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Subject: Maine Governor's Race Remains Close, Cutler Losing Support

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Public Policy Polling's newest survey of the Maine Governor's race continues to find a tight contest with Mike Michaud at 43% to 42% for Paul LePage. Eliot Cutler trails in a distant third at 11%. We attribute the closeness of the race to a continued split among progressive-leaning voters. Without Cutler's presence in the race, his supporters would overwhelmingly choose Michaud over LePage; in a two way matchup between Michaud and LePage, Michaud's lead would be 50/46.

Key findings from the survey include:

-Michaud's support has been steady at 43-44% in all of PPP's Maine polling so far in 2014. He is winning independent voters with 43% to 35% for LePage and 16% for Cutler. He is also benefiting from a dominant lead with women, getting 49% to 38% for LePage, and 10% for Cutler. Michaud is showing broad appeal by leading with both seniors and young voters.

-Cutler is becoming a less viable candidate as we get closer to Election Day. When PPP started polling in this contest in January of 2013, Cutler was at 26%. By August of last year, he had dropped down to 18%, then to 14% this April, and now he's at his lowest level of support yet at 11%. Cutler is in a distant third place even with independents, despite being an independent.

-53% of Cutler's supporters say they would pick Michaud in a head to head contest, compared to only 32% who say they would vote for LePage. The support he's pulling from Michaud could be enough to reelect LePage in this razor thin contest.

Paul LePage is one of the most unpopular governors in the country, and most voters in Maine want to replace him. Given the closeness of the race right now, they will need to unify around one of the two candidates challenging LePage. This poll is further confirmation that Michaud is the only candidate with the support necessary to defeat LePage in November.



PPP interviewed 1,059 likely voters on September 8th and 9th. The margin of error for the poll is +/-3.0%. This survey was conducted on behalf of Maine Conservation Voters Action Fund, paid for by Maine Conservation Voters Action Fund, 295 Water Street, Suite 9, Augusta, Maine and NOT PAID FOR OR AUTHORIZED BY ANY CANDIDATE.





Maine Survey Results

Q1 If the candidates for Governor this fall were independent Eliot Cutler, Republican Paul LePage, and Democrat Mike Michaud, who would you vote for?

<i>Eliot Cutler</i>	11%
<i>Paul LePage</i>	42%
<i>Mike Michaud</i>	43%
<i>Undecided</i>	3%

Q2 If you had to choose between just Republican Paul LePage and Democrat Mike Michaud for Governor, who would you vote for?

<i>Paul LePage</i>	46%
<i>Mike Michaud</i>	50%
<i>Not sure</i>	4%

Q3 If a candidate for Governor opposed efforts to keep our waters in Maine safe and clean, including rivers, lakes, and drinking water, would that make you more or less likely to vote for him, or would it not make a difference?

<i>More likely</i>	19%
<i>Less likely</i>	47%
<i>Wouldn't make a difference</i>	28%
<i>Not sure</i>	6%

Q4 In the last presidential election, did you vote for Barack Obama or Mitt Romney?

<i>Barack Obama</i>	53%
<i>Mitt Romney</i>	40%
<i>Someone else / Don't remember</i>	7%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	53%
<i>Man</i>	47%

Q6 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i>	35%
<i>Republican</i>	34%
<i>Independent / Other</i>	30%

Q7 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

<i>White</i>	92%
<i>Other</i>	8%

Q8 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

<i>18 to 29</i>	10%
<i>30 to 45</i>	18%
<i>46 to 65</i>	48%
<i>Older than 65</i>	24%





	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else / Don't remember
Gov				
Eliot Cutler	11%	13%	9%	14%
Paul LePage	42%	11%	83%	45%
Mike Michaud	43%	73%	6%	25%
Undecided	3%	2%	3%	15%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else / Don't remember
LePage/Michaud Head to Head				
Paul LePage	46%	14%	88%	53%
Mike Michaud	50%	83%	8%	30%
Not sure	4%	3%	4%	17%

	Base	2012 Vote		
		Barack Obama	Mitt Romney	Someone else / Don't remember
Anti-Enviro Candidate				
More likely	19%	22%	16%	15%
Less likely	47%	61%	28%	45%
Wouldn't make a difference	28%	11%	51%	31%
Not sure	6%	6%	5%	9%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gov			
Eliot Cutler	11%	10%	12%
Paul LePage	42%	38%	47%
Mike Michaud	43%	49%	36%
Undecided	3%	2%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
LePage/Michaud Head to Head			
Paul LePage	46%	41%	52%
Mike Michaud	50%	56%	43%
Not sure	4%	3%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Anti-Enviro Candidate			
More likely	19%	19%	19%
Less likely	47%	46%	48%
Wouldn't make a difference	28%	28%	28%
Not sure	6%	7%	5%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent / Other
Gov				
Eliot Cutler	11%	10%	9%	16%
Paul LePage	42%	13%	78%	35%
Mike Michaud	43%	75%	10%	43%
Undecided	3%	1%	3%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent / Other
LePage/Michaud Head to Head				
Paul LePage	46%	17%	83%	39%
Mike Michaud	50%	81%	14%	54%
Not sure	4%	2%	3%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent / Other
Anti-Enviro Candidate				
More likely	19%	23%	15%	19%
Less likely	47%	60%	32%	49%
Wouldn't make a difference	28%	12%	47%	25%
Not sure	6%	5%	6%	7%





	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Gov			
Eliot Cutler	11%	11%	11%
Paul LePage	42%	43%	33%
Mike Michaud	43%	42%	51%
Undecided	3%	3%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
LePage/Michaud Head to Head			
Paul LePage	46%	47%	42%
Mike Michaud	50%	49%	54%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Anti-Enviro Candidate			
More likely	19%	19%	26%
Less likely	47%	47%	45%
Wouldn't make a difference	28%	29%	23%
Not sure	6%	6%	6%





	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gov					
Eliot Cutler	11%	15%	10%	11%	12%
Paul LePage	42%	36%	45%	43%	40%
Mike Michaud	43%	45%	44%	42%	44%
Undecided	3%	4%	2%	4%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
LePage/Michaud Head to Head					
Paul LePage	46%	45%	51%	46%	43%
Mike Michaud	50%	51%	46%	50%	53%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Anti-Enviro Candidate					
More likely	19%	35%	17%	16%	22%
Less likely	47%	31%	51%	50%	43%
Wouldn't make a difference	28%	22%	30%	30%	26%
Not sure	6%	12%	1%	4%	9%

