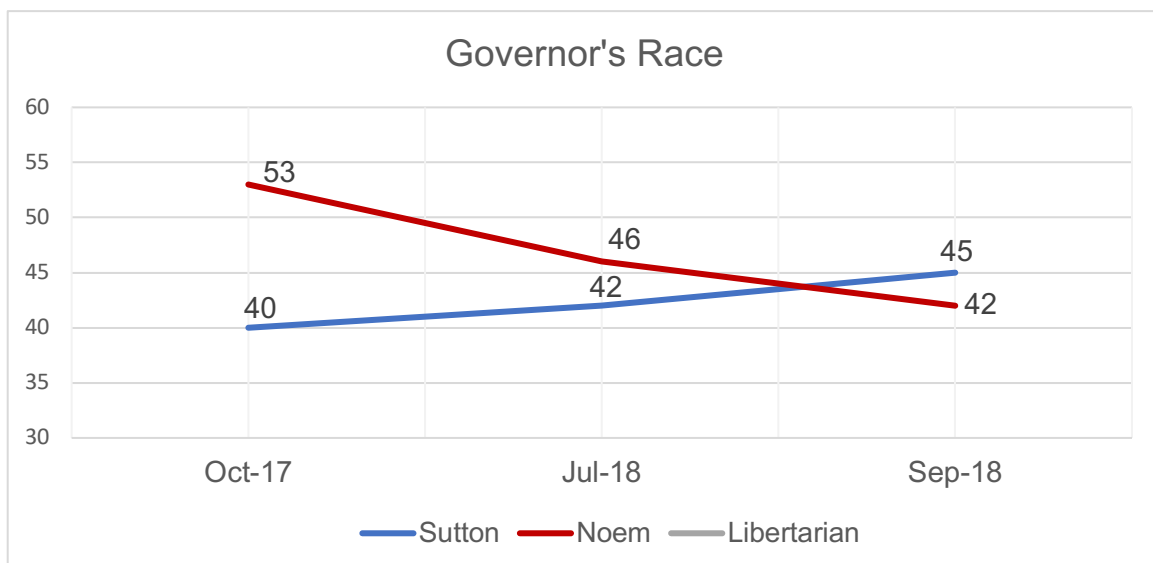**September 27, 2018**

To: Interested Parties
Fr: ALG Research
Re: Sutton for Governor tracking poll results

Despite a nearly 2:1 party registration advantage for Republicans in South Dakota, rancher Billie Sutton is leading Congresswoman Kristi Noem (45% Sutton / 42% Noem / 3% Evans / 10% undecided) in the open-seat gubernatorial race. Sutton's strong popularity and crossover appeal among Republicans and Independents has now propelled him into a narrow lead.

Key Findings

➢ **Sutton now leads Noem by three points (45% Sutton / 42% Noem), with the Libertarian candidate taking 3%.** The race has clearly and consistently trended toward Sutton throughout 2018, shifting 15 points in his favor since a 13-point deficit in 2017.

➢ **Sutton's impressive crossover appeal is due to his high favorable (and low unfavorable) rating.** Sutton has a 4:1 favorable-to-unfavorable popularity ratio (53% fav / 13% unfav), and just as many voters are <u>very</u> favorable to him (30%) as Kristi Noem (29%) despite her tenure in statewide office. Nearly three times as many voters are unfavorable to Noem (38%) as Sutton (13%)—even among registered Republicans, more dislike Noem (19%) than Sutton (18%).

The following are key findings from a telephone poll by Anzalone Liszt Grove Research of n=500 likely November 2018 voters in South Dakota. The survey was conducted September 20-24, 2018 by professional interviewers via landline and cellphone. The margin of error is +/-4.4% at the 95% level of confidence. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.