

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 11, 2009

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

Wilson in dead heat with Miller after comments

Raleigh, N.C. – Republican Congressman Joe Wilson trails challenger Rob Miller 44-43 in the wake of his shouting out ‘you lie’ during President Obama’s speech to Congress on Wednesday night. Wilson defeated Miller 54-46 in the 2008 election.

62% of voters in his district say they disapprove of Wilson’s actions while just 29% think they were ok. While there is consensus on that, respondents were pretty divided about whether the substance of his comment- that Obama was lying- is correct. 42% say they think the President was lying while 46% believe he was not.

Wilson’s approval rating comes in at 41%, with 47% of voters disapproving of his job performance. He gets good marks from 68% of Republicans, 38% of independents, and 11% of Democrats.

“In a matter of seconds Joe Wilson turned himself from a safe incumbent into one of the most vulnerable Republicans in the country for 2010,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

Overall 49% of voters say that Wednesday’s incident made them less likely to vote for Wilson in the future while 35% said it made them more likely to do so.

Obama’s approval rating is 50% in the district, pretty good given his nine point loss there last fall. Mark Sanford’s is 31% and 51% of voters think he should resign.

Voters give mixed responses to a variety of questions about their opinions on health care.

PPP surveyed 747 South Carolina 2nd Congressional District voters on September 10th and 11th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.6%. 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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South Carolina CD 2 Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve50% Not Sure..... 4%
Disapprove.....46%

Q2 Do you support or oppose President Obama's health care plan, or do you not have an opinion? If you support it, press 1. If you oppose it, press 2. If you don't have an opinion, press 3.

Support45%
Oppose48%
No Opinion..... 7%

Q3 Do you support creation of a "public option" health insurance plan? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes44%
No39%
Not Sure..... 17%

Q4 Do you support the federal government creating a health insurance plan that would allow people who can't afford health insurance elsewhere to purchase it? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes55%
No35%
Not Sure..... 10%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Congressman Joe Wilson's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes41%
No47%
Not Sure..... 12%

Q6 If the candidates for Congress next year were Democrat Rob Miller and Republican Joe Wilson, who would you vote for? If Rob Miller, press 1. If Joe Wilson, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Miller44%
Wilson43%
Undecided..... 13%

Q7 Do you approve or disapprove of Joe Wilson's actions at Barack Obama's speech to Congress on Wednesday night? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve29%
Disapprove.....62%
Not Sure..... 9%

Q8 Does Joe Wilson calling the president a liar make you more or less likely to vote to re-elect him? If more likely, press 1. If less likely, press 2. If it makes no difference, press 3.

More Likely35%
Less Likely49%
No Difference..... 16%

Q9 Do you think that Barack Obama was lying when he said his health care plan would not cover illegal immigrants? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes42%
No46%
Not Sure..... 12%





Q10 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Mark Sanford's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 31%
Disapprove..... 59%
Not Sure..... 10%

Q11 Do you think that Mark Sanford should resign as Governor? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 51%
No..... 40%
Not Sure..... 9%

Q12 Do you think that Barack Obama's speech to the schoolchildren of America earlier this week was appropriate? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 68%
No..... 22%
Not Sure..... 10%

Q13 Do you think Barack Obama was born in the United States? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 59%
No..... 22%
Not Sure..... 19%

Q14 Did you watch President Obama's speech last night? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2.

Yes 70%
No..... 30%

Q15 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..... 12%
Moderate..... 48%
Conservative..... 40%

Q16 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Women 55% *Men*..... 45%

Q17 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 34%
Republican..... 39%
Other..... 27%

Q18 If you are white, press 1. If you are African American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 72% *Other*..... 4%
African American ... 24%

Q19 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..... 9% *46-65*..... 43%
30-45..... 28% *Older than 65*..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Obama Approval			
Approve	50%	59%	31%
Disapprove	46%	39%	62%
Not Sure	4%	2%	7%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Obama Health Care			
Support	45%	55%	22%
Oppose	48%	39%	68%
No Opinion	7%	6%	10%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Public Option			
Yes	44%	51%	28%
No	39%	35%	48%
Not Sure	17%	14%	24%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Federal Government Health Insurance Plan			
Yes	55%	61%	41%
No	35%	30%	46%
Not Sure	10%	9%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Wilson Approval			
Yes	41%	36%	52%
No	47%	55%	30%
Not Sure	12%	9%	19%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Miller/Wilson			
Miller	44%	53%	24%
Wilson	43%	37%	58%
Undecided	12%	10%	17%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Wilson on Wednesday Night			
Approve	29%	27%	35%
Disapprove	62%	67%	51%
Not Sure	8%	6%	14%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Calling President a Liar			
More Likely	35%	32%	43%
Less Likely	49%	54%	38%
No Difference	16%	14%	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Obama Lying			
Yes	42%	36%	57%
No	47%	55%	27%
Not Sure	11%	9%	15%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Sanford Approval			
Approve	31%	28%	39%
Disapprove	58%	63%	48%
Not Sure	10%	9%	13%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Sanford Resign			
Yes	51%	54%	43%
No	40%	37%	48%
Not Sure	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Obama Schoolchildren Speech			
Yes	68%	76%	50%
No	22%	18%	32%
Not Sure	10%	7%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Obama born in US			
Yes	59%	67%	43%
No	22%	17%	34%
Not Sure	19%	16%	24%

