

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ritter still vulnerable

Raleigh, N.C. – When Public Policy Polling surveyed Colorado in April it found Bill Ritter with an approval rating in the lows 40s and trailing Scott McInnis by almost ten points in a hypothetical contest. Four months later nothing has changed.

45% of voters in the state disapprove of the job Ritter's doing to 40% giving him good marks. 64% of Democrats, 41% of independents, and 18% of Republicans express approval. That number among members of his own party is down from 70% in April, an indication that Ritter may need to do some fence mending with his base over the next 15 months.

A plurality of respondents have no opinion about either McInnis or Josh Penry. For McInnis 30% of voters have a positive opinion of him to 25% with a negative one and 45% unsure. Penry is less well known, with 23% having a favorable view of him, 20% an unfavorable one, and 57% unsure.

In head to head contests McInnis leads Ritter 46-38, while Penry and Ritter are tied at 40.

“The good news for Bill Ritter is that despite a tough budget cycle and Democrats polling worse nationally he's not in any worse shape than four months ago,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “The bad news of course is that he already had a negative approval rating and an outside the margin of error gap against one of his possible GOP opponents back then.”

PPP will wrap up its Colorado polling for the week tomorrow with some numbers on the Republican primaries for Governor and Senator.

PPP surveyed 969 Colorado voters from August 14th to 16th. The survey's margin of error is +/-3.2%. 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.

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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Colorado Survey Results

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

Approve 40%
Disapprove..... 45%
Not Sure..... 14%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of former Republican Congressman Scott McInnis? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 30%
Unfavorable 25%
Not Sure..... 45%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Republican State Senate Minority Leader Josh Penry? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 23%
No..... 20%
Not Sure..... 58%

Q4 If the candidates for Governor next year were Republican Scott McInnis and Democrat Bill Ritter, who would you vote for? If Scott McInnis, press 1. If Bill Ritter, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

McInnis 46%
Ritter 38%
Undecided..... 16%

Q5 If the candidates for Governor next year were Republican Josh Penry and Democrat Bill Ritter, who would you vote for? If Josh Penry, press 1. If Bill Ritter, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Penry 40%
Ritter..... 40%
Undecided..... 20%

Q6 If you are a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 20%
Moderate..... 45%
Conservative..... 35%

Q7 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 49%
Man..... 51%

Q8 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..... 39%
Independent/Other..... 26%

Q9 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 13%
White 79%
African American 3%
Other..... 5%





Q10 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.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| <i>18 to 29</i> | 16% |
| <i>30 to 45</i> | 26% |
| <i>46 to 65</i> | 43% |
| <i>Older than 65</i> | 15% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|------------------------|------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Ritter Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 40% | 66% | 50% | 14% |
| Disapprove | 45% | 16% | 39% | 69% |
| Not Sure | 14% | 19% | 11% | 17% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| McInnis Favorability | | | | |
| Favorable | 30% | 11% | 20% | 54% |
| Unfavorable | 25% | 48% | 27% | 9% |
| Not Sure | 45% | 41% | 53% | 37% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|---------------------------|------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Penry Favorability | | | | |
| Yes | 23% | 13% | 15% | 38% |
| No | 20% | 38% | 22% | 6% |
| Not Sure | 58% | 49% | 63% | 56% |

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| McInnis/Ritter | | | | |
| McInnis | 46% | 16% | 34% | 78% |
| Ritter | 38% | 67% | 48% | 7% |
| Undecided | 16% | 17% | 18% | 15% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Ideology | | |
|---------------------|------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| | | Liberal | Moderate | Conservative |
| Penry/Ritter | | | | |
| Penry | 40% | 10% | 30% | 70% |
| Ritter | 40% | 75% | 48% | 9% |
| Undecided | 20% | 14% | 22% | 21% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|------------------------|------------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Ritter Approval | | | |
| Approve | 40% | 42% | 39% |
| Disapprove | 45% | 42% | 48% |
| Not Sure | 14% | 16% | 13% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| McInnis Favorability | | | |
| Favorable | 30% | 29% | 32% |
| Unfavorable | 25% | 18% | 31% |
| Not Sure | 45% | 53% | 37% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|---------------------------|------------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Penry Favorability | | | |
| Yes | 23% | 22% | 23% |
| No | 20% | 16% | 23% |
| Not Sure | 58% | 62% | 54% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Gender | |
|-----------------------|------------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| McInnis/Ritter | | | |
| McInnis | 46% | 44% | 48% |
| Ritter | 38% | 39% | 36% |
| Undecided | 16% | 17% | 16% |

