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## **Bullock edges Hill for Montana governor**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Democrats have a slight edge in keeping control of the Montana governor's mansion when the term-limited Brian Schweitzer leaves office. Current Attorney General Steve Bullock leads former at-large Congressman Rick Hill by five points (44-39), with Libertarian Ron Vandevender and independent Bill Coate each at 4% and 9% undecided. In PPP's April pre-primary matchup between the two major party candidates, they tied at 39%, with 21% still undecided.

Since Hill remains at 39%, clearly Bullock's boost is not due to the minor party candidates siphoning support from Hill, even though they do take slightly more of the GOP vote than the Democratic vote. Bullock's increase in support is because he now leads by seven with independents, versus a tie in April.

Two measures on this fall's ballot lead by wide margins right now. An initiative establishing that corporations are not people leads by 29 points (53-24), and one which would reform the existing medical marijuana program leads by 17 (46-29). Both enjoy considerable support across the partisan spectrum.

In a prospective 2014 Senate election, Schweitzer would outperform Max Baucus versus a generic Republican opponent, but if Baucus did run again and Schweitzer challenged him in a primary, Schweitzer would not beat the incumbent by much. Schweitzer would top an unnamed Republican by eight points (50-42), just a bit more than Baucus' six-point edge (48-42). In a primary, 40% prefer Schweitzer to 36% in favor of renominating Baucus. That is down from a 48-37 Schweitzer advantage in April.

Overall, Schweitzer remains one of the most popular governors in the country, with 56% approving and only 35% disapproving of the progressive Democrat who governs a red-leaning state. That is up from 52-36 in April. 56% of independents and even 26% of Republicans like the work Schweitzer is doing, up a tick from 53% and 24%. Baucus is not quite so beloved, but his 45-47 approval spread is up from 42-46 in the previous poll.

PPP surveyed 656 likely Montana voters, including 201 usual Democratic primary voters, from September 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the overall survey is +/-3.8%, and +/-6.9% for the Democratic primary portion. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.

## Montana Survey Results

**Q1** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Steve Bullock?

*Favorable*..... 43%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 27%  
*Not sure* ..... 30%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Hill?

*Favorable*..... 32%  
*Unfavorable* ..... 39%  
*Not sure* ..... 30%

**Q3** The candidates for Governor are Democrat Steve Bullock, Republican Rick Hill, Libertarian Ron Vandevender, and independent Bill Coate. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

*Steve Bullock*..... 44%  
*Rick Hill*..... 39%  
*Ron Vandevender*..... 4%  
*Bill Coate* ..... 4%  
*Undecided*..... 9%

**Q4** In 2004, Montana voters approved I-148, creating a medical marijuana program for patients with debilitating medical conditions. Senate Bill 423, passed by the 2011 Legislature, repeals I-148 and enacts a new medical marijuana program, which includes: permitting patients to grow marijuana or designate a provider; limiting each marijuana provider to three patients; prohibiting marijuana providers from accepting anything of value in exchange for services or products; granting local governments authority to regulate marijuana providers; establishing specific standards for demonstrating chronic pain; and reviewing the practices of doctors who certify marijuana use for 25 or more patients in a 12-month period. If SB 423 is affirmed by the voters, there will be no fiscal impact because the legislature has funded the costs of its implementation. If SB 423 is rejected by the voters, there may be a small savings to the State. If the election was today, would you vote for or against SB 423?

*For*..... 46%  
*Against*..... 29%  
*Not sure* ..... 24%



**Q5** Ballot initiative I-166 establishes a state policy that corporations are not entitled to constitutional rights because they are not human beings, and charges Montana elected and appointed officials, state and federal, to implement that policy. With this policy, the people of Montana establish that there should be a level playing field in campaign spending, in part by prohibiting corporate campaign contributions and expenditures and by limiting political spending in elections. Further, Montana's congressional delegation is charged with proposing a joint resolution offering an amendment to the United States Constitution establishing that corporations are not human beings entitled to constitutional rights. If the election was today, would you vote for or against initiative 166?

For ..... 53%  
Against..... 24%  
Not sure ..... 23%

**Q6** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Brian Schweitzer's job performance?

Approve .....56% Not sure ..... 9%  
Disapprove.....35%

**Q7** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Max Baucus' job performance?

Approve .....45% Not sure ..... 8%  
Disapprove.....47%

**Q8** Generally speaking, if there was an election for the Senate today, would you vote for Democrat Max Baucus or his Republican opponent?

Max Baucus.....48% Not sure .....10%  
Republican  
opponent.....42%

**Q9** Generally speaking, if there was an election for the Senate today, and the Democratic candidate was Brian Schweitzer, would you vote for him or his Republican opponent?

