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PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST  
Form N-PX  
August 30, 2004

FORM N-PX  
ANNUAL REPORT OF PROXY VOTING RECORD OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT  
INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number: File No. 811-05452

Putnam Premier Income Trust

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

One Post Office Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02109

-----  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Beth S. Mazor, Vice President  
Putnam Premier Income Trust  
One Post Office Square  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Copy To:  
John W. Gerstmayr, Esq.  
Ropes & Gray LLP  
One International Place  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

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(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (617) 292-1000

Date of Fiscal year-end: 7/31

Date of reporting period: 7/1/2003 - 6/30/2004

Item 1. Proxy Voting Record

Account Number: Putnam Premier Income Trust

ISSUER NAME	TICKER	CUSIP	MTG DATE	MTG TYPE	Vo
			Proposal Type	Voted?	
ALDERWOODS GROUP INC		014383103	5/4/04	Annual	
1.10 Elect Director Lloyd E. Campbell			MGMT	YES	FO
1.20 Elect Director Anthony G. Eames			MGMT	YES	FO
1.30 Elect Director Charles M. Elson			MGMT	YES	FO
1.40 Elect Director David R. Hilty			MGMT	YES	FO
1.50 Elect Director Paul A. Houston			MGMT	YES	FO
1.60 Elect Director Olivia F. Kirtley			MGMT	YES	FO
1.70 Elect Director John S. Lacey			MGMT	YES	FO
1.80 Elect Director William R. Riedl			MGMT	YES	FO
1.90 Elect Director W. Macdonald Snow, Jr.			MGMT	YES	FO

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2.00	Ratify Auditors			MGMT	YES	FO
	Covad Communications Group, Inc	COVD	222814204	8/14/03	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Larry Irving			MGMT	YES	FO
1.20	Elect Director Richard A. Jalkut			MGMT	YES	FO
1.30	Elect Director Daniel C. Lynch			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Approve Employee Stock Purchase Plan			MGMT	YES	AG
3.00	Ratify Auditors			MGMT	YES	FO
	Covad Communications Group, Inc	COVD	222814204	6/10/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director L. Dale Crandall			MGMT	YES	FO
1.20	Elect Director Hellene S. Runtagh			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Ratify Auditors			MGMT	YES	FO
	Crown Castle International Corp.	CCI	228227104	5/26/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Randall A. Hack			MGMT	YES	AG
1.20	Elect Director Edward C. Hutcheson, Jr.			MGMT	YES	AG
1.30	Elect Director J. Landis Martin			MGMT	YES	AG
2.00	Approve Omnibus Stock Plan			MGMT	YES	FO
3.00	Ratify Auditors			MGMT	YES	FO
4.00	Implement MacBride Principles			SHLDR	YES	AG
	Globix Corp.	GBIXQ	37957F200	2/24/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Peter K. Stevenson			MGMT	YES	AG
1.20	Elect Director Peter S. Brodsky			MGMT	YES	AG
1.30	Elect Director Peter L. Herzig			MGMT	YES	AG
1.40	Elect Director Steven Lampe			MGMT	YES	AG
1.50	Elect Director Steven G. Singer			MGMT	YES	AG
1.60	Elect Director Raymond Steele			MGMT	YES	AG
1.70	Elect Director Steven A. Van Dyke			MGMT	YES	AG
2.00	Amend Stock Option Plan			MGMT	YES	AG
	Knology, Inc.	KNOL	499183804	5/4/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director William Laverack, Jr.			MGMT	YES	FO
1.20	Elect Director Bret D. Pearlman			MGMT	YES	FO
1.30	Elect Director Alan A. Burgess			MGMT	YES	FO
1.40	Elect Director Donald W. Burton			MGMT	YES	FO
1.50	Elect Director William H. Scott, III			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Eliminate Class of Preferred Stock			MGMT	YES	AG
3.00	Amend Articles/Bylaws/Charter-Non-Routine			MGMT	YES	FO
4.00	Restrict Right to Act by Written Consent			MGMT	YES	AG
5.00	Approve Repricing of Options			MGMT	YES	AG
6.00	Amend Omnibus Stock Plan			MGMT	YES	AG
	Leucadia National Corp.	LUK	527288104	5/11/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Ian M. Cumming			MGMT	YES	FO
1.20	Elect Director Paul M. Dougan			MGMT	YES	FO
1.30	Elect Director Lawrence D. Glaubinger			MGMT	YES	FO
1.40	Elect Director Alan J. Hirschfield			MGMT	YES	FO
1.50	Elect Director James E. Jordan			MGMT	YES	FO
1.60	Elect Director Jeffrey C. Keil			MGMT	YES	FO
1.70	Elect Director Jesse Clyde Nichols III			MGMT	YES	FO
1.80	Elect Director Joseph S. Steinberg			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Amend Articles to Extend Provisions that Restrict Accumulation of 5% Common Stock			MGMT	YES	FO
3.00	Ratify Auditors			MGMT	YES	FO
	Lodgian, Inc.	LGN	54021P205	4/8/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Sean F. Armstrong			MGMT	YES	FO
1.20	Elect Director Russel S. Bernard			MGMT	YES	FO
1.30	Elect Director Stewart J. Brown			MGMT	YES	FO

