

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kirk moves ahead

Raleigh, N.C. – Just two months after trailing by eight points, Republican Mark Kirk has now moved ahead of Democrat Alexi Giannoulias by a 37-33 margin in the Illinois Senate race.

The controversies swirling around Giannoulias and his family seem to be taking a toll on him. Where before 31% of voters viewed him favorably to 19% unfavorably, now just 21% have a positive opinion of him and 28% see him negatively.

Democratic voters don't seem to know what to think of the issue surrounding Giannoulias and because of that 36% of them are undecided compared to only 16% of Republicans. Kirk is winning 77% of the Republican vote while Giannoulias is at just 54% of the Democratic vote. Kirk also has a 33-30 advantage with independents.

Kirk continues to be mostly unknown to Illinois voters. 53% have no opinion of him with 24% holding a positive one and 23% a negative one. That's pretty much unchanged from a 27/22 spread in January, further confirming the movement in the race has everything to do with Giannoulias and little to do with Kirk.

50% of voters approve of home state President Barack Obama's job performance to 42% who disapprove. He's maintained an 81% level of support from within his own party but just 7% of Republicans give him good marks. Independents say they're happy with him by a 51/38 margin.

"The undecided Democrats will decide this race," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "Will they come home and support Giannoulias in the end, will they stay at home, or will they cross party lines to vote for Kirk? We don't know that answer yet."

PPP surveyed 591 Illinois voters from April 1st to 5th. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.0%. 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.



Illinois Survey Results

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

Approve..... 50% *Not Sure*..... 8%
Disapprove..... 42%

Q2 Do you think that Republicans should work to repeal the health care bill that was passed last week? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes 42%
No..... 47%
Not Sure..... 10%

Q3 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.

Support..... 46%
Oppose..... 43%
No Opinion..... 11%

Q4 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Roland Burris' job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 18%
Disapprove..... 54%
Not Sure..... 29%

Q5 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Dick Durbin's job performance? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Approve 45%
Disapprove..... 34%
Not Sure..... 21%

Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Alexi Giannoulias? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable 21% *Not Sure*..... 51%
Unfavorable..... 28%

Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mark Kirk? If favorable, press 1. If unfavorable, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Favorable..... 24% *Not Sure*..... 53%
Unfavorable 23%

Q8 The candidates for Senate are Democrat Alexi Giannoulias and Republican Mark Kirk. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Alexi Giannoulias, press 1. If Mark Kirk, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Giannoulias..... 33%
Kirk 37%
Undecided..... 30%

Q9 Who did you vote for President last year? If John McCain, press 1. If Barack Obama, press 2. If someone else or you don't remember, press 3.

McCain..... 39%
Obama 54%
Someone Else/Don't Remember..... 7%

Q10 If you are a liberal, press 1. If a moderate, press 2. If a conservative, press 3.

Liberal..... 20%
Moderate..... 44%
Conservative..... 36%

Q11 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 55%
Man..... 45%





Q12 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 42%
Republican..... 30%
Independent/Other..... 28%

Q13 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 8%
White 72%
African American 15%
Other..... 5%

Q14 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, press 4.

