



For Immediate Release

September 28, 2018

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New Poll Shows Dr. Hiral Tipirneni Poised to Flip Arizona's 8th Congressional District

Dr. Hiral Tipirneni's Support Has Consistently Climbed in Latest Poll

PEORIA, AZ – Today the Hiral for Congress campaign released a new poll indicating that Dr. Hiral Tipirneni has gained significant momentum against Representative Debbie Lesko, making it one of the most competitive congressional races in the country. Since an August 2018 baseline survey, **Tipirneni has closed a nine-point deficit to just four points, which is within the margin of error**, and she is poised to flip this congressional seat.

“This latest poll shows that our neighbors and communities are ready for change. Our race is far from over, but this is an encouraging sign that voters are sick of politics as usual,” stated Dr. Tipirneni. “This November, real change is on the ballot. People want representation that will stand up to special interests and fight for them, and it’s clear our message is resonating,” Hiral added.

While Tipirneni’s campaign is taking advantage of the current political environment, the growth demonstrated in this poll is independent of current trends for Democrats.

Key Takeaways

- **Dr. Hiral Tipirneni has closed the gap and is now within the margin of error against Lesko.** Currently, 44% of voters support Tipirneni, 48% vote for Lesko, and 8% are undecided. In an August 2018 baseline survey, Tipirneni was down by nine points (40% for Tipirneni, 49% for Lesko, and 10% undecided). Tipirneni’s upward trajectory is consistent and clear.
- **Lesko’s unfavorable ratings continue to crawl upward, while Dr. Hiral Tipirneni’s favorability ratings continue to improve.**
- **While there are indicators that the environment is better for Democrats, Tipirneni’s growth shows an independent boost that is due to her own campaign.** The generic ballot remains unchanged (48% Republican to 40% Democrat in August, to 47% Republican to 40% Democrat now). Similarly, the Senate ballot remains close without the same sign of movement toward the Democrat (from -2 to -5 for the Democrat since August).

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Dr. Hiral Tipirneni (“HERE-uhl tipper-NEH-nee”), an emergency room physician and cancer research advocate, is a candidate for Arizona’s 8th Congressional District. After losing her mother and nephew to cancer, she left emergency medicine to concentrate on cutting-edge cancer research. Now she leads teams of researchers, clinicians, and patient advocates in the fight against breast cancer, prostate cancer and childhood leukemia. At the age of three, Hiral came to America from India with her family in pursuit of the American dream. Hiral and her husband met while in medical school in Ohio. They have lived in the Phoenix area, where their three children were born and raised, for more than 20 years. She is on the board of directors for the Maricopa Health Foundation.

For more information, please visit www.hiralforcongress.com. Follow Hiral on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/hiralforcongress> and on Twitter at @hiral4congress.

To: Interested Parties
From: Joshua Ulibarri and Kelsey Bullis, Lake Research Partners
Re: Polling for the November Election in Arizona's 8th Congressional Districtⁱ
Date: September 27, 2018

A recent IVR survey among likely general election voters in Arizona's 8th Congressional District shows that Dr. Hiral Tipirneni has closed the gap against Congresswoman Debbie Lesko and has a legitimate chance of winning this seat. Tipirneni has closed the gap, increased her own favorable ratings, increased Lesko's unfavorable ratings and continues to make this a race where outside help can make a real difference in flipping this seat from red to blue.

Here are the survey's key findings:

- **Dr. Hiral Tipirneni has closed the gap and is now within the margin of error against Lesko.** Currently, 44% of voters vote for Tipirneni, 48% vote for Lesko, and 8% are undecided. In an August 2018 baseline surveyⁱⁱ, Tipirneni was down by nine points (40% of voters voted for Tipirneni, 49% voted for Lesko, and 10% were undecided). With Tipirneni's consistent climb across these surveys, the upward trajectory is clear.
- **Dr. Hiral Tipirneni's favorability ratings continue to improve and she is now as well-liked as Lesko, but without the baggage.** In the August baseline, 33% of voters had a favorable impression of Hiral Tipirneni, and 17% had an unfavorable impression of Tipirneni. Now, Tipirneni's favorable ratings have increased by five points, with 38% of voters having a favorable impression of Hiral Tipirneni, and 20% having an unfavorable impression of her.
- **Meanwhile, Lesko's unfavorable ratings continue their upward crawl, imperiling her reelection efforts.** In the August baseline, 38% had a favorable opinion of Lesko, and 33% had an unfavorable opinion of her. Now, her favorable ratings remain stagnant at 38%, and her unfavorable ratings have increased by four points, with 37% of voters having an unfavorable opinion of her. Currently, an equal number of voters hold favorable and unfavorable views of Lesko.
- While there are indicators that the environment is better for Democrats, **Tipirneni's growth shows an independent boost that is due to her own campaign work.** The generic ballot remains unchanged (48% Republican to 40% Democrat in August, to 47% Republican to 40% Democrat now). Similarly, the Senate ballot remains close without the same sign of movement toward the Democrat (from -2 to -5 for the Democrat since August).

In summary, Dr. Hiral Tipirneni continues to gain momentum. She is taking advantage of the environment, but her growth is independent of current trends. She has closed a nine-point deficit down to just four and is poised to flip this seat if she gets the help she needs to continue driving the contrast and negatively defining Lesko.

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ⁱ **Methodology:** Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey, and it was conducted by telephone September 24- 26, 2018. The survey was an IVR survey that reached a total of 400 likely November election voters in Arizona’s 8th Congressional District. Telephone numbers for the sample were generated from a list of registered voters in Arizona. The data were weighted slightly by gender, age, region, party registration, education, support score, and turnout score. 125 cellphones and 275 landlines were called. The margin for error is +/- 4.9% and larger for subgroups.

ⁱⁱ **Methodology:** Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey, and it was conducted by telephone using professional interviewers August 7 - 13, 2018. The survey reached a total of 400 likely 2018 voters in Arizona’s 8th Congressional District, including an oversample of 100 modeled persuadable voters (partisan score of 20-60). Telephone numbers for the sample were generated from a list of registered voters in Arizona. The data were weighted slightly by gender, region, age, party registration, party ID, education, partisan score, turnout score, cell phone, and vote history. Both cell phones and landlines were called.