



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERVIEWS: Tom Jensen 919-744-6312

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## **Cantwell in Good Shape for Senate Reelection**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Senator Maria Cantwell leads her real and potential Republican challengers by double digits, a new poll by Public Policy Polling finds. Cantwell leads State Senator Michael Baumgartner, her only announced challenger, 51%-36%, with 15% undecided. She leads Seattle Port Commissioner Bill Bryant 50%-36%, and she leads perennial loser Dino Rossi 53%-41%.

Cantwell benefits from the extreme lack of name recognition among Baumgartner and Bryant. Just 8% of voters have a favorable opinion of Michael Baumgartner, with 14% unfavorable and a whopping 78% not sure. Bill Bryant is in a similar position, with just a 5% favorable rating, 10% unfavorable and 85% unsure. Dino Rossi naturally has higher name recognition, but voters just don't like him – 50% view him unfavorably compared to 38% who view him favorably.

Cantwell's overall job performance rating is positive at 47% approval and 38% disapproval. Cantwell's job performance rating is down just slightly from the last time PPP polled Washington in May 2011. Back then her approval rating stood at 50/36. Women approve of Cantwell's job performance by a wide margin (51/32) while men are split (43/45). She gets high approval marks from Democrats (81/10), independent voters are split 40/43, and she gets the approval of nearly 1/5 of Republicans while about 2/3 disapprove (17/65).

“Maria Cantwell's in a strong position for reelection,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Her own approval numbers are pretty good and she's also benefiting from weak opposition.”

PPP will conclude its Washington poll next week with a look at some sports issues in the state.

PPP surveyed 1,264 Washington voters from February 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. The margin of error for the survey is +/-2.76%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.





## Washington Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Maria Cantwell's job performance?

Approve .....47% Not sure .....14%  
Disapprove.....38%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Michael Baumgartner?

Favorable..... 8%  
Unfavorable ..... 14%  
Not sure .....78%

**Q3** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Bill Bryant?

Favorable..... 5%  
Unfavorable ..... 10%  
Not sure ..... 85%

**Q4** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Dino Rossi?

Favorable..... 38%  
Unfavorable ..... 50%  
Not sure ..... 12%

**Q5** If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Maria Cantwell and Republican Michael Baumgartner, who would you vote for?

Maria Cantwell..... 51%  
Michael Baumgartner..... 36%  
Undecided..... 13%

**Q6** If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Maria Cantwell and Republican Bill Bryant, who would you vote for?

Maria Cantwell..... 50%  
Bill Bryant..... 36%  
Undecided..... 14%

**Q7** If the candidates for Senate this fall were Democrat Maria Cantwell and Republican Dino Rossi, who would you vote for?

Maria Cantwell..... 53%  
Dino Rossi ..... 41%  
Undecided..... 7%

**Q8** Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 39%  
Barack Obama..... 53%  
Someone else/Don't remember ..... 8%

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

Very liberal..... 14%  
Somewhat liberal ..... 20%  
Moderate..... 28%  
Somewhat conservative..... 21%  
Very conservative ..... 17%

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

Woman ..... 54%  
Man..... 46%

**Q11** 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..... 36%  
Republican..... 32%  
Independent/Other..... 32%

**Q12** If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

White ..... 89%  
Other..... 11%





**Q13** 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.....	9%
30 to 45.....	22%
46 to 65.....	49%
Older than 65.....	20%

