democrats, 59% of independents, and even 50% of Republicans, something very unusual with the current level of polarization in American politics. His numbers are also an anomaly in that he receives higher ratings from white voters than African Americans, something exceptionally rare for a Democratic politician.

Beebe doesn't have any serious announced opposition but just to get some idea of where he would stand for reelection against a Republican opponent we tested State Representative Allen Kerr. Beebe leads that hypothetical match up 55-24, as most Republicans say they would vote for Kerr even though they also think Beebe is doing a good job.

"Mike Beebe's high level of bipartisan popularity has largely insulated him from the problems of the national Democratic Party in Arkansas," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "People aren't associating him with Barack Obama the way they are Blanche Lincoln and Mark Pryor."

Kerr is an unknown, with 4% of voters in the state holding a positive opinion of him.

PPP surveyed 784 Arkansas voters from August 21st to 24th. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.5%. 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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Arkansas Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Mike Beebe's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 63%
Disapprove..... 17%
Not Sure..... 20%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Allen Kerr? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 4%
Unfavorable 8%
Not Sure..... 88%

Q3 If the candidates for Governor next year were Democrat Mike Beebe and Republican Allen Kerr, who would you vote for? If Mike Beebe, press 1. If Allen Kerr, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Beebe 55%
Kerr..... 24%
Undecided..... 21%

Q4 Do you consider yourself to be a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 13%
Moderate..... 39%
Conservative..... 48%

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

Women53% *Men*.....47%

Q6 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 37%
Republican..... 29%
Other..... 33%

Q7 If you are white, press 1. If you are African American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White84% *Other*..... 4%
African American12%

Q8 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 than 65, press 4.

18-29.....13% *46-65*.....42%
30-45.....27% *Older than 65*.....19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Beebe Approval				
Approve	63%	74%	72%	52%
Disapprove	17%	13%	15%	20%
Not Sure	20%	13%	13%	28%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Kerr Favorability				
Favorable	4%	2%	4%	5%
Unfavorable	8%	9%	11%	6%
Not Sure	88%	89%	85%	90%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Beebe/Kerr				
Beebe	55%	88%	69%	35%
Kerr	24%	4%	13%	38%
Undecided	21%	8%	18%	27%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Beebe Approval			
Approve	63%	63%	62%
Disapprove	17%	14%	21%
Not Sure	20%	23%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Kerr Favorability			
Favorable	4%	2%	7%
Unfavorable	8%	7%	10%
Not Sure	88%	92%	83%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Beebe/Kerr			
Beebe	55%	56%	53%
Kerr	24%	22%	26%
Undecided	21%	22%	21%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Beebe Approval				
Approve	63%	76%	50%	59%
Disapprove	17%	10%	22%	21%
Not Sure	20%	14%	29%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Kerr Favorability				
Favorable	4%	2%	7%	4%
Unfavorable	8%	11%	6%	7%
Not Sure	88%	87%	87%	89%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Beebe/Kerr				
Beebe	55%	88%	25%	43%
Kerr	24%	3%	52%	23%
Undecided	21%	8%	23%	34%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Beebe Approval				
Approve	63%	64%	58%	52%
Disapprove	17%	17%	18%	24%
Not Sure	20%	19%	24%	24%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Kerr Favorability				
Favorable	4%	4%	5%	9%
Unfavorable	8%	8%	8%	9%
Not Sure	88%	88%	87%	83%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Beebe/Kerr				
Beebe	55%	52%	76%	46%
Kerr	24%	26%	5%	37%
Undecided	21%	22%	18%	17%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Beebe Approval					
Approve	63%	60%	61%	63%	65%
Disapprove	17%	18%	15%	20%	13%
Not Sure	20%	21%	23%	17%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Kerr Favorability					
Favorable	4%	4%	5%	4%	3%
Unfavorable	8%	9%	7%	10%	6%
Not Sure	88%	87%	88%	86%	91%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Beebe/Kerr					
Beebe	55%	56%	50%	56%	57%
Kerr	24%	16%	27%	25%	23%
Undecided	21%	28%	23%	19%	19%

