



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 16, 2007

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State legislature either unknown or unpopular; Dole leads potential challengers

Raleigh, N.C. – According to Public Policy Polling’s newest survey, most North Carolina likely voters either did not like this year’s state legislative session or they were not paying attention. Forty-five percent of poll respondents said they disapproved of the job the legislature did this year, and another 41% said they didn’t know enough to have an opinion. Only 14% approved of the session.

The poll also tested hypothetical 2008 Senate match-ups between Elizabeth Dole and Democrats Jerry Meek and Ted Kaplan.

Against State Democratic Party Chairman Jerry Meek, Dole leads 47% to 32%. Against Forsyth County Commissioner and former State Senator Ted Kaplan, who has expressed interest in the race, she leads 47% to 28%.

“Meek and Kaplan did not perform as well against Dole as other statewide Democrats in North Carolina such as Beverly Perdue, Richard Moore or Roy Cooper,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Yet Senator Dole continues to poll below 50% even against Democrats with low name recognition.”

The survey found President Bush’s approval rating rebounding to 41% in North Carolina. Last month only 35% approved of President Bush. These results follow a national trend that has the President’s poll numbers ticking upwards slightly. Senator Dole’s approval remains in the high 40s at 48%.

PPP surveyed 493 likely general election voters on August 14. The survey has a margin of error of $\pm 4.4\%$. 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. Results include crosstabs breaking down the results by gender, party affiliation, race, age and region. For more discussion of the poll visit the Public Policy Polling blog at <http://publicpolicypolling.blogspot.com>.

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

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NC Survey Results

- Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Bush is handling his job as President? If you approve, press 1 on your keypad now. If you disapprove, press 2. If you are not sure, press 3.
Approve41% *Not sure* 4%
Disapprove.....55%
- Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of the way Senator Elizabeth Dole is handling her job as Senator? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you are not sure, press 3.
Approve48% *Not sure*11%
Disapprove.....41%
- Q3** In 2008 Elizabeth Dole will be running for a second term as U.S. Senator. No Democrat has announced they will run against her. If Jerry Meek, the Chairman of the North Carolina Democratic Party, were to challenge her, who would you vote for? If you would vote for Elizabeth Dole, press 1. If for Jerry Meek, press 2. If you are not sure, press 3.
Dole47% *Undecided*.....21%
Meek.....32%
- Q4** If Forsyth County Commissioner and former State Senator Ted Kaplan challenged Senator Elizabeth Dole, who would you vote for? If you would vote for Elizabeth Dole, press 1. If for the Ted Kaplan, press 2. If you are not sure, press 3.
Dole47% *Undecided*.....26%
Kaplan.....28%
- Q5** The North Carolina General Assembly finished its legislative session early this month. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the legislature did this year, or do you not know enough to have an opinion? If approve, press 1. If disapprove, press 2. If you don't know enough to have an opinion, press 3.
Approve..... 14% *Don't know enough*..... 41%
Disapprove.....45%
- Q6** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.
Women54% *Men*.....46%
- Q7** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.
Democrat.....43% *Other*.....18%
Republican.....39%
- Q8** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If Hispanic, press 3. If other, press
White80% *Other*..... 3%
Black.....17%
- Q9** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If older than 65, press 4.
18-29..... 7% *46-65*.....44%
30-45.....22% *Older Than 65*.....27%



Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
President Bush's Approval			
Approve	41%	39%	43%
Disapprove	55%	57%	53%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Elizabeth Dole job approval			
Approve	48%	49%	47%
Disapprove	41%	39%	44%
Not sure	11%	12%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Dole v Meek			
Dole	47%	47%	47%
Meek	32%	31%	34%
Undecided	21%	22%	19%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Dole v Kaplan			
Dole	47%	46%	47%
Kaplan	28%	23%	33%
Undecided	26%	30%	20%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
NC General Assembly			
Approve	14%	15%	13%
Disapprove	45%	37%	56%
Don't know enough	41%	49%	31%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
President Bush's Approval				
Approve	41%	11%	76%	34%
Disapprove	55%	83%	20%	64%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%	3%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Elizabeth Dole job approval				
Approve	48%	24%	78%	44%
Disapprove	41%	61%	18%	43%
Not sure	11%	15%	5%	13%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Dole v Meek				
Dole	47%	18%	83%	39%
Meek	32%	52%	8%	38%
Undecided	21%	30%	9%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Dole v Kaplan				
Dole	47%	18%	81%	39%
Kaplan	28%	42%	9%	36%
Undecided	26%	40%	10%	25%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
NC General Assembly				
Approve	14%	18%	9%	13%
Disapprove	45%	36%	54%	51%
Don't know enough	41%	46%	37%	36%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
President Bush's Approval				
Approve	41%	48%	10%	28%
Disapprove	55%	48%	86%	72%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%	-

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Elizabeth Dole job approval				
Approve	48%	55%	23%	30%
Disapprove	41%	37%	57%	64%
Not sure	11%	9%	20%	6%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Dole v Meek				
Dole	47%	55%	14%	28%
Meek	32%	29%	42%	54%
Undecided	21%	16%	44%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
Dole v Kaplan				
Dole	47%	54%	16%	28%
Kaplan	28%	26%	34%	49%
Undecided	26%	21%	50%	23%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
NC General Assembly				
Approve	14%	14%	12%	27%
Disapprove	45%	46%	44%	39%
Don't know enough	41%	40%	45%	34%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older Than 65
President Bush's Approval					
Approve	41%	30%	45%	45%	34%
Disapprove	55%	67%	52%	51%	60%
Not sure	4%	3%	4%	4%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older Than 65
Elizabeth Dole job approval					
Approve	48%	36%	46%	51%	50%
Disapprove	41%	52%	36%	41%	41%
Not sure	11%	12%	18%	8%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older Than 65
Dole v Meek					
Dole	47%	38%	49%	51%	43%
Meek	32%	41%	30%	31%	33%
Undecided	21%	20%	21%	18%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older Than 65
Dole v Kaplan					
Dole	47%	38%	47%	49%	46%
Kaplan	28%	36%	21%	29%	27%
Undecided	26%	25%	32%	22%	27%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older Than 65
NC General Assembly					
Approve	14%	9%	13%	15%	13%
Disapprove	46%	37%	50%	48%	40%
Don't know enough	41%	54%	37%	37%	47%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
President Bush's Approval							
Approve	41%	36%	42%	44%	40%	42%	38%
Disapprove	55%	57%	54%	55%	57%	50%	56%
Not sure	4%	7%	3%	1%	2%	8%	6%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Elizabeth Dole job approval							
Approve	48%	56%	41%	46%	53%	51%	50%
Disapprove	41%	39%	45%	37%	35%	40%	45%
Not sure	11%	5%	14%	17%	12%	9%	5%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Dole v Meek							
Dole	47%	46%	45%	46%	48%	47%	50%
Meek	32%	31%	31%	33%	29%	27%	40%
Undecided	21%	23%	24%	21%	24%	26%	10%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Dole v Kaplan							
Dole	47%	44%	44%	44%	49%	49%	50%
Kaplan	28%	29%	34%	25%	25%	19%	31%
Undecided	26%	27%	23%	31%	26%	32%	19%



Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
NC General Assembly							
Approve	14%	13%	14%	12%	8%	11%	21%
Disapprove	45%	46%	35%	48%	51%	50%	47%
Don't know enough	41%	41%	50%	40%	41%	39%	32%