



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2009-II-04]

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PUBLIC SAYS GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE DOING “TOO LITTLE” ABOUT ENERGY TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES AND PROTECTING CONSUMERS FROM HIGH ENERGY COSTS

Phoenix, Arizona, May 14, 2009. Nine of ten Maricopa County residents have opinions regarding whether the state legislature is meeting their expectations for bringing solar and other alternative energy technologies to the state and about the job it is doing to protect consumers from high energy costs. Three out of four residents have an opinion about Governor Brewer on each issue.

Six of ten residents with an opinion believe both the legislature and Governor Brewer are doing “too little” on either front. Only about three in ten disagree.

On the issue of efforts being made to attract solar and other alternative energy technologies to Arizona, criticism is particularly vigorous toward the legislature among Republicans and upper income segments of the population. Thus, 68 percent of registered Republicans and 76 percent of upper income families with an opinion are critical of the legislature. The “doing too little” rating for the governor drops to under 50 percent among Republicans but remains high among upper income segments (59%). None of the readings reveal much confidence among Republicans as to what has been accomplished to date.

Although Democrats and Independents with opinions on these issues are critical of both the executive and legislative branches' efforts to attract new energy technology to the state, it is in the area of their efforts to protect consumers from rising energy costs that the real torque is felt. Thus, 63 percent of Independents are critical of the legislature and the “doing too little” figure for that issue rises to a whopping 83 percent when assessing the governor's actions.

-30-

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
RMP 2009-II-04

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

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2009-II-04), is based on 500 interviews with adult heads of household across Maricopa County, conducted between April 13 and 21, 2009. 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 3.5 percent of what they would have been had the entire voter 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.

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ENCLOSED: Statistical data for reference.

“Would you say (the State Legislature/Governor Jan Brewer) is doing too little, about the right amount or too much as in regards to:

- 1.) Helping bring solar and other alternative energy technologies to Arizona?*
- 2) Working to protect consumers from rising energy costs?”*

	ALL ADULTS		THOSE WITH AN OPINION	
	Attracting Alternative Energy	Energy Costs	Attracting Alternative Energy	Energy Costs
<u>LEGISLATURE</u>				
Too little	54%	56%	59%	61%
Right amount	35	31	38	34
Too much	2	5	3	5
Don't know	9	8	0	0
<u>GOVERNOR BREWER</u>				
Too little	46	47	60	66
Right amount	26	22	34	31
Too much	5	3	6	3
Don't know	23	28	0	0

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*“Attracting solar and other alternative energy technology to Arizona”*

(As Percent of Those with an Opinion)

% Answering **“Doing Too Little”**

|                 | LEGISLATURE* | GOVERNOR BREWER** |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| TOTAL           | 59%          | 60%               |
| Republicans     | 68           | 48                |
| Independents    | 53           | 65                |
| Democrats       | 63           | 72                |
| <u>INCOME</u>   |              |                   |
| Under \$100,000 | 59           | 62                |
| Over \$100,000  | 76           | 59                |
| <u>AGE</u>      |              |                   |
| Under 35        | 50           | 58                |
| 35 to 54        | 67           | 63                |
| 55+             | 60           | 55                |

\* 91 percent have an opinion of the legislature’s performance on this issue

\*\* 77 percent have an opinion of the Governor’s performance on this issue

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“Working to protect consumers from rising energy costs”

(As Percent of Those with an Opinion)

% Answering **“Doing Too Little”**

	LEGISLATURE*	GOVERNOR BREWER**
TOTAL	61%	66%
Republicans	60	52
Independents	63	83
Democrats	59	67
<u>INCOME</u>		
Under \$100,000	65	65
Over \$100,000	50	68
<u>AGE</u>		
Under 35	59	64
35 to 54	60	65
55+	66	63

* 92 percent have an opinion of the legislature’s performance on this issue

** 72 percent have an opinion of the Governor’s performance on this issue

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