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Blagojevich Ad Barrage Takes Toll on Topinka Support: 41%-34%

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Only 41% Say Blagojevich Administration Less Corrupt Then Ryan Administration

Rod Blagojevich has taken a 41%-34% lead over Republican challenger Judy Baar Topinka in the latest survey of registered Illinois voters done by the Glengariff Group, Inc. In a survey conducted in early April, Judy Baar Topinka held a 44%-41% lead over Rod Blagojevich.

"Two months of Blagojevich advertising has taken a toll on her support levels," said Richard Czuba, President of the Glengariff Group, Inc. "Topinka's support has fallen ten percent driven largely by an erosion of support within her own party. In April 2006, Topinka had the support of 81% of Republican voters. Today she has the support of 65% of Republican voters." Topinka's support among Independent voters has held steady at 39%. "Quite simply, Judy Baar Topinka needs to re-energize her Republican base of support."

The 600 sample, random digit dial survey of registered Illinois voters was conducted June 1-3, 2006. The survey not commissioned by any candidate and has a margin of error of +/-4.0%.

"While the challenger's numbers have taken a hit, Rod Blagojevich appears to be stuck at 41% of the vote and unable to translate undecided voters into his camp", said Czuba. "Rod Blagojevich has hovered from 39% to 41% for the past eight months and has been unable to build on his support levels. For an incumbent Governor to consistently poll only 41%, and hold only 71% support among his Democrat base should be a cause for concern for his re-election campaign."

Plurality of Voters Question Blagojevich Anti-Corruption Credentials

Respondents were asked if the Blagojevich administration had less corruption, more corruption or the same amount of corruption than that of his predecessor George Ryan. 43% of voters said that the Blagojevich administration was as corrupt, or more corrupt, than that of Governor George Ryan. 41% of voters said that the Blagojevich administration was less corrupt than his predecessor.

"The corruption factor appears to be the great divide in this race," said Czuba. "Among voters who think the Blagojevich administration is less corrupt, he leads by a 60%-23% margin. Among voters who think the Blagojevich administration is as or more corrupt than that of Ryan, Topinka leads by a 53%-25% margin.

Treasurer's Race Within Margin of Error

The race for State Treasurer finds Democrat Alexi Giannoulias leading Republican Christine Radogno by a 30%-26% margin – within the survey's four percent margin of error. While support for Radogno has remained consistent, Giannoulias' support has dropped from 38% to 30%.

"Any benefits Alexi Giannoulias experienced from the added exposure of a visible primary campaign have essentially disappeared, "said Czuba. "42% of the electorate is undecided with each candidate essentially bringing in their hard core party support. It is certainly either candidate's race to win or lose at this point."