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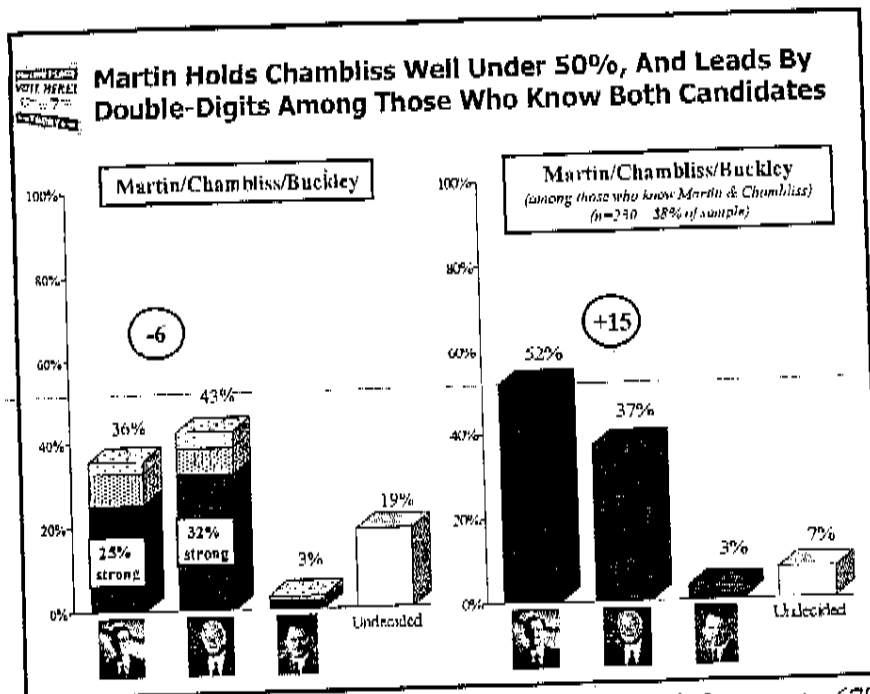
To: Jim Martin For U.S. Senate  
From: The Mellman Group, Inc.  
Re: Georgia Statewide Survey  
Date: August 12, 2008

*This analysis represents the findings of a survey of 600 likely November 2008 voters in Georgia, interviewed by telephone August 6-10, 2008. The study uses a voter-file based sample of registered voters that simulates the likely 2008 electorate. The margin of error for this survey is +/-4.0% at the 95% level of confidence. The margin of error is higher for subgroups.*

U.S. Senator Saxby Chambliss begins the general election campaign in a weak position against Democrat Jim Martin, who won the nomination last week. With less than three months until the election, Chambliss garners only 42% of the vote, putting him only single digits ahead of Martin. The incumbent's negative job performance rating is a further indication of the problems facing Chambliss in a hostile environment where overwhelming majorities believe the country is seriously off on the wrong track and strongly dislike the job performance of President Bush. Though Martin is still not as well known as Chambliss, he is seen in more favorable terms. All of this shows Chambliss as very vulnerable in his first bid for re-election.

### Martin Is Well-Positioned Against A Very Vulnerable Incumbent

Saxby Chambliss goes into the final three months of the 2008 campaign extremely vulnerable to defeat at the hands of Democrat Jim Martin. In a trial heat against Martin, Chambliss garners only 42% of the vote to Martin's 36% — falling well-short of the 50% threshold which is indicative of vulnerability for an incumbent. Under a third (32%) of the state's voters *strongly* support Chambliss, while 25% *strongly* support Martin. Chambliss's weakness is particularly striking due to his large advantage in



