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James Lee, President

TO: General Media Distribution

FROM: Jim Lee, President

RE: **Statewide Poll Results: Governor [Primary only] and U.S. Senate**

DATE: 4/14/10

### Methodology:

This statewide poll was conducted April 7-12 with 700 likely general election voters for Premium Access Members and general distribution purposes. Only voters with prior vote history in general elections 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005 were contacted (as well as new registrants since January 2008), with a special emphasis on G07, G06 and G05 to reflect likely turnout in a non-presidential general election. Most poll respondents also have past primary vote history. In addition, a “vote intensity screen” was used to filter out voters unlikely to vote in the upcoming Democratic and Republican Primary Elections on Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> for both governor and U.S. Senate. Interviews are randomly selected and conducted via telephone from a statewide voter file using our professionally-trained survey research staff. Interviews are closely monitored to ensure a representative sample is achieved based on geography, party affiliation, gender, age and other demographics; results are sometimes statistically weighted. The margin of error for a sample size of 700 is +/-3.7% at the 95% confidence level, but 6.1% for the sub sample of 254 Republicans and 4.9% for the sub sample of 400 Democrats (which includes an oversample). The top line results are included.

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### General Overview

- President Obama’s job approval in the state is 42%, while 49% disapprove. This marks a reversal from our October ’09 survey when by a 50/37 margin most voters approved of the job he is doing. Moreover, the president’s job approval score in the Commonwealth is slightly **worse** than his job approval on a national level (an average of 46% approve - 46% disapprove according to realclearpolitics.com on 4/14), which could be a further ominous sign for Democratic incumbents in Pennsylvania because Keystone State voters usually vote a few points more Democratic than the nation based on past presidential elections. In Pennsylvania, Republicans disapprove of his job (83/12) while Democrats approve (68/21); Independents lean in opposition by a 49/35 margin.
- By a 48/43 margin, most Pennsylvanians oppose the new health care reform law, including a near 2:1 margin in “intensity” whereas 39% “strongly” oppose it (compared to only 21% who “strongly” favor it). Opposition includes 79% of Republicans and 49% of Independents, while 69% of Democrats favor the new law. Lack of majority support for the new law mirrors the national average to a large extent.

### U.S. Senate Race (Democratic Primary only)

- Sen. Specter holds a 42/28 lead over Congressman Joe Sestak with 26% undecided; 3% said neither or another candidate. Since Specter led Sestak 44/16 in our October '09 survey, this means his support remains relatively flat whereas Sestak has gained 12. **Typically, long term incumbents with support in the low forty percent range are thought to be vulnerable, which means Sestak still has an opportunity to pull off an upset if he is able to raise enough money to communicate a message.**

### U.S. Senate Race (General Election, Toomey v. Specter)

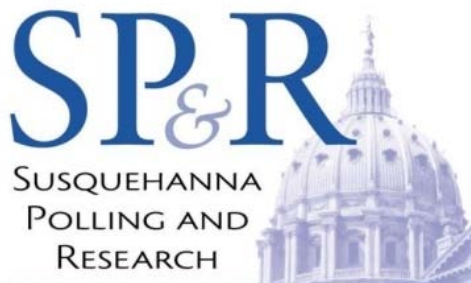
- Toomey has increased his lead to 48/38 over Sen. Specter in a hypothetical match-up for the general election, up from his 42/36 lead in our March survey and a reversal from Specter's narrow 42/41 margin over Toomey last October. Specter's drop could be affected by the unpopularity of the new health care law. A corresponding drop in the president's job approval numbers could also be working like an albatross around Specter's neck.
- Toomey leads Specter among most key demographic groups including Republicans (82/10), Independents (53/22), male voters (52/34), senior citizens (50/39), voters 45-59 (45/39) and even younger voters 18-44 when tend to vote more Democratic (53/31). Toomey also leads in most regions of the state including the Southwest (51/34), "T"/Central (55/30), Northeast (58/27) and South Central/Harrisburg (62/28). Toomey also leads narrowly in Allegheny County (44/41) and among females (44/42), the latter of which could be significant because it means Toomey is currently overcoming the traditional "gender gap" where females tend to vote more Democrat than Republican.
- Specter leads Toomey only among Democrats (64/19), as well as in the Northwest/Erie region (49/38), Southeast or 4 suburban counties around Philadelphia (47/39) and Philadelphia County (61/24).

