

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 13, 2010**

**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**

## **No Serious Contenders for Senator Barbara Mikulski**

Maryland voters approve of the Senator Barbara Mikulski's work in Washington and will most likely reelect her this coming fall. 54% of Marylanders give the Senator high marks, 39% disapprove. Maryland voters choose Mikulski over either one of her potential challengers 2:1.

Both Republican candidates lack name recognition. 82% of voters say they are unsure of their opinion of James Rutledge and only 10% of voters have formed an opinion of Eric Wargotz. Only 6% of Republicans have a favorable opinion of Rutledge and a mere 1% of Maryland Republicans have a favorable opinion of Wargotz.

Mikulski enjoys a 76% approval rating from fellow Maryland Democrats. 41% of Independents approve and 32% disapprove of the Senator. Furthermore, Mikulski has a more favorable rating amongst Republicans than either of her Republican challengers. 14% of Republicans approve of their senior Senator.

"It is clear that Mikulski is not vulnerable," said Dean Debnam of Public Policy Polling. "It is also evident that Republicans have not put forward a winning candidate and with numbers like these it would be unwise for Republicans to waste their resources on this race."

*PPP surveyed 569 Maryland voters from July 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/- 4.1%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.*

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



## Maryland Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 56%  
*Disapprove*..... 39%  
*Not Sure*..... 5%

**Q2** Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion?

*Support* ..... 53%  
*Oppose* ..... 39%  
*No Opinion*..... 7%

**Q3** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Barbara Mikulski's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 54% *Not Sure*..... 14%  
*Disapprove*..... 32%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of James Rutledge?

*Favorable*..... 5%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 13%  
*Not sure* ..... 82%

**Q5** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Eric Wargotz?

*Favorable*..... 1%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 9%  
*Not sure* ..... 89%

**Q6** If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Barbara Mikulski and Republican James Rutledge, who would you vote for?

*Barbara Mikulski* ..... 58%  
*James Rutledge*..... 30%  
*Undecided*..... 12%

**Q7** If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Barbara Mikulski and Republican Eric Wargotz, who would you vote for?

*Barbara Mikulski* ..... 59%  
*Eric Wargotz* ..... 27%  
*Undecided*..... 14%

**Q8** Who did you vote for President last year?

*John McCain*..... 36%  
*Barack Obama*..... 59%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* ..... 5%

**Q9** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

*Liberal*..... 24%  
*Moderate*..... 45%  
*Conservative*..... 32%

**Q10** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 56%  
*Man*..... 44%

**Q11** 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* ..... 60%  
*Republican*..... 28%  
*Independent/Other*..... 12%