Brian Schweitzer.....50% Not sure ..... 8%  
Republican  
opponent.....42%

**Q10** If the Democratic candidates for Senate in 2014 were Max Baucus and Brian Schweitzer, who would you vote for? (201 Democratic primary voters)

Max Baucus .....36% Not sure .....24%  
Brian Schweitzer.....40%

**Q11** Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal ..... 13%  
Somewhat liberal ..... 13%  
Moderate.....28%  
Somewhat conservative..... 24%  
Very conservative ..... 21%

**Q12** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman ..... 52%  
Man..... 48%

**Q13** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat ..... 33%  
Republican..... 34%  
Independent/Other ..... 33%

**Q14** If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White ..... 88%  
Other..... 12%

**Q15** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 14%  
30 to 45..... 30%  
46 to 65..... 34%  
Older than 65..... 22%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Bullock Favorability</b>						
Favorable	43%	75%	82%	59%	16%	8%
Unfavorable	27%	6%	1%	17%	38%	57%
Not sure	30%	19%	18%	24%	47%	35%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Hill Favorability</b>						
Favorable	32%	8%	4%	13%	48%	69%
Unfavorable	39%	73%	68%	57%	12%	6%
Not sure	30%	18%	28%	30%	40%	25%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Bullock/Hill/Vandevender/Coate</b>						
Steve Bullock	44%	82%	88%	63%	10%	6%
Rick Hill	39%	5%	2%	15%	67%	83%
Ron Vandevender	4%	7%	1%	4%	5%	5%
Bill Coate	4%	1%	3%	4%	7%	3%
Undecided	9%	4%	7%	15%	12%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>SB 423</b>						
For	46%	33%	36%	44%	62%	47%
Against	29%	48%	29%	28%	20%	30%
Not sure	24%	20%	35%	27%	18%	23%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>I-166</b>						
<b>For</b>	53%	75%	76%	61%	39%	28%
<b>Against</b>	24%	11%	6%	18%	36%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	14%	18%	20%	26%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Schweitzer Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	56%	83%	88%	78%	28%	22%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	9%	6%	14%	59%	70%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	9%	7%	8%	12%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Baucus Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	45%	66%	79%	64%	19%	14%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	30%	6%	27%	73%	81%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	5%	14%	9%	9%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Baucus or GOP Opponent?</b>						
<b>Max Baucus</b>	48%	81%	88%	69%	21%	7%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	42%	13%	4%	18%	69%	87%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	7%	8%	13%	11%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Schweitzer or GOP Opponent?</b>						
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	50%	88%	84%	72%	18%	12%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	42%	12%	5%	20%	72%	80%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	-	12%	8%	11%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Baucus/Schweitzer</b>						
<b>Max Baucus</b>	36%	15%	33%	47%	53%	88%
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	40%	63%	43%	25%	34%	-
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	23%	24%	29%	13%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Bullock Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	43%	42%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	27%	22%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	30%	36%	25%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Hill Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	28%	36%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	39%	37%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	30%	34%	24%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Bullock/Hill/Vandevender/Coate</b>			
<b>Steve Bullock</b>	<b>44%</b>	45%	42%
<b>Rick Hill</b>	<b>39%</b>	36%	42%
<b>Ron Vandevender</b>	<b>4%</b>	4%	5%
<b>Bill Coate</b>	<b>4%</b>	4%	3%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>9%</b>	10%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>SB 423</b>			
<b>For</b>	<b>46%</b>	44%	49%
<b>Against</b>	<b>29%</b>	28%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>24%</b>	29%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>I-166</b>			
<b>For</b>	<b>53%</b>	46%	60%
<b>Against</b>	<b>24%</b>	24%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	29%	16%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Schweitzer Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>56%</b>	55%	56%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>35%</b>	34%	37%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>9%</b>	11%	7%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Baucus Approval</b>			
Approve	45%	46%	43%
Disapprove	47%	45%	50%
Not sure	8%	10%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Baucus or GOP Opponent?</b>			
Max Baucus	48%	48%	48%
Republican opponent	42%	41%	44%
Not sure	10%	11%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Schweitzer or GOP Opponent?</b>			
Brian Schweitzer	50%	49%	50%
Republican opponent	42%	43%	41%
Not sure	8%	8%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Baucus/Schweitzer</b>			
Max Baucus	36%	25%	48%
Brian Schweitzer	40%	41%	39%
Not sure	24%	33%	14%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Bullock Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	43%	68%	16%	43%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	27%	10%	40%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	30%	22%	44%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Hill Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	10%	57%	29%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	39%	65%	8%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	30%	26%	35%	28%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Bullock/Hill/Vandevender/Coate</b>				
<b>Steve Bullock</b>	44%	83%	8%	41%
<b>Rick Hill</b>	39%	8%	75%	34%
<b>Ron Vandevender</b>	4%	3%	2%	8%
<b>Bill Coate</b>	4%	0%	5%	6%
<b>Undecided</b>	9%	6%	10%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>SB 423</b>				
<b>For</b>	46%	45%	54%	40%
<b>Against</b>	29%	34%	20%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	21%	26%	27%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>I-166</b>				
<b>For</b>	53%	67%	32%	59%
