



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 22, 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**

## **NC Prefers Independent Redistricting Commission**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – By a wide margin North Carolina voters would prefer the creation of an independent redistricting commission to having the Legislature continue to draw up the boundary lines in the state. And a plurality of them would like there to be a special session between now and the end of the year to create that new commission.

By a 49/21 margin North Carolinians think the state would be better off with an independent commission creating the new lines for Congressional and Legislative districts than legislators themselves doing it. There's a bipartisan consensus on the issue with Democrats preferring the independent commission 47/24, Republicans doing so 41/20, and independents overwhelming in their support of it by a 69/15 spread.

Incoming Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger, who has voiced support for an independent commission in the past, has backed off of that position by saying there won't be enough time once the next session starts to tackle this issue. The solution to that would be to call the Legislature back before the end of the year to deal with the problem and 40% of voters in the state support doing that to only 27% who are opposed and 33% who have no opinion. Democrats and independents both strongly support a special session on the issue while Republicans are evenly divided.

“Bev Perdue’s had difficulty appealing to independent voters ever since she took office but this is an issue where she could score some points with them,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Taking the politics out of redistricting- and taking action to do it quickly- has a lot of appeal to the critical voters who don’t identify themselves with any political party.”

PPP surveyed 517 North Carolina voters from November 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>. The survey’s margin of error is +/-4.3%. 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](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com).

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

###





## North Carolina Survey Results

<p><b>Q1</b> Before the 2012 election North Carolina's Congressional and Legislative districts will be redrawn. Do you support or oppose the creation of an independent commission for redistricting?</p> <p><i>Support</i> ..... 38%</p> <p><i>Oppose</i> ..... 24%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> ..... 38%</p>	<p><b>Q6</b> If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.</p> <p><i>Woman</i> ..... 54%</p> <p><i>Man</i>..... 46%</p>
<p><b>Q2</b> Would you prefer that control of the redistricting process rested with members of the Legislature or an independent commission?</p> <p><i>Members of the legislature</i>..... 21%</p> <p><i>Members of an independent commission</i> ..... 49%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> ..... 30%</p>	<p><b>Q7</b> If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.</p> <p><i>Democrat</i> ..... 49%</p> <p><i>Republican</i>..... 35%</p> <p><i>Independent/Other</i>..... 17%</p>
<p><b>Q3</b> Would you support or oppose the Legislature holding a special session between now and the end of the year to create an independent commission for redistricting?</p> <p><i>Support</i> ..... 40%</p> <p><i>Oppose</i> ..... 27%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> ..... 33%</p>	<p><b>Q8</b> If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.</p> <p><i>White</i> ..... 77%</p> <p><i>African-American</i> ..... 19%</p> <p><i>Other</i>..... 4%</p>
<p><b>Q4</b> Who did you vote for President in 2008?</p> <p><i>John McCain</i>..... 49%</p> <p><i>Barack Obama</i>..... 45%</p> <p><i>Someone else/Don't remember</i> ..... 6%</p>	<p><b>Q9</b> 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.</p> <p><i>18 to 29</i>..... 9%</p> <p><i>30 to 45</i>..... 24%</p> <p><i>46 to 65</i>..... 47%</p> <p><i>Older than 65</i>..... 20%</p>
<p><b>Q5</b> Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?</p> <p><i>Liberal</i>..... 20%</p> <p><i>Moderate</i>..... 38%</p> <p><i>Conservative</i>..... 42%</p>	<p><b>Q10</b></p> <p><i>252</i>..... 12%</p> <p><i>336</i>..... 23%</p> <p><i>704</i>..... 19%</p> <p><i>828</i>..... 15%</p> <p><i>910</i>..... 12%</p> <p><i>919</i>..... 20%</p>