### Governor's Race (Primary Election Only)

- In the GOP Primary, Attorney General Tom Corbett holds a commanding 50/7 lead over State Rep. Sam Rohrer; 40% remain undecided. Corbett leads in every region of the state including the Northwest (24/8), Southwest (53/0), "T"/Central (45/6), Northeast (51/10), South Central/Harrisburg (58/7), Southeast (50/10) and both Allegheny (57/0) and Philadelphia (44/0).
- In the Democratic Primary, Dan Onorato leads the 4-person field with 32%, compared to Jack Wagner at 6%, Joe Hoeffel at 13% and Anthony Williams at 4%; 43% remain undecided and 2% said neither or another candidate. After Onorato's less than 2 weeks of paid TV advertising in most media markets the poll confirms it is having an impact since he leads in all regions but for the Philadelphia media market. The following chart illustrates the regional strength of all four candidates.

#### **Geographic Regions of the Commonwealth**

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>N-West</u>	<u>S-West</u>	<u>T/Central</u>	<u>N-East</u>	<u>South Cen</u>	<u>S-East/Phila</u>	<u>Alleg</u>
Onorato	32%	<b>12%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>37%</b>	19%	<b>67%</b>
Wagner	06%	--	13%	13%	04%	03%	02%	07%
Hoeffel	13%	--	08%	05%	04%	09%	<b>27%</b>	02%
Williams	04%	--	--	05%	04%	05%	07%	02%
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Undecided	43%	83%	33%	61%	58%	46%	42%	26%



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**Final Top Line Survey Results**  
**Susquehanna Polling - Spring 2010 Statewide Poll**  
**Sample Size: 700 Registered Likely Voters**  
**(With Democrat Primary Voter Oversample, N=400)**  
**Conducted: April 7-12, 2010**

**INTRODUCTION:** We are conducting a survey of attitudes and opinions concerning some important issues facing Pennsylvania today. May we have a few minutes of your time to complete the survey?

Great, thank you...

Q1. What is the single most important problem facing Pennsylvania today? That is, the one you would like to see resolved by your state elected officials. (DO NOT READ CHOICES - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

1. Taxes	84	12%
2. Drugs/crime/violence	5	01%
<b>3. Economy/jobs/unemployment</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>43%</b>
4. Growth/development/traffic	2	00%
5. Streets/roads/transportation	26	04%
6. Utility rate caps	1	00%
7. Politicians/government	89	13%
8. Environment/Pollution	5	01%
9. Healthcare/prescription drugs	50	07%
10. Medicare/social security	5	01%
11. Education/schools	33	05%
12. Morality/family values	7	01%
13. Immigration/illegal aliens	3	00%
14. Quality of life issues	7	01%
15. Gas/energy prices	3	00%
16. Undecided/none	47	07%
17. Other	33	05%

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Q2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job President Barack Obama is doing?

			<u>10/09</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Approve	292	42%	50%	-8
2. Disapprove	343	49%	37%	+12
3. Undecided	64	09%	13%	-4

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Q3. Do you support or oppose the new healthcare reform law recently enacted by President Obama and the national Democrats in Washington? (TEST INTENSITY)

1. Strongly support	150	21%	<b>Total Support: 43%</b>
2. Somewhat support	151	22%	<b>Total Oppose: 48%</b>
3. Strongly oppose	276	39%	
4. Somewhat oppose	58	08%	
5. Undecided	62	09%	

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Q4. Are you registered to vote as a Republican, Democrat, Independent or something else?

1. Republican	287	41%
2. Democrat	350	50%
3. Independent/other	63	09%

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[IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK Q5; IF NOT SKIP TO Q9]

**Thinking ahead to the upcoming primary election for United States Senate and governor on Tuesday, May 18...**

Q5. Would you rank your chances of voting in this election as excellent, good, fair, or poor?

