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### **BLUMENTHAL MAINTAINS LEAD OVER McMAHON LARSON, COURTNEY AND DeLAURO HOLD WIDE LEADS OVER OPPONENTS**

HARTFORD, CT (October 28, 2010) - Democratic U.S. Senate Candidate Richard Blumenthal and Democratic Representatives John Larson, Joe Courtney and Rosa DeLauro have comfortable leads over their opponents according to the CT Capitol Report poll released today. Democrat Richard Blumenthal has 52 percent to Republican Linda McMahon's 44 percent, Representative Larson has 56 percent to Republican Ann Brickley's 38 percent, Representative DeLauro has 56 percent to Republican Jerry Labriola's 37 percent and Representative Courtney has 57 percent to Republican Janet Peckinpaugh's 38 percent.

The poll was commissioned by CT Capitol Report and conducted by the Merriman River Group. The survey of the U.S. Senate race polled 1,846 likely voters on October 24-26, 2010 with a margin of error of +/- 2.3 percent points. 2.5 percent of those surveyed are still unsure of who they will support in the race.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> congressional district, 423 voters were surveyed of which 3.1 percent are still unsure of whom they will support. There is a margin of error of +/- 4.8 percent.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> congressional district, 397 voters were surveyed of which 3.0 percent are still unsure of whom they will support. There is a margin of error of +/- 4.9 percent.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> congressional district, 388 voters were surveyed and 4.4 percent are still unsure of whom they will support. There is a margin of error of +/- 5.0 percent.

“While individual polls have varied on the size of Blumenthal's lead, it has remained constant and comfortable in our survey since the beginning of October,” says the poll’s Executive Director Matthew Fitch. “It appears that McMahan has reached her maximum level of support, and her only chance of winning would seem to be a total collapse in Democratic turnout, particularly among women where she fares the worst.

“One of McMahan's worst demographic areas is the 25-point deficit among respondents who have a post-graduate degree, which constitutes a sizable percentage of the population in Connecticut. Further, while we usually think of Evangelical Christian voters as one of the strongest segments of the Republican base, McMahan is only winning 51-43 among them. Her message may be appealing to unaffiliated and non-traditional voters, but it does not appear to be reaching the more religion-oriented voters.”

Fitch added, “By far the largest change since our early October polling is in the 1<sup>st</sup> congressional district. At the time, we showed Congressman John Larson with a smaller than expected lead. Since then he has increased the spread by about 5 points in both directions. His major area of improvement seems to have been in picking up some voters that do not approve of the President's job performance. He is now attracting 20 percent of respondents who disapprove of President Obama and is ahead within the margin of error among men. At the same time, he retains his wide lead among women and those who approve of the President's job performance. Larson enjoys a very traditional Democratic split when it comes to educational level completed: he holds wide leads among the most and least educated voters, and is fairly even with voters who have attended some college or earned a college degree.

“In the second congressional district, Congressman Joe Courtney has retained his wide lead over Janet Peckinpaugh, and once again the gender gap tells the story. While Courtney leads somewhat narrowly among men, he has a 63-32 lead among women, which Peckinpaugh has not been able to cut into.

“In Connecticut’s third congressional district, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro continues to enjoy a wide lead and appears to be headed for a 20+ point win. The question is not whether DeLauro will win, but if she will be able to help deliver a big enough turnout in New Haven to benefit Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan Malloy.”

### About CTCapitolReport.com

[CT Capitol Report](#) is published and edited by veteran political professional Tom Dudchik. Since its launch in 2009 its readership has grown exponentially and it is widely considered the most comprehensive website for Connecticut political news.

### About Merriman River Group

With offices in Hamden, CT and Los Angeles, CA, Merriman River Group is a full service consulting organization specializing in election supervision and administration, public opinion research, and communication services. In 2010, Merriman River Group launched their NexGen IVR polling system, which offers professional grade polling and analysis with reduced costs and faster completion time. NexGen IVR has been used in public and private polling from New England to Hawaii this year, with accuracy far exceeding traditional polling methods. For more information on Merriman River Group, please visit [www.merrimanriver.com](http://www.merrimanriver.com).