18 to 29..... 7%
30 to 45..... 25%
46 to 65..... 45%
Older than 65..... 23%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	7%	85%	22%
Disapprove	42%	88%	8%	52%
Not Sure	8%	5%	7%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Repeal				
Yes	42%	81%	12%	59%
No	47%	11%	77%	21%
Not Sure	10%	8%	11%	20%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Health Care				
Support	46%	7%	77%	22%
Oppose	43%	87%	10%	52%
No Opinion	11%	6%	13%	26%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Burr's Approval				
Approve	18%	5%	28%	14%
Disapprove	54%	76%	38%	54%
Not Sure	29%	19%	35%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Durbin Approval				
Approve	45%	16%	67%	39%
Disapprove	34%	68%	9%	44%
Not Sure	21%	17%	24%	17%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Giannoulas Favorability				
Favorable	21%	11%	28%	24%
Unfavorable	28%	43%	17%	27%
Not Sure	51%	46%	55%	50%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Kirk Favorability				
Favorable	24%	41%	11%	24%
Unfavorable	23%	11%	32%	16%
Not Sure	53%	47%	56%	60%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		McCain	Obama	Someone Else/Don't Remember
Giannoulas/Kirk				
Giannoulas	33%	9%	53%	13%
Kirk	37%	73%	11%	35%
Undecided	30%	18%	36%	52%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	87%	61%	16%
Disapprove	42%	8%	29%	77%
Not Sure	8%	5%	10%	7%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Repeal				
Yes	42%	12%	31%	72%
No	47%	79%	59%	16%
Not Sure	10%	9%	10%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Health Care				
Support	46%	79%	59%	12%
Oppose	43%	12%	27%	79%
No Opinion	11%	9%	14%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Burr Approval				
Approve	18%	39%	18%	6%
Disapprove	54%	35%	47%	72%
Not Sure	29%	26%	35%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Durbin Approval				
Approve	45%	72%	55%	18%
Disapprove	34%	12%	20%	64%
Not Sure	21%	16%	25%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Giannoulis Favorability				
Favorable	21%	44%	20%	10%
Unfavorable	28%	15%	22%	42%
Not Sure	51%	41%	58%	48%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Kirk Favorability				
Favorable	24%	13%	18%	37%
Unfavorable	23%	44%	22%	12%
Not Sure	53%	43%	60%	51%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Giannoulis/Kirk				
Giannoulis	33%	71%	36%	9%
Kirk	37%	8%	23%	69%
Undecided	30%	22%	41%	22%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	50%	53%	48%
Disapprove	42%	38%	47%
Not Sure	8%	10%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Repeal			
Yes	42%	39%	47%
No	47%	49%	46%
Not Sure	10%	13%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Health Care			
Support	46%	49%	42%
Oppose	43%	39%	47%
No Opinion	11%	12%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Burr Approval			
Approve	18%	19%	16%
Disapprove	54%	49%	59%
Not Sure	29%	32%	24%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Durbin Approval			
Approve	45%	46%	44%
Disapprove	34%	26%	44%
Not Sure	21%	28%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Giannoulias Favorability			
Favorable	21%	20%	23%
Unfavorable	28%	23%	33%
Not Sure	51%	57%	44%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Kirk Favorability			
Favorable	24%	19%	30%
Unfavorable	23%	19%	28%
Not Sure	53%	62%	42%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Giannoulias/Kirk			
Giannoulias	33%	32%	34%
Kirk	37%	31%	43%
Undecided	30%	37%	23%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	50%	81%	7%	51%
Disapprove	42%	11%	89%	38%
Not Sure	8%	8%	4%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Repeal				
Yes	42%	17%	82%	37%
No	47%	71%	12%	50%
Not Sure	10%	13%	5%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Health Care				
Support	46%	75%	7%	44%
Oppose	43%	13%	87%	40%
No Opinion	11%	12%	6%	16%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Burris Approval				
Approve	18%	32%	5%	10%
Disapprove	54%	34%	78%	58%
Not Sure	29%	34%	17%	32%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Durbin Approval				
Approve	45%	63%	14%	50%
Disapprove	34%	10%	70%	31%
Not Sure	21%	26%	15%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Giannoulas Favorability				
Favorable	21%	28%	9%	24%
Unfavorable	28%	14%	48%	27%
Not Sure	51%	57%	43%	50%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Kirk Favorability				
Favorable	24%	8%	44%	25%
Unfavorable	23%	33%	13%	19%
Not Sure	53%	59%	43%	56%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Giannoulas/Kirk				
Giannoulas	33%	54%	7%	30%
Kirk	37%	10%	77%	33%
Undecided	30%	36%	16%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Obama Approval					
Approve	50%	51%	42%	90%	55%
Disapprove	42%	29%	52%	5%	27%
Not Sure	8%	20%	6%	5%	18%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Repeal					
Yes	42%	29%	51%	12%	30%
No	47%	49%	42%	71%	55%
Not Sure	10%	23%	7%	17%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Health Care					
Support	46%	46%	38%	83%	58%
Oppose	43%	31%	53%	5%	30%
No Opinion	11%	23%	10%	12%	12%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Burriss Approval					
Approve	18%	23%	10%	51%	21%
Disapprove	54%	49%	64%	15%	36%
Not Sure	29%	29%	26%	34%	42%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Durbin Approval					
Approve	45%	51%	41%	54%	61%
Disapprove	34%	23%	42%	7%	27%
Not Sure	21%	26%	17%	39%	12%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Giannoulias Favorability					
Favorable	21%	20%	19%	29%	27%
Unfavorable	28%	20%	32%	15%	24%
Not Sure	51%	60%	49%	56%	48%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Kirk Favorability					
Favorable	24%	29%	26%	15%	18%
Unfavorable	23%	20%	22%	29%	27%
Not Sure	53%	51%	53%	56%	55%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Giannoulias/Kirk					
Giannoulias	33%	26%	29%	49%	48%
Kirk	37%	26%	43%	17%	24%
Undecided	30%	49%	28%	34%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	50%	57%	48%	52%	47%
Disapprove	42%	41%	45%	41%	41%
Not Sure	8%	2%	6%	7%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Repeal					
Yes	42%	34%	47%	42%	39%
No	47%	58%	43%	50%	43%
Not Sure	10%	7%	10%	7%	18%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Health Care					
Support	46%	46%	44%	51%	38%
Oppose	43%	45%	45%	41%	42%
No Opinion	11%	9%	10%	8%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Burriss Approval					
Approve	18%	13%	12%	19%	23%
Disapprove	54%	54%	57%	55%	48%
Not Sure	29%	33%	31%	26%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Durbin Approval					
Approve	45%	42%	50%	41%	49%
Disapprove	34%	32%	33%	37%	32%
Not Sure	21%	26%	17%	23%	19%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Giannoulias Favorability					
Favorable	21%	23%	23%	21%	18%
Unfavorable	28%	35%	30%	26%	27%
Not Sure	51%	41%	47%	53%	55%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Kirk Favorability					
Favorable	24%	21%	25%	22%	27%
Unfavorable	23%	29%	23%	22%	23%
Not Sure	53%	50%	52%	56%	50%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Giannoulias/Kirk					
Giannoulias	33%	28%	35%	33%	31%
Kirk	37%	43%	37%	35%	39%
Undecided	30%	30%	28%	32%	29%