<b>Against</b>	24%	13%	35%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	20%	34%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Schweitzer Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	56%	85%	26%	56%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	9%	62%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	6%	12%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Baucus Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	73%	19%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	21%	71%	51%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	7%	10%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Baucus or GOP Opponent?</b>				
<b>Max Baucus</b>	48%	87%	14%	42%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	42%	9%	77%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	4%	9%	16%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Schweitzer or GOP Opponent?</b>				
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	50%	88%	14%	47%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	42%	7%	80%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	5%	6%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Baucus/Schweitzer</b>				
<b>Max Baucus</b>	36%	32%	72%	40%
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	40%	44%	28%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	24%	-	27%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Bullock Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	43%	43%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	27%	26%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	30%	31%	25%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Hill Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	32%	32%	30%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	39%	38%	41%
<b>Not sure</b>	30%	30%	29%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Bullock/Hill/Vandevender/Coate</b>			
<b>Steve Bullock</b>	<b>44%</b>	43%	49%
<b>Rick Hill</b>	<b>39%</b>	40%	30%
<b>Ron Vandevender</b>	<b>4%</b>	4%	5%
<b>Bill Coate</b>	<b>4%</b>	4%	5%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>9%</b>	9%	12%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>SB 423</b>			
<b>For</b>	<b>46%</b>	47%	41%
<b>Against</b>	<b>29%</b>	28%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>24%</b>	25%	24%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>I-166</b>			
<b>For</b>	<b>53%</b>	52%	55%
<b>Against</b>	<b>24%</b>	24%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>23%</b>	24%	16%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Schweitzer Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	<b>56%</b>	55%	61%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>35%</b>	35%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>9%</b>	10%	4%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Baucus Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	45%	45%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	48%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	8%	11%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Baucus or GOP Opponent?</b>			
<b>Max Baucus</b>	48%	46%	58%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	42%	44%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	9%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Schweitzer or GOP Opponent?</b>			
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	50%	49%	57%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	42%	43%	33%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	8%	9%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Baucus/Schweitzer</b>			
<b>Max Baucus</b>	36%	34%	45%
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	40%	43%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	24%	23%	28%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Bullock Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>43%</b>	41%	39%	46%	44%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>27%</b>	19%	23%	32%	30%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>30%</b>	41%	38%	22%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Hill Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	<b>32%</b>	19%	26%	39%	37%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>39%</b>	41%	33%	42%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>30%</b>	41%	41%	20%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Bullock/Hill/Vandevender/Coate</b>					
<b>Steve Bullock</b>	<b>44%</b>	49%	41%	45%	42%
<b>Rick Hill</b>	<b>39%</b>	32%	33%	43%	44%
<b>Ron Vandevender</b>	<b>4%</b>	5%	8%	3%	2%
<b>Bill Coate</b>	<b>4%</b>	5%	5%	3%	2%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>9%</b>	8%	14%	5%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>SB 423</b>					
<b>For</b>	<b>46%</b>	38%	49%	48%	44%
<b>Against</b>	<b>29%</b>	34%	30%	29%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>24%</b>	28%	21%	23%	29%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>I-166</b>					
<b>For</b>	53%	58%	42%	61%	53%
<b>Against</b>	24%	27%	29%	20%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	15%	29%	19%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Schweitzer Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	56%	65%	54%	51%	60%
<b>Disapprove</b>	35%	19%	42%	39%	30%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	15%	4%	11%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Baucus Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	45%	60%	40%	44%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	47%	24%	50%	48%	54%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	16%	10%	7%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Baucus or GOP Opponent?</b>					
<b>Max Baucus</b>	48%	56%	50%	46%	44%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	42%	36%	40%	43%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	8%	10%	11%	9%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Schweitzer or GOP Opponent?</b>					
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	<b>50%</b>	67%	49%	46%	48%
<b>Republican opponent</b>	<b>42%</b>	29%	45%	41%	46%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>8%</b>	4%	6%	14%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Baucus/Schweitzer</b>					
<b>Max Baucus</b>	<b>36%</b>	46%	33%	38%	27%
<b>Brian Schweitzer</b>	<b>40%</b>	31%	33%	45%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>24%</b>	23%	33%	18%	25%