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CT Capitol Report Poll  
Section 3: Senate Race

Sample = 1,846; Margin of Error = +/- 2.3%

Senate

	Frequency	Percent
Blumenthal	957	51.8
McMahon	809	43.8
Unsure	47	2.5
Neither	33	1.8
Total	1846	100.0

**Senate \* Obama\_Condensed Crosstabulation**

% within Obama\_Condensed

		Obama_Condensed		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
Senate	Blumenthal	90.3%	14.5%	48.5%
	McMahon	6.8%	80.8%	18.2%
	Unsure	1.8%	2.7%	18.2%
	Neither	1.1%	2.0%	15.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Obama\_Condensed \* Senate Crosstabulation**

% within Senate

		Senate			
		Blumenthal	McMahon	Unsure	Neither
Obama_Condensed	Approve	84.4%	7.5%	34.0%	30.3%
	Disapprove	13.9%	91.7%	53.2%	54.5%
	Unsure	1.7%	.7%	12.8%	15.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Senate \* CD Crosstabulation

% within CD

		CD				
		1	2	3	4	5
Senate	Blumenthal	56.7%	52.9%	52.8%	49.1%	45.8%
	McMahon	37.8%	43.6%	42.9%	46.1%	50.8%
	Unsure	2.6%	2.3%	2.7%	3.9%	1.3%
	Neither	2.8%	1.3%	1.6%	.9%	2.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Senate \* Gender Crosstabulation**

% within Gender

		Gender	
		female	male
Senate	Blumenthal	57.3%	43.9%
	McMahon	38.9%	51.3%
	Unsure	2.3%	2.8%
	Neither	1.5%	2.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%





Senate \* Education Crosstabulation

% within Education

		Education				
		High School or less	Some College	College Graduate	Graduate Plus	Post Grad Degree
Senate	Blumenthal	51.9%	49.1%	44.8%	51.1%	60.8%
	McMahon	43.8%	46.1%	52.4%	44.3%	36.1%
	Unsure	3.4%	3.3%	1.5%	3.0%	1.3%
	Neither	.9%	1.5%	1.3%	1.7%	1.8%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Senate \* Politics Crosstabulation**

% within Politics

		Politics			
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Unsure
Senate	Blumenthal	89.8%	57.6%	13.6%	61.9%
	McMahon	8.2%	37.6%	84.4%	28.4%
	Unsure	1.0%	3.1%	1.1%	6.5%
	Neither	1.0%	1.8%	.9%	3.2%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Senate \* Party Crosstabulation**

% within Party

		Party			
		Democrat	Republican	Independent	Unsure
Senate	Blumenthal	85.1%	11.3%	45.3%	44.0%
	McMahon	12.0%	86.5%	49.2%	36.0%
	Unsure	2.0%	.9%	3.7%	8.0%
	Neither	.9%	1.3%	1.8%	12.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Senate \* TeaParty Crosstabulation**

% within TeaParty

		TeaParty		
		Yes	No	Unsure
Senate	Blumenthal	9.7%	63.0%	25.2%
	McMahon	87.9%	33.7%	64.8%
	Unsure	1.6%	1.8%	7.5%
	Neither	.8%	1.5%	2.5%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

CT Capitol Report Poll  
Section 4: CD 1

Sample = 423; Margin of Error = +/- 4.8%

**Congress 1**

	Frequency	Percent
Larson	236	55.8
Brickley	162	38.3
Unsure	13	3.1
Neither	12	2.8
Total	423	100.0

**Congress 1 \* Obama\_Condensed Crosstabulation**

% within Obama\_Condensed

		Obama_Condensed		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
Congress 1	Larson	89.4%	19.5%	41.7%
	Brickley	5.6%	75.9%	16.7%
	Unsure	2.8%	2.6%	16.7%
	Neither	2.3%	2.1%	25.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Obama\_Condensed \* Congress 1 Crosstabulation**

% within Congress 1

		Congress 1			
		Larson	Brickley	Unsure	Neither
Obama_Condensed	Approve	81.8%	7.4%	46.2%	41.7%
	Disapprove	16.1%	91.4%	38.5%	33.3%
	Unsure	2.1%	1.2%	15.4%	25.0%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Congress 1 \* Gender Crosstabulation**

