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THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Hughes Center Poll: 9th District Republicans Lead Democrats Christie Favorability 2 to 1

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Contact: Daniel J. Douglas, Director, William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy
Daniel.Douglas@stockton.edu, (609) 626-3504, (C) 609-204-1314
Tim Kelly, Office of Public Relations
Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu, (609) 652-4950

Galloway, NJ— According to the Richard Stockton College/Zogby Poll commissioned by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy, likely voters in the new 9th Legislative District favor the incumbent Republican legislative team of Senator Chris Connors (R), Assemblywoman DiAnne Gove (R), and Assemblyman Brian Rumpf (R) over their Democratic challengers, Senate candidate Dorothy Ryan (D) and Assembly candidates Carla Kearney (D) and Bradley Billhimer (D).

Connors leads Ryan by nearly a 2 to 1 margin, garnering 46% of the vote compared to Ryan's 24%. Of the likely voters surveyed, 2% wanted someone else and 28% weren't sure.

Among the Assembly candidates, Assemblyman Brian Rumpf led all the candidates with 40%, followed by his running mate Assemblywoman DiAnne Gove at 32%, with the Democratic challengers Bradley Billhimer and Carla Kearney trailing with 22% and 21% respectively.

"The Democrats' chance of making up this much ground relies on their ability to convert nearly all of the 'not sures' to their voters. This is a difficult task for the challengers since less than 25% of the voters are familiar with them," explained Daniel J. Douglas, Director of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy.

When asked about whether New Jersey was headed in the right direction or was on the wrong track, 56% responded that the state was headed in the right direction while 36% thought New Jersey was on the wrong track.

In line with these numbers, Governor Chris Christie was viewed favorably by 67% of those polled, while 33% viewed him unfavorably.

President Barack Obama, however, found himself upside down in his favorability ratings, with 43% viewing him favorably and 56% viewing him unfavorably.

K-12 education, healthcare, economic development and senior citizen programs were identified as the top four New Jersey state budget areas that should receive priority funding.

The Stockton-Zogby poll* of 600 likely voters in the new 9th Legislative District was conducted from September 20 – 27. The poll has a margin of error of $\pm 4.1\%$.

9 th LD Senate Race			9 th LD Assembly Race		
Candidate	May	Sept	Candidate	May	Sept
	%	%		%	%
Christopher Connors	39	46	Brian E. Rumpf	35	40
Dorothy Ryan	27	24	Diane C. Gove	32	32
Someone else	3	2	Bradley Billhimer	26	22
Not sure	30	28	Carla Kearney	24	21
			Someone else	2	1
			Not sure	36	36

About the Hughes Center

The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey serves as a catalyst for research, analysis and innovative policy solutions on the economic, social and cultural issues facing New Jersey.

** IBOPE Zogby International is a non-partisan, premier global public opinion polling and market research firm that offers timely, accurate results and in-depth analysis and insights. IBOPE Zogby International was formed in January 2010 following the acquisition of Zogby International by IBOPE Inteligencia of Brazil, a subsidiary of IBOPE Group. Please visit www.ibopezogby.com for more information on IBOPE Zogby International.*