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HPU POLL: NC RESIDENTS WANT LEADERS TO WORK TOGETHER IN RALEIGH AND D.C., STILL PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE ECONOMY

HIGH POINT, N.C., February 9, 2011– The Survey Research Center at High Point University finds in its most recent poll that majorities of North Carolina residents want Republican leaders in Washington, D.C. and Raleigh to work with President Barack Obama and Governor Bev Perdue. N.C. residents also express similar levels of pessimism about the future of the economy in the country as a whole and North Carolina as they did in March 2010.

The HPU survey finds that 67 percent of residents of North Carolina say that Republican leaders in Washington should try as best they can to work with Barack Obama to accomplish things, even if it means disappointing some groups of Republican supporters. Similarly, 62 percent of North Carolinians said that Republican leaders in Raleigh should work with Gov. Perdue to accomplish things.

According to the results, Dr. Martin Kifer, director of the Survey Research Center, says, “Our survey indicates that North Carolina residents are looking for leaders in Washington and Raleigh to work together on the issues affecting their country and state. The 2010 elections changed the political landscape, but not the public’s desire for results.”

The survey also found that 45 percent of North Carolina residents say that economic conditions in the country as a whole are getting worse, while 38 percent thought economic conditions were getting better. A 51 percent majority of North Carolinians say that the state’s economy is getting worse, while 33 percent say it is getting better.

A previous Survey Research Center poll in March 2010 found 47 percent of North Carolina residents saying the economic conditions in the country as a whole were getting worse and 56 percent said that the North Carolina economy was getting worse.

“North Carolinians continue to be pessimistic about economic conditions here in North Carolina and in the country as a whole,” says Dr. Sadie Leder, assistant director of the Survey Research Center. “We’ll continue to track these attitudes closely for signs that North Carolinians are seeing changes in the economic climate.”

The High Point University Survey Research Center fielded the survey from Jan. 31 – Feb. 3. The responses came from 450 adults with landline telephones in North Carolina selected by a Random Digit Dial (RDD) method giving the survey a margin of sampling error of approximately 4.7 percentage points.

Full results and methodological details from the survey and can be found at the Survey Research Center Web site, <http://src.highpoint.edu/>, or from Dr. Martin Kifer, the center’s director, at mkifer@highpoint.edu or 336-841-9333.

At High Point University, every student receives an extraordinary education in an inspiring environment with caring people. HPU, located in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina, is a liberal arts institution with over 4,200 undergraduate and graduate students from 51 countries and 46 states at campuses in High Point and Winston-Salem. It is ranked by US News and World Report at No. 3 among Regional Colleges in the South. Forbes.com ranks HPU in the top 7 percent among “America’s Best Colleges.” Parade Magazine lists HPU in the top 25 private schools in the nation. The university offers 50 undergraduate majors, 42 undergraduate minors and seven graduate degree programs. It is accredited by the Commission of Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and is a member of the NCAA, Division I and the Big South Conference. Visit High Point University on the Web at highpoint.edu.

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