**Q14** Area Code

206.....	13%
253.....	12%
360.....	33%
425.....	15%
509.....	27%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Cantwell Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	47%	14%	74%	35%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	69%	13%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	17%	13%	13%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Baumgartner Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	8%	11%	4%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	14%	11%	16%	10%
<b>Not sure</b>	78%	78%	79%	72%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Bryant Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	6%	5%	8%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	7%	11%	13%
<b>Not sure</b>	85%	87%	84%	79%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Rossi Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	74%	10%	50%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	13%	80%	31%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	13%	10%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Cantwell/Baumgartner</b>				
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	51%	11%	83%	34%
<b>Michael Baumgartner</b>	36%	74%	6%	46%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	15%	11%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Cantwell/Bryant</b>				
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	50%	9%	84%	30%
<b>Bill Bryant</b>	36%	75%	6%	43%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	16%	10%	27%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Cantwell/Rossi</b>				
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	53%	8%	89%	35%
<b>Dino Rossi</b>	41%	84%	6%	50%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	8%	4%	15%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Cantwell Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	47%	78%	77%	53%	22%	9%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	12%	13%	32%	56%	79%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	9%	10%	16%	22%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Baumgartner Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	8%	5%	5%	7%	9%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	14%	18%	15%	15%	10%	10%
<b>Not sure</b>	78%	77%	79%	78%	81%	75%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Bryant Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	6%	4%	6%	5%	6%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	11%	9%	12%	7%	9%
<b>Not sure</b>	85%	83%	86%	82%	88%	85%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Rossi Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	9%	10%	25%	66%	82%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	85%	81%	56%	21%	9%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	6%	8%	19%	13%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Cantwell/Baumgartner</b>						
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	51%	91%	83%	57%	18%	9%
<b>Michael Baumgartner</b>	36%	6%	9%	21%	61%	85%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	3%	8%	22%	21%	6%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Cantwell/Bryant</b>						
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	50%	87%	87%	56%	18%	4%
<b>Bill Bryant</b>	36%	7%	8%	21%	60%	87%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	6%	4%	23%	22%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
<b>Cantwell/Rossi</b>						
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	53%	90%	90%	61%	21%	4%
<b>Dino Rossi</b>	41%	7%	8%	26%	75%	89%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	2%	2%	13%	4%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Cantwell Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	47%	51%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	32%	45%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	17%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Baumgartner Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	8%	7%	9%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	14%	10%	17%
<b>Not sure</b>	78%	82%	73%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Bryant Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	5%	6%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	8%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	85%	87%	82%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Rossi Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	36%	41%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	53%	47%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	12%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Cantwell/Baumgartner</b>			
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	51%	54%	47%
<b>Michael Baumgartner</b>	36%	31%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	15%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Cantwell/Bryant</b>			
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	50%	54%	45%
<b>Bill Bryant</b>	36%	30%	42%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	16%	12%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Cantwell/Rossi</b>			
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	53%	55%	50%
<b>Dino Rossi</b>	41%	37%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	8%	5%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Cantwell Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	47%	81%	17%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	10%	65%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	9%	18%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Baumgartner Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	8%	5%	13%	7%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	14%	18%	12%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	78%	77%	75%	83%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Bryant Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	5%	7%	4%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	11%	9%	9%
<b>Not sure</b>	85%	84%	84%	87%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Rossi Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	4%	75%	39%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	88%	13%	44%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	8%	12%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Cantwell/Baumgartner</b>				
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	51%	92%	11%	44%
<b>Michael Baumgartner</b>	36%	3%	75%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	4%	14%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Cantwell/Bryant</b>				
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	50%	93%	10%	42%
<b>Bill Bryant</b>	36%	4%	75%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	3%	15%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Cantwell/Rossi</b>				
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	53%	95%	12%	46%
<b>Dino Rossi</b>	41%	4%	82%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	2%	6%	12%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Cantwell Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	47%	47%	49%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	39%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	14%	16%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Baumgartner Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	8%	8%	12%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	14%	13%	19%
<b>Not sure</b>	78%	79%	69%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Bryant Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	5%	12%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	9%	13%
<b>Not sure</b>	85%	86%	75%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Rossi Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	39%	27%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	50%	53%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	11%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Cantwell/Baumgartner</b>			
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	51%	51%	53%
<b>Michael Baumgartner</b>	36%	36%	29%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	13%	18%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Cantwell/Bryant</b>			
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	50%	50%	52%
<b>Bill Bryant</b>	36%	36%	31%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	14%	17%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
<b>Cantwell/Rossi</b>			
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	53%	52%	60%
<b>Dino Rossi</b>	41%	42%	30%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	6%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Cantwell Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	47%	55%	39%	48%	50%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	29%	42%	38%	39%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	16%	19%	13%	11%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Baumgartner Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	8%	16%	4%	8%	9%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	14%	18%	14%	13%	12%
<b>Not sure</b>	78%	66%	82%	79%	79%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Bryant Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	13%	6%	5%	4%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	11%	12%	9%	9%
<b>Not sure</b>	85%	76%	82%	87%	87%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Rossi Favorability</b>					
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	42%	40%	36%	38%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	42%	51%	53%	43%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	16%	9%	10%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Cantwell/Baumgartner</b>					
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	51%	61%	42%	53%	50%
<b>Michael Baumgartner</b>	36%	24%	36%	36%	40%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	16%	22%	11%	10%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Cantwell/Bryant</b>					
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	50%	55%	42%	53%	49%
<b>Bill Bryant</b>	36%	29%	38%	34%	40%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	16%	20%	13%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Cantwell/Rossi</b>					
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	53%	58%	50%	54%	50%
<b>Dino Rossi</b>	41%	32%	40%	41%	44%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	11%	10%	5%	5%

	Base	Area Code				
		206	253	360	425	509
<b>Cantwell Approval</b>						
<b>Approve</b>	47%	69%	48%	45%	56%	35%
<b>Disapprove</b>	38%	20%	35%	40%	35%	49%
<b>Not sure</b>	14%	12%	17%	15%	9%	16%

	Base	Area Code				
		206	253	360	425	509
<b>Baumgartner Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	8%	3%	5%	6%	7%	15%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	14%	12%	7%	14%	12%	17%
<b>Not sure</b>	78%	85%	87%	80%	81%	67%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Area Code				
		206	253	360	425	509
<b>Bryant Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	5%	4%	5%	6%	6%	6%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	10%	12%	4%	10%	9%	11%
<b>Not sure</b>	85%	85%	91%	84%	85%	83%

	Base	Area Code				
		206	253	360	425	509
<b>Rossi Favorability</b>						
<b>Favorable</b>	38%	18%	37%	42%	33%	46%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	50%	73%	54%	46%	55%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	12%	9%	9%	11%	12%	16%

	Base	Area Code				
		206	253	360	425	509
<b>Cantwell/Baumgartner</b>						
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	51%	74%	49%	50%	56%	40%
<b>Michael Baumgartner</b>	36%	14%	28%	38%	32%	49%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	12%	23%	13%	12%	12%

	Base	Area Code				
		206	253	360	425	509
<b>Cantwell/Bryant</b>						
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	50%	73%	49%	50%	56%	36%
<b>Bill Bryant</b>	36%	14%	29%	36%	32%	51%
<b>Undecided</b>	14%	13%	23%	14%	11%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code				
		206	253	360	425	509
<b>Cantwell/Rossi</b>						
<b>Maria Cantwell</b>	53%	74%	53%	50%	62%	40%
<b>Dino Rossi</b>	41%	18%	38%	45%	30%	53%
<b>Undecided</b>	7%	8%	9%	5%	8%	6%

