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TO   Interested Parties

FROM   FM3 Research

RE: 49th California Congressional District Primary Survey Results

DATE   May 4, 2018

A recently conducted survey among likely June primary voters in California's 49th Congressional District continues to find that in this crowded field of Democrats and Republicans no candidate has broken out to a decisive lead. With a month until primary day it is unclear which candidates are the likely to be the top two finishers in the June primary, and there is a possibility the November general election will feature two candidates from the same political party.

The key highlights from this survey include:

- **As Figure 1 shows this election has the potential to be highly fluid and volatile over the next several weeks as no candidate currently receives more than 20 percent of the vote**. (Survey respondents were read the names, party affiliations and ballot designations of the candidates as they will appear on the June primary.) The large field of Democratic and Republican candidates splinters the electorate -- Applegate and Harkey are the nominal leaders at this stage of the campaign with Jacobs and Levin both within striking distance of finishing in the top two spots, while Chavez has lost ground and is currently in fifth place. Finally, despite raising his profile through paid communications, Paul Kerr has not been able to climb out of the single digits and these findings suggest he is unlikely to be one of the top two vote getters in the June primary.

Figure 1: Primary Vote for CD49

Candidate (Party)	Percentage
Doug Applegate (D)	16%
Diane Harkey (R)	14%
Sara Jacobs (D)	12%
Mike Levin (D)	11%
Rocky Chavez (R)	10%
Kristin Gaspar (R)	9%
Paul Kerr (D)	6%
Brian Maryott (R)	4%
Mike Schmitt (R)	2%
Danielle St. John (G)	1%
Other/Don't Know	16%

- **Among the Democratic candidates, the 2016 nominee Doug Applegate continues to be the most well-known, and while Rocky Chavez remains the best-known Republican, his net favorability rating fell eight points from +11 (30%-19%) in February to three points (25%-22%) today.** (**See Figure 2**) Democrats Sara Jacobs and Paul Kerr significantly raised their profiles with primary voters over the past several months through their paid communications. Levin, who was better known than either Kerr or Jacobs in February, now he has the lowest name ID of the Democrats, but he also has the lowest unfavorable rating of any Democratic candidate for Congress.

Figure 2: CD49 Candidate Favorability Ratings
(Ranked by Percentage "Favorable" in April 26-29, 2018 Survey)

Candidate	February 12-15, 2018			April 26-29, 2018		
	Favorable	Unfavorable	Can't Rate/DK	Favorable	Unfavorable	Can't Rate/DK
Doug Applegate	36%	24%	40%	35%	21%	43%
Rocky Chavez	30%	19%	51%	25%	22%	53%
Sara Jacobs	13%	4%	83%	23%	14%	63%
Paul Kerr	8%	4%	88%	22%	17%	61%
Mike Levin	19%	5%	76%	22%	8%	69%
Diane Harkey	15%	11%	74%	16%	8%	76%
Kristen Gaspar	13%	9%	78%	14%	11%	75%

Survey Methodology: From April 26-29, 2018 FM3 conducted a survey of 500 randomly-selected voters in California's 49th Congressional District whose previous participation in statewide elections indicate they are likely to cast a ballot in the June 2018 statewide primary election. Interviews were conducted via landline and cell/mobile telephone by live interviewers. The full sample margin of error is +/-4.4% at the 95% confidence level. Results from a February 12-15, 2018 survey of 400 randomly-selected likely June primary voters in California's 49th Congressional District are shown for comparison purposes. Due to rounding, some percentages may not sum to 100%.