**[N=637]**

			<u>Dem Only</u>
1. Excellent	444	70%	73%
2. Good	115	18%	27%
3. Fair	54	09%	--
4. Poor	20	03%	--
5. Undecided	4	01%	--

[IF FAIR/POOR, SKIP TO Q9; IF REPUBLICAN SKIP TO Q6, IF DEMOCRAT SKIP TO Q7-Q8]

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Q6. If the Republican primary election for governor were being held today, would you vote for Tom Corbett or Sam Rohrer (Roar)? (ROTATE NAMES)

**[N=254]**

1. Corbett	127	50%
2. Rohrer	17	07%
3. None/other	9	03%
4. Undecided	101	40%

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Q7. If the Democratic primary election for United States Senate were being held today, would you vote for Arlen Specter or Joe Sestak? (ROTATE NAMES)

**[N=400]**

			<u>10/09</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Specter	169	42%	44%	-2
2. Sestak	111	28%	16%	+12
3. None/other	11	03%	18%	-15
4. Undecided	104	26%	22%	+4
5. Refuse	5	01%	00%	+1

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Q8. If the Democratic primary election for governor were being held today, would you vote for Dan Onorato (Honor-otto), Jack Wagner, Joe Hoeffel, or Anthony Williams? (ROTATE NAMES)

**[N=400]**

1. Onorato	126	32%
2. Wagner	23	06%
3. Hoeffel	50	13%
4. Williams	17	04%
5. None/other	8	02%
6. Undecided	172	43%
7. Refuse	5	01%

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Q9. Have you recently seen, read, or heard anything on television, the radio, in the newspaper, on the internet, or through any other source about the candidates for governor? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

**[N=385]**

1. TV - news only	68	18%	<b>Total Yes: 60%</b>
2. TV - paid advertising	129	34%	
3. Radio	25	07%	
4. Newspaper	72	19%	
5. Internet	31	08%	
6. Friends/family	4	01%	
7. Other	8	02%	
8. No	151	39%	
9. Undecided	3	01%	

**Thinking ahead to the general election in November...**

Q10. If the general election for United States Senate were being held today, would you vote for Pat Toomey, the Republican, or Arlen Specter, the Democrat? (ROTATE NAMES)

			<u>3/10</u>	<u>10/09</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Toomey	336	48%	42%	41%	+7
2. Specter	267	38%	36%	42%	-4
3. None/other	22	03%	04%	04%	-1
4. Undecided	69	10%	18%	12%	-2
5. Refuse	7	01%	00%	00%	+1

**Now, I have a few more questions for demographic purposes and then we'll be through...**

Q11. What is your approximate age according to the following brackets: 18-29, 30-44, 45-59 or 60 and over?

			<u>Dem Only</u>
1. 18-29	34	05%	04%
2. 30-44	103	15%	12%
3. 45-59	309	44%	46%
4. 60+	236	34%	36%
5. Refuse	18	03%	02%

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY. HAVE A GOOD DAY.**

Gender:

			<u>Dem Only</u>
1. Male	336	48%	46%
2. Female	364	52%	54%

Area:

			<b><u>Dem Only</u></b>
34	(05%)	1. <b>Northwest</b> [Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Warren, Forest]	04%
85	(12%)	2. <b>Southwest</b> [Lawrence, Beaver, Washington, Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Indiana, Armstrong, Butler]	15%
97	(14%)	3. <b>The "T"/Central</b> [Jefferson, Elk, McKean, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Centre, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, Franklin, Huntingdon, Blair, Potter, Tioga, Bradford, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Sullivan, Lycoming, Clinton, Union, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Mifflin, Juniata]	10%
91	(13%)	4. <b>Northeast/Lehigh Valley</b> [Luzerne, Carbon, Monroe, Schuylkill, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne]	13%
113	(16%)	5. <b>South Central</b> [Perry, Cumberland, Adams, York, Lancaster, Lebanon, Dauphin, Berks]	09%
138	(20%)	6. <b>Southeast</b> [Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks]	18%
79	(11%)	7. <b>Allegheny County</b>	14%
64	(09%)	8. <b>Philadelphia</b>	17%

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Times voted last four general elections:

			<b><u>Dem Only</u></b>
1X	68	10%	12%
2X	221	32%	26%
3X	190	27%	29%
4X	220	31%	33%

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The margin of error for a sample size of 700 is +/-3.70%

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The margin of error for a sample size of 400 Democrats is +/-4.90%

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The margin of error for a sample size of 254 Republicans is +/-6.15%

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