	Base	Watched Obama Wednesday	
		Yes	No
Watched Obama Wednesday			
Yes	70%	100%	-
No	30%	-	100%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	84%	65%	23%
Disapprove	46%	13%	31%	73%
Not Sure	4%	3%	4%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Health Care				
Support	45%	81%	59%	18%
Oppose	48%	14%	33%	75%
No Opinion	7%	5%	8%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Public Option				
Yes	44%	78%	58%	18%
No	39%	9%	26%	63%
Not Sure	17%	13%	17%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Federal Government Health Insurance Plan				
Yes	55%	83%	69%	30%
No	35%	14%	21%	57%
Not Sure	10%	3%	9%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Wilson Approval				
Yes	41%	11%	27%	66%
No	47%	83%	59%	22%
Not Sure	12%	7%	14%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Miller/Wilson				
Miller	44%	81%	58%	16%
Wilson	43%	12%	29%	70%
Undecided	13%	8%	13%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Wilson on Wednesday Night				
Approve	29%	14%	18%	47%
Disapprove	62%	85%	74%	42%
Not Sure	9%	2%	8%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Calling President a Liar				
More Likely	35%	16%	23%	56%
Less Likely	49%	75%	63%	24%
No Difference	16%	9%	14%	20%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Lying				
Yes	42%	11%	30%	66%
No	46%	81%	59%	21%
Not Sure	12%	8%	11%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Sanford Approval				
Approve	31%	14%	24%	44%
Disapprove	59%	83%	66%	43%
Not Sure	10%	4%	10%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Sanford Resign				
Yes	51%	76%	52%	42%
No	40%	22%	39%	48%
Not Sure	9%	2%	10%	10%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Schoolchildren Speech				
Yes	68%	89%	78%	49%
No	22%	9%	13%	37%
Not Sure	10%	2%	9%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama born in US				
Yes	59%	76%	71%	39%
No	22%	13%	15%	33%
Not Sure	19%	12%	14%	28%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Watched Obama Wednesday				
Yes	70%	79%	72%	64%
No	30%	21%	28%	36%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Obama Approval			
Approve	50%	51%	50%
Disapprove	46%	44%	47%
Not Sure	4%	5%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Obama Health Care			
Support	45%	44%	46%
Oppose	48%	47%	48%
No Opinion	7%	8%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Public Option			
Yes	44%	43%	46%
No	39%	35%	44%
Not Sure	17%	22%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Federal Government Health Insurance Plan			
Yes	55%	55%	55%
No	35%	34%	36%
Not Sure	10%	11%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Wilson Approval			
Yes	41%	40%	42%
No	47%	48%	45%
Not Sure	12%	12%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Miller/Wilson			
Miller	44%	43%	45%
Wilson	43%	43%	44%
Undecided	13%	14%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Wilson on Wednesday Night			
Approve	29%	27%	32%
Disapprove	62%	63%	61%
Not Sure	9%	10%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Calling President a Liar			
More Likely	35%	34%	37%
Less Likely	49%	49%	49%
No Difference	16%	17%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Obama Lying			
Yes	42%	41%	43%
No	46%	46%	47%
Not Sure	12%	13%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Sanford Approval			
Approve	31%	31%	31%
Disapprove	59%	57%	60%
Not Sure	10%	12%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Sanford Resign			
Yes	51%	50%	52%
No	40%	42%	39%
Not Sure	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Obama Schoolchildren Speech			
Yes	68%	70%	66%
No	22%	20%	25%
Not Sure	10%	10%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Obama born in US			
Yes	59%	58%	60%
No	22%	21%	22%
Not Sure	19%	21%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Watched Obama Wednesday			
Yes	70%	67%	73%
No	30%	33%	27%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	90%	15%	52%
Disapprove	46%	8%	80%	43%
Not Sure	4%	2%	5%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Obama Health Care				
Support	45%	84%	11%	46%
Oppose	48%	10%	83%	43%
No Opinion	7%	6%	6%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Public Option				
Yes	44%	72%	18%	47%
No	39%	9%	63%	40%
Not Sure	17%	18%	18%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Federal Government Health Insurance Plan				
Yes	55%	80%	32%	57%
No	35%	12%	56%	33%
Not Sure	10%	8%	12%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Wilson Approval				
Yes	41%	11%	68%	38%
No	47%	74%	21%	51%
Not Sure	12%	15%	11%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Miller/Wilson				
Miller	44%	75%	14%	47%
Wilson	43%	10%	75%	39%
Undecided	13%	15%	11%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Wilson on Wednesday Night				
Approve	29%	10%	48%	25%
Disapprove	62%	84%	41%	66%
Not Sure	9%	5%	11%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Calling President a Liar				
More Likely	35%	16%	56%	30%
Less Likely	49%	77%	21%	53%