% within Gender

		Gender	
		female	male
Congress 1	Larson	60.6%	48.8%
	Brickley	33.7%	45.9%
	Unsure	3.7%	2.3%
	Neither	2.0%	2.9%
Total		100.0%	100.0%



**Congress 1 \* Education Crosstabulation**

% within Education

		Education				
		High School or less	Some College	College Graduate	Graduate Plus	Post Grad Degree
Congress 1	Larson	66.1%	54.4%	49.1%	46.8%	63.0%
	Brickley	26.8%	40.5%	45.4%	46.8%	34.3%
	Unsure	1.8%	3.8%	3.7%	4.3%	.9%
	Neither	5.4%	1.3%	1.9%	2.1%	1.9%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



**Congress 1 \* Politics Crosstabulation**

% within Politics

		Politics			
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Unsure
Congress 1	Larson	94.7%	59.9%	18.6%	59.1%
	Brickley	4.2%	35.8%	78.8%	18.2%
	Unsure	1.1%	2.2%	.8%	13.6%
	Neither		2.2%	1.7%	9.1%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Congress 1 \* Party Crosstabulation**

% within Party

		Party			
		Democrat	Republican	Independent	Unsure
Congress 1	Larson	85.5%	9.5%	45.1%	42.9%
	Brickley	9.1%	89.5%	48.0%	28.6%
	Unsure	2.2%		5.9%	14.3%
	Neither	3.2%	1.1%	1.0%	14.3%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Congress 1 \* TeaParty Crosstabulation**

% within TeaParty

		TeaParty		
		Yes	No	Unsure
Congress 1	Larson	14.6%	66.1%	20.6%
	Brickley	83.3%	29.4%	64.7%
	Unsure		2.9%	5.9%
	Neither	2.1%	1.6%	8.8%
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

CT Capitol Report Poll  
Section 5: CD 2

Sample = 397; Margin of Error = +/- 4.9%

**Congress 2**

	Frequency	Percent
Courtney	227	57.2
Peckinpaugh	151	38.0
Unsure	12	3.0
Neither	7	1.8
Total	397	100.0

**Congress 2 \* Obama\_Condensed Crosstabulation**

% within Obama\_Condensed

		Obama_Condensed		
		Approve	Disapprove	Unsure
Congress 2	Courtney	91.6%	20.3%	100.0%
	Peckinpaugh	4.9%	73.4%	
	Unsure	2.5%	3.6%	
	Neither	1.0%	2.6%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Obama\_Condensed \* Congress 2 Crosstabulation**

% within Congress 2

		Congress 2			
		Courtney	Peckinpaugh	Unsure	Neither
Obama_Condensed	Approve	81.9%	6.6%	41.7%	28.6%
	Disapprove	17.2%	93.4%	58.3%	71.4%
	Unsure	.9%			
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Congress 2 \* Gender Crosstabulation**

% within Gender

		Gender	
		female	male
Congress 2	Courtney	62.6%	51.2%
	Peckinpaugh	32.0%	45.8%
	Unsure	4.1%	1.2%
	Neither	1.4%	1.8%
Total		100.0%	100.0%



**Congress 2 \* Education Crosstabulation**

% within Education

		Education				
		High School or less	Some College	College Graduate	Graduate Plus	Post Grad Degree
Congress 2	Courtney	58.7%	57.1%	51.0%	64.2%	60.4%
	Peckinpaugh	34.8%	37.7%	44.9%	35.8%	36.5%
	Unsure	4.3%	2.6%	1.0%		3.1%
	Neither	2.2%	2.6%	3.1%		
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Congress 2 \* Politics Crosstabulation**

% within Politics

		Politics			
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Unsure
Congress 2	Courtney	93.5%	67.9%	17.6%	52.4%
	Peckinpaugh	5.4%	29.0%	76.5%	38.1%
	Unsure		2.3%	2.5%	9.5%
	Neither	1.1%	.8%	3.4%	
Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%