

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Ron Lester
RE: FL 02 Survey Results
DATE: October 4, 2012

The results of a survey of likely voters in Florida's Second Congressional District show Democrat Al Lawson currently tied with Republican Congressman Steve Southerland.

POLL RESULTS

- If the election for Congress was today, 43% of likely voters say they would vote for Democrat Al Lawson, while 43% would also vote for Republican Steve Southerland – putting the incumbent well below the critical 50% threshold.
- In the race for President, Barack Obama trails Mitt Romney by just one point, 46% to 47%.
- In the race for the U.S. Senate, Bill Nelson leads Connie Mack by 10 points, 49% to 39%.
- After voters hear positive profiles of both Lawson and Southerland, the race remains a tie with both candidates receiving 47% of the vote.

Democrat Al Lawson was born and raised in the Tallahassee area and was Minority Leader in the State Senate. Lawson has been a true champion of the middle class and the state university system by working with leaders of both parties. Lawson believes Florida needs an independent Congressman who will fight for good jobs and a quality education for every child. He will protect Social Security and Medicare because they are sacred trusts with those who have paid into the system. Lawson thinks it is wrong for Congress to slash funding for infrastructure and transportation projects while protecting tax breaks for millionaires. And Lawson wants to eliminate tax breaks for businesses that ship jobs overseas and instead give tax incentives to businesses that create jobs here in Florida.

Republican Congressman Steve Southerland is a lifelong Panama City resident and part of the fourth generation of Southerlands to call Bay County home. As the owner of Southerland Family Funeral Homes, Southerland understands what it means to stick to a budget and create jobs. In Congress, Southerland has fought to improve conditions for job growth, promote economic development, and preserve treasured resources across northern Florida. He has stood up to both political parties to rein in wasteful spending and eliminate our crushing national debt. Southerland has reduced his own office budget by nearly \$225,000 and given the leftover money back to the government to help pay down the national debt. Southerland has pledged to protect Medicare, repeal Obamacare, and cut taxes.

METHODOLOGY

- This memorandum summarizes results from a live telephone poll of 401 randomly selected likely voters in Florida's Second Congressional District conducted September 15-17, 2012.
 - The estimation error associated with a sample of 401 is 4.9% at the 95% confidence interval. This means that in 95 of 100 cases, the results of this poll are within plus or minus 4.9 points of the results that would have been obtained if all likely voters had been interviewed. Note that special care was taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the actual electorate are properly represented.
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