

To: Interested Parties

From: GBA Strategies

Date: October 22, 2012

Bustos Pulls Ahead of Schilling

The race for the 17th congressional district has shifted in Democrat Cheri Bustos' favor. Bustos now leads incumbent Republican Bobby Schilling 49 – 45 percent¹. Voters are still getting to know Bustos better and when undecided voters are allocated according to partisanship, Bustos' lead expands further to 52 – 45 percent.

A late-September survey showed Bustos surging, pulling to within 2-points (45 – 47 percent) of Schilling², after previously trailing by 10 points. Since then, her momentum has continued unabated. This is the 4th survey in the last month to show Bustos either ahead or within the margin of error.

President Obama continues to perform well in this district. He leads Mitt Romney 53 – 41 percent, holding the same margin over his Republican opponent we saw last month in a district he carried by 20 points in 2008.

	Bustos	Schilling	<i>Difference</i>
January 30-Feb 1	40	50	-10
September 24-26	45	47	-2
October 16-18	49	45	+4

¹ Survey of 450 likely voters conducted by GBA Strategies between October 16-18, 2012. Respondents were reached on land lines and cell phones. Results have a margin of error of +/- 4.6 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence interval.

² Survey of 600 likely voters conducted by GBA Strategies between September 24-26, 2012. Respondents were reached on land lines and cell phones. Results have a margin of error of +/- 4.0 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence interval.