



NEWS RELEASE

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New Poll: Stenberg Surges within 5 Points of Bruning “Two leading candidates are clearly heading in opposite directions”

LINCOLN, NEB – A new independent poll shows that Nebraska State Treasurer Don Stenberg has surged nearly even with Attorney General Jon Bruning for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate in Nebraska. The survey, conducted January 23-24, 2012, shows the race nearly within the margin of error, with Bruning leading by only 5.4 points.

A series of published polls show considerable movement in favor of Stenberg and Bruning fading. The very first poll taken of the race in January 2011 shows Bruning with a 28% lead over Stenberg; 47% to 19%. Another poll conducted six months later, June 2011, showed Bruning leading Stenberg by 23 points, 40% to 17%. The most recent poll, taken just a few days ago, shows Bruning’s support has fallen to 32% while Stenberg has increased to 26%, only a 5.4 point difference.

“These poll results show what our campaign has been hearing for several months now – voters are starting to focus on this race and are concluding that Don Stenberg is the genuine conservative who they trust to send to Washington and tackle runaway spending and get our economy back on track,” Stenberg said.

“What is even more telling,” Stenberg noted, “is the fact that Mr. Bruning has outspent our campaign up to this point by a more than 4 to 1 margin.”

U.S. Senator Jim DeMint, who has endorsed Stenberg, said the poll shows Stenberg gaining momentum.

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"This poll confirms what we're hearing from the grassroots in Nebraska," said Senator DeMint. "Folks are tired of politicians who say one thing on the campaign trail, but then do something different once they're elected. Folks know Don Stenberg is someone they can trust to fight for the principles of freedom that make this country great," DeMint said.

Basswood Research interviewed 500 Nebraska Republican voters who passed multiple screens as likely GOP primary voters. The margin of error in each survey is +/- 4.4% at a 95% confidence level. The first survey was conducted June 11-12, 2011. The second was done just a few days ago, on January 23-24, 2012. The Senate Conservatives Fund commissioned the survey. Public Policy Polling conducting the January 2011 poll of 519 likely Nebraska Republican primary voters.

"The primary election is quite close now, and the two leading candidates are clearly heading in opposite directions. It appears that the longer Nebraska Republicans examine the two candidates, the more Bruning's support fades and Stenberg's rises," Basswood Research said.

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Paid for by Stenberg for Senate 2012 Committee