| | Base | Gender | |
|---------------------|------------|--------|-----|
| | | Woman | Man |
| Penry/Ritter | | | |
| Penry | 40% | 40% | 40% |
| Ritter | 40% | 39% | 40% |
| Undecided | 20% | 21% | 20% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|------------------------|------------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Ritter Approval | | | | |
| Approve | 40% | 64% | 18% | 41% |
| Disapprove | 45% | 20% | 69% | 45% |
| Not Sure | 14% | 16% | 13% | 14% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| McInnis Favorability | | | | |
| Favorable | 30% | 11% | 52% | 22% |
| Unfavorable | 25% | 40% | 9% | 28% |
| Not Sure | 45% | 49% | 38% | 49% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Party | | |
|---------------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Penry Favorability | | | | |
| Yes | 23% | 10% | 37% | 20% |
| No | 20% | 33% | 7% | 21% |
| Not Sure | 58% | 58% | 56% | 60% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|-----------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| McInnis/Ritter | | | | |
| McInnis | 46% | 15% | 79% | 38% |
| Ritter | 38% | 69% | 9% | 37% |
| Undecided | 16% | 16% | 12% | 25% |

| | Base | Party | | |
|---------------------|------|----------|------------|-------------------|
| | | Democrat | Republican | Independent/Other |
| Penry/Ritter | | | | |
| Penry | 40% | 11% | 72% | 32% |
| Ritter | 40% | 73% | 11% | 37% |
| Undecided | 20% | 16% | 18% | 30% |

| | Base | Race | | | |
|------------------------|------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | Hispanic | White | African American | Other |
| Ritter Approval | | | | | |
| Approve | 40% | 46% | 40% | 44% | 23% |
| Disapprove | 45% | 32% | 47% | 24% | 53% |
| Not Sure | 14% | 22% | 12% | 32% | 24% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Race | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | Hispanic | White | African American | Other |
| McInnis Favorability | | | | | |
| Favorable | 30% | 24% | 33% | 9% | 15% |
| Unfavorable | 25% | 27% | 24% | 35% | 28% |
| Not Sure | 45% | 50% | 43% | 56% | 57% |

| | Base | Race | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | Hispanic | White | African American | Other |
| Penry Favorability | | | | | |
| Yes | 23% | 23% | 23% | 3% | 26% |
| No | 20% | 25% | 18% | 26% | 28% |
| Not Sure | 58% | 52% | 59% | 71% | 46% |

| | Base | Race | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | Hispanic | White | African American | Other |
| McInnis/Ritter | | | | | |
| McInnis | 46% | 38% | 48% | 20% | 41% |
| Ritter | 38% | 38% | 37% | 44% | 39% |
| Undecided | 16% | 24% | 14% | 36% | 20% |

| | Base | Race | | | |
|---------------------|------------|----------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | | Hispanic | White | African American | Other |
| Penry/Ritter | | | | | |
| Penry | 40% | 33% | 42% | 11% | 36% |
| Ritter | 40% | 48% | 38% | 46% | 40% |
| Undecided | 20% | 19% | 19% | 43% | 24% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Age | | | |
|------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Ritter Approval | | | | | |
| Approve | 40% | 45% | 45% | 39% | 32% |
| Disapprove | 45% | 33% | 43% | 49% | 51% |
| Not Sure | 14% | 21% | 12% | 13% | 16% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| McInnis Favorability | | | | | |
| Favorable | 30% | 18% | 27% | 34% | 36% |
| Unfavorable | 25% | 21% | 26% | 26% | 24% |
| Not Sure | 45% | 61% | 47% | 40% | 40% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|---------------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Penry Favorability | | | | | |
| Yes | 23% | 27% | 19% | 22% | 27% |
| No | 20% | 21% | 19% | 20% | 17% |
| Not Sure | 58% | 52% | 62% | 58% | 56% |

| | Base | Age | | | |
|-----------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| McInnis/Ritter | | | | | |
| McInnis | 46% | 39% | 45% | 47% | 51% |
| Ritter | 38% | 36% | 40% | 38% | 34% |
| Undecided | 16% | 24% | 16% | 14% | 16% |





Crosstabs

| | Base | Age | | | |
|---------------------|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| | | 18 to 29 | 30 to 45 | 46 to 65 | Older than 65 |
| Penry/Ritter | | | | | |
| Penry | 40% | 27% | 42% | 42% | 43% |
| Ritter | 40% | 45% | 41% | 38% | 37% |
| Undecided | 20% | 27% | 17% | 20% | 20% |