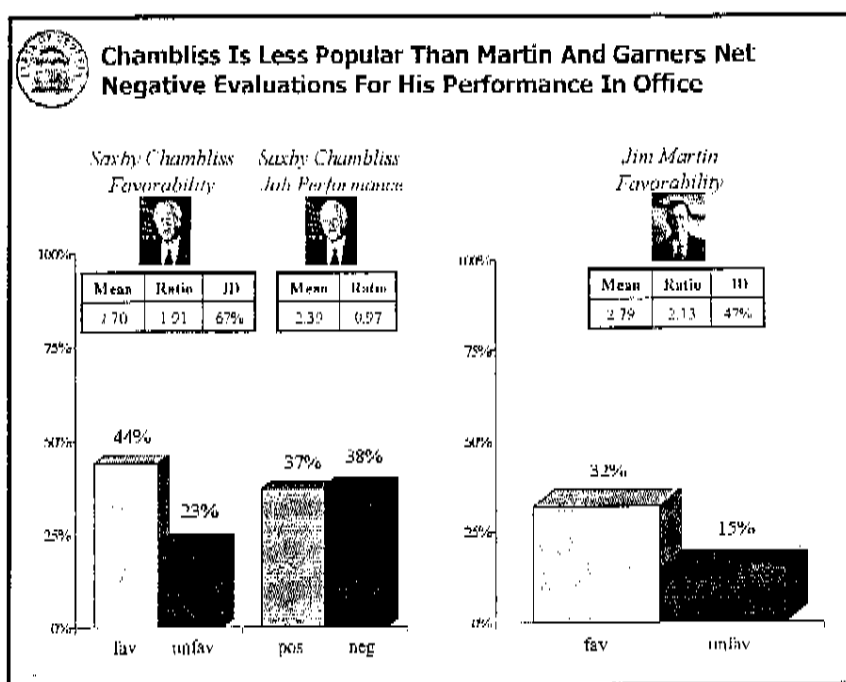
name identification over his opponent — Chambliss is known to 67% of the state's voters, while Martin is known to only 47%. Among the 38% of the electorate that knows both candidates, Martin actually leads by a 52% to 37% margin. Moreover, Martin is clearly benefiting from a changing electorate in Georgia. Among those who are newly registered to vote, Martin leads Chambliss by 17 points (43% Martin, 26% Chambliss). The weakness of Chambliss is consistent with our earlier February 2008 poll for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, which showed Chambliss at only 46% against Martin.

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Chambliss's weak re-elect provides further evidence of his vulnerability. Only 40% say they will vote to re-elect Chambliss, while 21% say they will consider voting for someone else and 19% say they will vote to replace Chambliss.



### Chambliss's Job Performance Ratings Are Quite Weak, And He Is Less Popular Than His Lesser-Known Rival

Chambliss goes into the general election less popular than his opponent among those who know each candidate, and saddled with weak job performance ratings. Though Chambliss (67% ID) is better known than Martin (47% ID), he is less popular than his challenger when his advantage in name recognition is factored out. Martin's mean (average) favorability, on a 1 to 4 scale where 1 represents "unfavorable" and 4 represents "very favorable," is 2.79, which is significantly higher than Chambliss's mean favorability of 2.70. Thus, while Chambliss is currently better known, Martin is better liked among those who know each candidate.

Even more problematic for Chambliss are his weak job performance ratings. More voters (38%) having a negative opinion of his performance in office than a positive opinion (37%). Among independents, only 35% render positive evaluations of Chambliss's performance in office, compared to 38% who have a negative opinion.

### The Political Environment In Georgia Is Favorable For Democrats

The political environment in Georgia is favorable for Democrats: First, President Bush, with whom Chambliss has voted 93% of the time, is spectacularly unpopular in the state – with weak favorability ratings (43% favorable, 52% unfavorable) and abysmal job performance ratings (27% positive, 72% negative). Second, nearly two-thirds (66%) believe that things in the country are "pretty seriously off on the wrong track," compared to only 21% who believe that things are "moving in the right direction."

In conclusion, Chambliss's weak performance in a head-to-head race against Martin, his low re-elect, and his net negative job ratings suggest that Georgia represents a prime pick-up opportunity for Democrats this cycle.