No Difference	16%	7%	23%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Obama Lying				
Yes	42%	11%	69%	42%
No	46%	78%	17%	50%
Not Sure	12%	11%	15%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Sanford Approval				
Approve	31%	14%	45%	32%
Disapprove	59%	79%	41%	60%
Not Sure	10%	7%	14%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Sanford Resign				
Yes	51%	70%	37%	47%
No	40%	24%	53%	42%
Not Sure	9%	6%	10%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Obama Schoolchildren Speech				
Yes	68%	93%	46%	69%
No	22%	5%	40%	18%
Not Sure	10%	2%	14%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Obama born in US				
Yes	59%	78%	38%	66%
No	22%	11%	36%	15%
Not Sure	19%	12%	26%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Watched Obama Wednesday				
Yes	70%	81%	57%	74%
No	30%	19%	43%	26%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	38%	88%	52%
Disapprove	46%	57%	12%	44%
Not Sure	4%	5%	-	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Obama Health Care				
Support	45%	33%	82%	42%
Oppose	48%	59%	12%	56%
No Opinion	7%	8%	6%	2%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Public Option				
Yes	44%	36%	69%	40%
No	39%	47%	13%	42%
Not Sure	17%	16%	18%	19%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Federal Government Health Insurance Plan				
Yes	55%	49%	75%	44%
No	35%	41%	16%	35%
Not Sure	10%	10%	9%	21%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Wilson Approval				
Yes	41%	51%	12%	42%
No	47%	38%	72%	48%
Not Sure	12%	11%	16%	10%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Miller/Wilson				
Miller	44%	35%	69%	42%
Wilson	43%	54%	13%	42%
Undecided	13%	11%	18%	17%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Wilson on Wednesday Night				
Approve	29%	35%	10%	29%
Disapprove	62%	57%	79%	60%
Not Sure	9%	8%	10%	10%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Calling President a Liar				
More Likely	35%	39%	22%	44%
Less Likely	49%	41%	72%	46%
No Difference	16%	19%	6%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Obama Lying				
Yes	42%	52%	12%	40%
No	46%	35%	79%	48%
Not Sure	12%	12%	9%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Sanford Approval				
Approve	31%	37%	13%	42%
Disapprove	59%	53%	78%	44%
Not Sure	10%	10%	9%	15%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Sanford Resign				
Yes	51%	46%	67%	40%
No	40%	46%	22%	48%
Not Sure	9%	8%	10%	13%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Obama Schoolchildren Speech				
Yes	68%	60%	91%	77%
No	22%	27%	6%	19%
Not Sure	10%	13%	3%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Obama born in US				
Yes	59%	54%	74%	67%
No	22%	26%	10%	10%
Not Sure	19%	20%	16%	23%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Watched Obama Wednesday				
Yes	70%	64%	87%	74%
No	30%	36%	13%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	50%	50%	49%	55%	42%
Disapprove	46%	45%	47%	42%	51%
Not Sure	4%	5%	4%	3%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Obama Health Care					
Support	45%	40%	43%	52%	35%
Oppose	48%	50%	51%	42%	54%
No Opinion	7%	10%	5%	6%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Public Option					
Yes	44%	34%	48%	50%	33%
No	39%	39%	41%	35%	44%
Not Sure	17%	27%	12%	15%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Federal Government Health Insurance Plan					
Yes	55%	58%	55%	60%	44%
No	35%	38%	36%	29%	44%
Not Sure	10%	4%	9%	11%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Wilson Approval					
Yes	41%	43%	41%	38%	47%
No	47%	39%	45%	52%	42%
Not Sure	12%	19%	14%	10%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Miller/Wilson					
Miller	44%	39%	42%	49%	38%
Wilson	43%	42%	42%	42%	49%
Undecided	13%	20%	15%	9%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Wilson on Wednesday Night					
Approve	29%	36%	29%	26%	32%
Disapprove	62%	52%	60%	67%	61%
Not Sure	9%	12%	11%	7%	7%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Calling President a Liar					
More Likely	35%	51%	31%	32%	43%
Less Likely	49%	36%	49%	52%	46%
No Difference	16%	13%	20%	16%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Obama Lying					
Yes	42%	49%	42%	37%	50%
No	46%	43%	48%	51%	35%
Not Sure	12%	9%	11%	11%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Sanford Approval					
Approve	31%	30%	33%	31%	30%
Disapprove	59%	62%	55%	61%	58%
Not Sure	10%	9%	12%	9%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Sanford Resign					
Yes	51%	51%	47%	52%	53%
No	40%	44%	42%	38%	41%
Not Sure	9%	5%	11%	9%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Obama Schoolchildren Speech					
Yes	68%	68%	65%	73%	61%
No	22%	24%	23%	18%	29%
Not Sure	10%	8%	12%	9%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Obama born in US					
Yes	59%	54%	62%	62%	51%
No	22%	30%	21%	20%	23%
Not Sure	19%	16%	17%	18%	26%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Watched Obama Wednesday					
Yes	70%	63%	62%	78%	66%
No	30%	37%	38%	22%	34%