**Q12** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* ..... 69%  
*African-American* ..... 25%  
*Other*..... 6%





**Q13** 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> .....	8%
<i>30 to 45</i> .....	26%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	41%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	25%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	56%	7%	88%	27%
<b>Disapprove</b>	39%	89%	8%	55%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	4%	4%	18%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	53%	6%	85%	22%
<b>Oppose</b>	39%	89%	7%	57%
<b>No Opinion</b>	7%	4%	8%	22%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Mikulski Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	54%	16%	80%	24%
<b>Disapprove</b>	32%	72%	7%	44%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	12%	13%	31%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Rutledge Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	8%	3%	6%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	11%	13%	18%
<b>Not sure</b>	82%	81%	84%	76%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Wargotz Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	1%	2%	1%	-
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	10%	8%	19%
<b>Not sure</b>	89%	89%	91%	81%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Mikulski/Rutledge</b>				
<b>Barbara Mikulski</b>	58%	14%	86%	37%
<b>James Rutledge</b>	30%	71%	5%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	15%	9%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Mikulski/Wargotz</b>				
<b>Barbara Mikulski</b>	59%	14%	88%	32%
<b>Eric Wargotz</b>	27%	66%	4%	30%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	20%	8%	38%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	56%	86%	66%	19%
<b>Disapprove</b>	39%	8%	30%	76%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	6%	5%	5%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	53%	86%	61%	18%
<b>Oppose</b>	39%	7%	29%	78%
<b>No Opinion</b>	7%	7%	10%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Mikulski Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	54%	78%	65%	22%
<b>Disapprove</b>	32%	6%	23%	65%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	17%	12%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Rutledge Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	2%	5%	7%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	11%	14%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	82%	87%	80%	82%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Wargotz Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	1%	1%	2%	1%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	6%	12%	8%
<b>Not sure</b>	89%	93%	86%	91%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Mikulski/Rutledge</b>				
Barbara Mikulski	58%	89%	65%	23%
James Rutledge	30%	2%	21%	65%
Undecided	12%	8%	15%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Mikulski/Wargotz</b>				
Barbara Mikulski	59%	91%	68%	21%
Eric Wargotz	27%	3%	18%	58%
Undecided	14%	6%	14%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Obama Approval</b>			
Approve	56%	62%	48%
Disapprove	39%	33%	47%
Not Sure	5%	5%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Health Care</b>			
Support	53%	58%	48%
Oppose	39%	33%	47%
No Opinion	7%	9%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Mikulski Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	54%	60%	48%
<b>Disapprove</b>	32%	25%	41%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	16%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Rutledge Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	4%	7%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	10%	16%
<b>Not sure</b>	82%	86%	78%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Wargotz Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	1%	1%	2%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	5%	14%
<b>Not sure</b>	89%	94%	84%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Mikulski/Rutledge</b>			
<b>Barbara Mikulski</b>	58%	64%	50%
<b>James Rutledge</b>	30%	23%	39%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	13%	11%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Mikulski/Wargotz</b>			
Barbara Mikulski	59%	65%	51%
Eric Wargotz	27%	20%	36%
Undecided	14%	15%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
Approve	56%	79%	12%	38%
Disapprove	39%	17%	84%	48%
Not Sure	5%	3%	5%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
Support	53%	76%	11%	40%
Oppose	39%	16%	85%	52%
No Opinion	7%	8%	4%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Mikulski Approval</b>				
Approve	54%	76%	14%	41%
Disapprove	32%	13%	74%	32%
Not Sure	14%	11%	12%	27%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Rutledge Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	5%	6%	3%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	13%	11%	14%
<b>Not sure</b>	82%	82%	83%	83%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Wargotz Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	1%	2%	1%	1%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	9%	7%	13%
<b>Not sure</b>	89%	89%	92%	85%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Mikulski/Rutledge</b>				
<b>Barbara Mikulski</b>	58%	81%	14%	41%
<b>James Rutledge</b>	30%	10%	74%	29%
<b>Undecided</b>	12%	9%	12%	30%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Mikulski/Wargotz</b>				
<b>Barbara Mikulski</b>	59%	83%	13%	41%
<b>Eric Wargotz</b>	27%	9%	68%	27%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	8%	19%	31%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Obama Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	56%	43%	93%	52%
<b>Disapprove</b>	39%	52%	4%	36%
<b>Not Sure</b>	5%	5%	3%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Health Care</b>				
<b>Support</b>	53%	41%	87%	54%
<b>Oppose</b>	39%	52%	4%	38%
<b>No Opinion</b>	7%	7%	9%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Mikulski Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	54%	46%	80%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	32%	41%	7%	32%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	13%	13%	21%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Rutledge Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	5%	4%	5%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	14%	10%	10%
<b>Not sure</b>	82%	81%	86%	86%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Wargotz Favorability</b>				
Favorable	1%	2%	-	5%
Unfavorable	9%	11%	4%	13%
Not sure	89%	88%	96%	83%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Mikulski/Rutledge</b>				
Barbara Mikulski	58%	47%	86%	62%
James Rutledge	30%	40%	6%	22%
Undecided	12%	13%	9%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Mikulski/Wargotz</b>				
Barbara Mikulski	59%	47%	90%	60%
Eric Wargotz	27%	36%	3%	24%
Undecided	14%	16%	7%	16%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Obama Approval</b>					
Approve	56%	66%	53%	54%	58%
Disapprove	39%	23%	40%	42%	39%
Not Sure	5%	10%	7%	4%	3%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Health Care</b>					
<b>Support</b>	53%	58%	53%	55%	50%
<b>Oppose</b>	39%	35%	41%	40%	39%
<b>No Opinion</b>	7%	7%	6%	6%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Mikulski Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	54%	44%	52%	55%	60%
<b>Disapprove</b>	32%	37%	28%	36%	28%
<b>Not Sure</b>	14%	19%	20%	9%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Rutledge Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	2%	5%	5%	6%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	13%	13%	12%	13%	14%
<b>Not sure</b>	82%	85%	84%	82%	81%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Wargotz Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	1%	-	3%	2%	-
<b>Unfavorable</b>	9%	17%	8%	8%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	89%	83%	89%	91%	89%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Mikulski/Rutledge</b>					
<b>Barbara Mikulski</b>	<b>58%</b>	57%	55%	58%	60%
<b>James Rutledge</b>	<b>30%</b>	20%	33%	32%	28%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>12%</b>	23%	13%	10%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Mikulski/Wargotz</b>					
<b>Barbara Mikulski</b>	<b>59%</b>	55%	58%	59%	60%
<b>Eric Wargotz</b>	<b>27%</b>	15%	29%	30%	26%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>14%</b>	30%	13%	11%	14%

