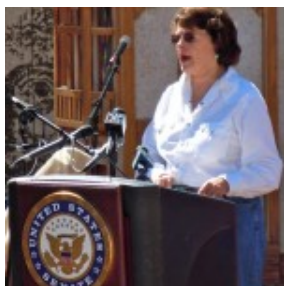


Poll: Feinstein's popularity sputtering before '12 election

By David Siders, Sacramento Bee

Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein's public approval rating remains positive, but enthusiasm for re-electing her is far less than in previous years, according to a Field Poll released today.

As Feinstein prepares to run for re-election next year, California voters are inclined to support her, 43 percent to 39 percent, according to the poll.



Dianne
Feinstein

That four-point margin – the same as Feinstein posted in a Field Poll earlier this year – is her smallest ever in a pre-election year. First elected to the Senate in 1992, her margins of pre-election year support ranged from 19 percentage points to 29 percentage points before, the poll said.

Yet Feinstein's public approval rating remains favorable, with 46 percent of voters approving of the job she is doing, according to the poll. Thirty-one percent disapprove, and 23 percent have no opinion.

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