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Schuette & James Have Big Leads in GOP Primary
Epstein Leads in GOP Race in 11th Congressional Race

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette (40%) leads Lt. Gov. Brian Calley (18%) by 22% with Dr. Jim Hines (10%), and state Senator Patrick Colbeck (9%) fighting for third place in the race for the Republican nomination for governor according to a statewide poll commissioned by MIRS (Michigan Information Research Services) and conducted by Mitchell Research Communications of likely voters in the upcoming August 7th Republican Primary Election. Twenty-three percent of the voters were undecided.

The poll also shows John James (44%) moving into a big lead over Sandy Pensler (30%) in the campaign for the GOP nomination for U.S. Senate to challenge Democratic incumbent Senator Debbie Stabenow. Twenty-six percent were undecided in that race.

In a separate poll conducted in the 11th Congressional District GOP Primary to replace retiring Congressman Dave Trott, Lena Epstein (26.5%) leads Rocky Raczkowski (18%), former Congressman Kerry Bentivolio (14%) state Rep. Klint Kesto (11%) and state Sen. Mike Kowall (10%). Twenty percent were undecided.

The IVR (Interactive Voice Response) automated statewide survey of N=413 Likely GOP Primary voters was conducted Monday, July 30, 2018. It has a Margin of Error of + or – 5% at the 95% level of confidence. The poll of the 11th CD was also conducted July 30th of N=305 likely Republican Party Primary voters in the district and has a Margin of Error of 5.66%.

"Both Bill Schuette and John James seem to be benefitting from the endorsement of President Donald Trump who has a very high job approval among GOP Primary voters. Nine-in-ten (91%) approve of the job Trump is doing as president with 80% saying they 'strongly approve' and 11% saying they 'somewhat approve.' Schuette leads 46%-13% with the 80% that 'strongly approve' of Trump while Calley leads 56%-13% with the 8% that disapprove of Trump's job. Clearly, Trump's endorsement of Schuette is a major help," Steve Mitchell, president of Mitchell Research said.

"The Senate race was trending towards James over the past two weeks, but James led by only 1% a week ago before the Trump endorsement of his candidacy and he now leads by 14% since Trump endorsed," Mitchell continued.

"Lena Epstein benefits from her ability to self-fund her campaign and being the only woman in a five way race. Rocky Raczkowski is a former state representative and he is nipping at her heals. The last week will determine who wins, but Epstein does have advantages the other men candidates do not," Mitchell said.

Among key demographics in the gubernatorial race: (This information shows the percentages for the top two candidates.)

By gender:

- Schuette leads with men (43%-21%) and with women (38%-16%).

By age:

- Calley and Schuette are tied with 18-44 year olds (27%), but Schuette leads with 45-64 year olds (36%-18%) and with 65 and older voters (44-18%).
- The percentage of the voters in each age category surveyed is consistent with likely turnout in the August 2018 GOP Primary Election.

By Area:

- Schuette leads Calley in all areas.
  - Wayne (44%-16%)
  - Oakland (38%-22%)
  - Macomb/St. Clair (50%-21%)
  - Saginaw/Genesee/Bay City/Thumb (37%-18%)
  - West Michigan (42%-19%)
  - Mid-Michigan – Washtenaw/Monroe (36%-20%)
  - Northern Michigan/U.P (39%-13%)

Among key demographics in the U.S. Senate race: (This information shows the percentages for the top two candidates, the rest of the voters are undecided.)

By gender:

- James leads with men (51%-30%) and with women (38%-30%).

By age:

- James leads with 18-44 year olds (64%-9%), with 45-64 year olds (45%-26%), and with 65 and older voters (41-34%).
- The percentage of the voters in each age category surveyed is consistent with likely turnout in the August 2018 GOP Primary Election.

By Area:

- James leads Pensler in:
  - Wayne (49%-31%)
  - Oakland (53%-27%)
  - Macomb/St. Clair (57%-29%)

- West Michigan (42%-30%)
    - Mid-Michigan – Washtenaw/Monroe (51%-19%)
- Pensler leads James in:
    - Saginaw/Genesee/Bay City/Thumb (37%-18%)
    - Northern Michigan/U.P (39%-13%)

[The poll was conducted by Mitchell Research and Communications of East Lansing, MI President is Steve Mitchell @SteveMitchell40 and SteveMitchell40@gmail.com]