



From: Katherine Patterson, Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

Subject: McConnell and Bevin Underwater on Favorability Among Kentucky Voters; Voters Think McConnell More Responsive to Big Donors Than Everyday Kentuckians

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A new Public Policy Polling survey finds Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin and Senator Mitch McConnell underwater on favorability among Kentucky voters. While 55% of voters have a favorable opinion of President Trump, only 39% have a favorable opinion of Senator McConnell, with a majority (51%) holding an unfavorable opinion. Governor Bevin's favorability is even worse at 34% of voters, with 53% holding an unfavorable opinion of Bevin. When matched with a generic Democrat in the governor's race, Bevin trails by 10% (49-39). Bevin even continues to trail a generic Democrat among white voters by 5% (47-42) and among independents by 28% (49-21).

A majority (63%) of voters think McConnell is more responsive to his big campaign donors than everyday Kentuckians. This includes a plurality of voters who supported President Trump in 2016 (46%), while only 35% of Trump supporters think McConnell responds to everyday Kentuckians. The two most important issues for Kentuckians are lowering the cost of health care and prescription drugs (25%) and ending political corruption (23%).

Funding from lobbyists and special interest PACs is also a concern, with a large majority of voters (71%) supporting new anti-corruption legislation preventing members of Congress from profiting from their offices, with only 6% in opposition. The legislation has bipartisan support among Kentuckians, with 73% of Republicans, 70% of independents, and 69% of Democrats. A further 61% think that politicians in Washington promote policies that help special interest groups who donate to their campaigns most of the time.

PPP surveyed 676 Kentucky voters from May 6-7, 2019. The margin of error is +/- 3.8%. This poll was conducted by telephone.

