

October 19, 2012

To: Interested Parties

Fr: John Anzalone / Zac McCrary

Re: Summary of General Election Polling Results in Illinois CD-08

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Democrat Tammy Duckworth holds a commanding lead (54% to 39%) over Republican incumbent Joe Walsh in Illinois' newly-configured 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Duckworth is dramatically more popular than Walsh, and roughly half of 8<sup>th</sup> District voters give Walsh a negative job rating for his time in Congress. The fundamentally Democratic nature of this district also works in Duckworth's favor, and Barack Obama appears poised to carry the 8<sup>th</sup> by double digits. With Election Day slightly more than two weeks away, Tammy Duckworth should be considered a strong favorite to represent the 8<sup>th</sup> District in the next Congress.

**Tammy Duckworth leads Joe Walsh by 15 points and is already earning over 50% of the vote.**

- Less than three weeks from Election Day, Tammy Duckworth is earning majority support among 8<sup>th</sup> District voters and leading Joe Walsh by 15 points (54% Duckworth / 39% Walsh).
- With Duckworth already over 50%, Walsh could consolidate undecided voters (7%) and still trail by 8 points.

**Beyond the head-to-head vote, Duckworth is substantially more popular than Walsh.**

- A net 13-point margin of 8<sup>th</sup> District voters rate Duckworth favorably (49% Favorable / 36% Unfavorable), compared to a 9-point plurality who have an unfavorable view of Walsh (35% Favorable / 44% Unfavorable).
- Walsh's weak job rating is even more ominous for the incumbent than his popularity measure. A near-majority gives Walsh a negative rating (39% Positive / 49% Negative) for the job he's doing in Congress.
- Additionally, as the campaign has progressed over the past few weeks, voters indicate they have become *more* favorable toward Duckworth (45% More / 34% Less) and *less* favorable toward Walsh (30% More / 45% Less).

**The 8<sup>th</sup> District's fundamental Democratic lean is also a real asset for Duckworth.**

- President Obama leads Mitt Romney by double digits (53% Obama / 41% Romney).
- A 10-point margin indicates they generally prefer Democrats (49%) to Republicans (39%) in congressional races.

Anzalone Liszt Research conducted N=400 live telephone interviews with likely 2012 General Election voters in IL CD-08. Interviews were conducted October 16-18, 2012. Respondents were selected at random, with interviews apportioned geographically based on past voter turnout. Expected margin of sampling error is ±4.9 with a 95% confidence level.