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Support/Oppose Indep. Commission</b>				
<b>Support</b>	38%	37%	41%	31%
<b>Oppose</b>	24%	24%	23%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	38%	39%	36%	43%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Redistricting Control: Legislature or Commission?</b>				
<b>Members of the     legislature</b>	21%	18%	26%	17%
<b>Members of an     independent     commission</b>	49%	51%	46%	48%
<b>Not sure</b>	30%	31%	29%	34%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Special Session</b>				
<b>Support</b>	40%	39%	41%	38%
<b>Oppose</b>	27%	30%	25%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	33%	32%	34%	39%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Support/Oppose Indep. Commission</b>				
<b>Support</b>	38%	46%	40%	33%
<b>Oppose</b>	24%	16%	24%	27%
<b>Not sure</b>	38%	39%	35%	40%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Redistricting Control: Legislature or Commission?</b>				
Members of the legislature	21%	25%	19%	22%
Members of an independent commission	49%	46%	54%	45%
Not sure	30%	28%	27%	34%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Special Session</b>				
Support	40%	45%	46%	32%
Oppose	27%	17%	23%	35%
Not sure	33%	38%	31%	33%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Support/Oppose Indep. Commission</b>			
Support	38%	34%	43%
Oppose	24%	20%	28%
Not sure	38%	46%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Redistricting Control: Legislature or Commission?</b>			
Members of the legislature	21%	21%	22%
Members of an independent commission	49%	45%	54%
Not sure	30%	35%	25%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Special Session</b>			
<b>Support</b>	<b>40%</b>	36%	44%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>27%</b>	23%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>33%</b>	40%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Support/Oppose Indep. Commission</b>				
<b>Support</b>	<b>38%</b>	40%	32%	47%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>24%</b>	22%	27%	21%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>38%</b>	38%	41%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Redistricting Control: Legislature or Commission?</b>				
<b>Members of the     legislature</b>	<b>21%</b>	24%	20%	15%
<b>Members of an     independent     commission</b>	<b>49%</b>	47%	41%	69%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>30%</b>	29%	38%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Special Session</b>				
<b>Support</b>	<b>40%</b>	44%	31%	46%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>27%</b>	24%	31%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>33%</b>	33%	38%	25%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Support/Oppose Indep. Commission</b>				
<b>Support</b>	<b>38%</b>	43%	20%	35%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>24%</b>	22%	27%	29%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>38%</b>	35%	52%	35%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Redistricting Control: Legislature or Commission?</b>				
<b>Members of the     legislature</b>	<b>21%</b>	19%	32%	13%
<b>Members of an     independent     commission</b>	<b>49%</b>	54%	25%	58%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>30%</b>	27%	43%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Special Session</b>				
<b>Support</b>	<b>40%</b>	44%	23%	39%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>27%</b>	27%	27%	32%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>33%</b>	29%	50%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Support/Oppose Indep. Commission</b>					
<b>Support</b>	<b>38%</b>	25%	36%	42%	41%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>24%</b>	25%	30%	21%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>38%</b>	50%	35%	38%	37%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Redistricting Control: Legislature or Commission?</b>					
Members of the legislature	21%	27%	21%	19%	25%
Members of an independent commission	49%	32%	53%	54%	40%
Not sure	30%	42%	26%	28%	35%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Special Session</b>					
Support	40%	24%	43%	39%	47%
Oppose	27%	35%	27%	28%	21%
Not sure	33%	41%	30%	34%	32%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Support/Oppose Indep. Commission</b>							
Support	38%	31%	34%	31%	43%	32%	55%
Oppose	24%	19%	25%	26%	22%	25%	23%
Not sure	38%	50%	41%	43%	35%	43%	23%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Redistricting Control: Legislature or Commission?</b>							
Members of the legislature	21%	26%	17%	29%	17%	14%	23%
Members of an independent commission	49%	44%	43%	41%	55%	53%	58%
Not sure	30%	30%	40%	29%	28%	33%	19%



**Crosstabs**

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
<b>Special Session</b>							
<b>Support</b>	<b>40%</b>	50%	37%	36%	39%	39%	41%
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>27%</b>	20%	23%	36%	25%	20%	34%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>33%</b>	30%	40%	28%	35%	41%	25%