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Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2011-II-03]

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BREWER APPLAUDED BY CONSERVATIVES LEGISLATURE DRAWS THUMBS DOWN FROM ALL, INCLUDING CONSERVATIVES

Phoenix, Arizona. May 11, 2011. Forty-five percent of the most conservative voters in Arizona believe Jan Brewer is doing a good job as governor, a reading nearly three times stronger than the proportion who rate her performance as “poor”.

Among these same very conservative voters, however, only 20 percent give the GOP-dominated state legislature a “good” job rating, while 24 percent rate the legislature’s performance as “poor.” Among “conservatives” (which for analysis purposes includes those who rate themselves as “conservative” but not those who self-identify as “very conservative”) the ratings are even more sour: 38 percent giving the legislature “poor” ratings and only 24 percent saying they are doing a “good” job. Such ratings suggest that the GOP-controlled legislature is out of touch with many of its core conservative supporters. And it is most certainly out of touch with most political moderates and registered Independents whose negative assessments of the legislature outpace favorable ones by better than two to one.

Overall, Governor Jan Brewer is rebuilding public regard for her performance as the state’s chief executive, even though her overall job rating still tips slightly to the negative. The proportion assessing her performance as “good” rose to 29 percent in April compared to only 21 percent in January of 2010 when we last measured. At the same time, however, her negative job ratings edged upward from 29 to 31 percent during the same period so she appears to be an enigma to many. Views toward the Governor remain very partisan with over half of Democrats giving her “poor” marks. Independents and moderates give her very mixed reviews while Republicans and conservatives generally lean toward approving of her performance.

(Continue)

The public view of the state legislature is fundamentally sour with negative assessments at 35 percent but only 16 percent giving a good job rating. Low esteem for the law-making body in Arizona has been true since 2009 but what is astonishing about the current view of this legislature is that more conservatives, political moderates, Independents and Republicans give the legislature “poor” ratings than are willing to say it has been doing a “good” job. In every geographic region of the state, negative ratings exceed positive ones and as might be expected large majorities of Democrats and political liberals rate as “poor” the performance of the legislature. In short, dissatisfaction with the legislature reaches into every crack and cranny of the state.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2011-II-03), is based on 700 interviews with adult heads of household statewide, conducted between April 15 and 30, 2011. Interviewing was conducted in both English and Spanish by professional interviewers of the Behavior Research Center on both landlines and cell phones. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, race and political party were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of this size, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.8 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program sponsored by the Center.

This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

ENCLOSED: Statistical tables.

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
RMP (2011-II-03)

For this and other polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results.

JOB RATING: ACROSS ARIZONA

	Excellent Good	Fair	Poor/ Very Poor	Net Pos to Neg.
<u>GOVERNOR JAN BREWER</u>				
April 2011	29%	30%	31%	-2
Jan 2010	21	30	29	-8
Sept 2009	22	29	28	-6
Detail April 2011 for Brewer				
Republicans	44	38	12	+32
Independents	34	25	36	-2
Democrats	20	27	51	-31
Liberals	16	21	52	-36
Moderates	26	32	31	-5
Conservatives	33	42	22	+11
Very conservative	45	30	16	+29
<u>ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE</u>				
April 2011	16%	30%	35%	-19
January 2010	15	28	37	-22
April 2009	15	37	35	-20
March 2007	28	39	12	+16
January 2006	30	37	14	+16
Detail April 2011 for Legislature				
Republicans	23	35	27	-4
Independents	16	34	39	-23
Democrats	14	26	54	-40
Liberals	16	19	55	-39
Moderates	14	32	36	-22
Conservatives	24	31	38	-14
Very conservative	20	41	24	-4

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