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1.40	Elect Director Kenneth A. Caplan			MGMT	YES	FO
1.50	Elect Director Stephen P. Grathwohl			MGMT	YES	FO
1.60	Elect Director Jonathan D. Gray			MGMT	YES	AG
1.70	Elect Director Kevin C. McTavish			MGMT	YES	FO
1.80	Elect Director W. Thomas Parrington			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Amend Omnibus Stock Plan			MGMT	YES	FO
3.00	Approve Reverse Stock Split			MGMT	YES	FO
4.00	Amend Articles/Bylaws/ Charter-Organization-Related			MGMT	YES	FO
5.00	Ratify Auditors			MGMT	YES	FO
Lodgian, Inc.						
		LGN	54021P304		4/8/04	Annual
1.00	Approve Reverse Stock Split			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Amend Articles			MGMT	YES	FO
Mariner Health Care, Inc.						
		MHCA	56845X108		7/30/03	Annual
1.10	Elect Director Victor L. Lund			MGMT	YES	AG
1.20	Elect Director C. Christian Winkle			MGMT	YES	AG
1.30	Elect Director Patrick H. Daugherty			MGMT	YES	AG
1.40	Elect Director Earl P. Holland			MGMT	YES	AG
1.50	Elect Director Philip L. Maslowe			MGMT	YES	AG
1.60	Elect Director Mohsin Y. Meghji			MGMT	YES	AG
1.70	Elect Director M. Edward Stearns			MGMT	YES	AG
Metrocall Holdings, Inc.						
		MTOH	59164X105		9/24/03	Special
1.00	Increase Authorized Common Stock Increase Authorized Common Stock			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Amend Securities Transfer Restrictions Amend Securities Transfer Restrictions			MGMT	YES	FO
3.00	Amend Stock Option Plan Amend Stock Option Plan			MGMT	YES	AG
Metrocall Holdings, Inc.						
		MTOH	59164X204		9/24/03	Special
1.00	Increase Authorized Common Stock Increase Authorized Common Stock			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Amend Securities Transfer Restrictions Amend Securities Transfer Restrictions			MGMT	YES	FO
3.00	Amend Stock Option Plan Amend Stock Option Plan			MGMT	YES	AG
Microcell Telecommunication						
		MT.B			5/5/04	Special
1.00	Ratify Ernst & Young as Auditors and Authorise Board to Fix Remuneration of Auditors.			MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	The Resolution to Confirm the General By-Law of the Corporation.			MGMT	YES	AG
3.00	Confirm the Expiration Time Under the Shareholder Rights Plan of the Corporation.			MGMT	YES	FO
4.00	Amend Stock Option Plan			MGMT	YES	FO
Paxson Communications Corp.						
		PAX	704231604		5/21/04	Annual
1.10	Elect Director Lowell W. Paxson			MGMT	YES	AG
1.20	Elect Director Henry J. Brandon			MGMT	YES	AG
1.30	Elect Director Elizabeth J. Hudson			MGMT	YES	AG
2.00	Ratify Auditors			MGMT	YES	FO
Pioneer Companies, Inc.						
		PONR	723643300		5/13/04	Annual
1.10	Elect Director David N. Weinstein			MGMT	YES	FO
1.20	Elect Director Michael Y. MCGovern			MGMT	YES	FO
1.30	Elect Director Marvin E. Lesser			MGMT	YES	FO
1.40	Elect Director Gary L. Rosenthal			MGMT	YES	FO
1.50	Elect Director Charles L. Mears			MGMT	YES	FO

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2.00	Ratify Auditors		MGMT	YES	FO
PTV Inc.					
		62940R202	1/27/04	Special	
1.00	Approve Reverse Stock Split		MGMT	YES	AG
2.00	Change Company Name		MGMT	YES	FO
Safety Components International, Inc.					
		SAFY 786474205	10/14/03	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Ben E. Waide III		MGMT	NO	
1.20	Elect Director Carroll R. Wetzell, Jr.		MGMT	NO	
2.00	Ratify Auditors		MGMT	NO	
Sterling Chemicals, Inc.					
		SCHI 859166100	4/16/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Richard K. Crump		MGMT	YES	AG
	Elect Director Richard K. Crump				
1.20	Elect Director Peter Ting Kai Wu		MGMT	YES	AG
	Elect Director Peter Ting Kai Wu				
2.00	Ratify Auditors		MGMT	YES	FO
	Ratify Auditors				
Sterling Chemicals, Inc.					
		SCHI 859166AA8	4/16/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Richard K. Crump		MGMT	YES	AG
	Elect Director Richard K. Crump				
1.20	Elect Director Peter Ting Kai Wu		MGMT	YES	AG
	Elect Director Peter Ting Kai Wu				
2.00	Ratify Auditors		MGMT	YES	FO
	Ratify Auditors				
Sun Healthcare Group, Inc.					
		SUNH 866933401	5/19/04	Annual	
1.10	Elect Director Gregory S. Anderson		MGMT	YES	FO
1.20	Elect Director Richard K. Matros		MGMT	YES	FO
1.30	Elect Director Bruce C. Vladeck, Ph.D.		MGMT	YES	FO
1.40	Elect Director Milton J. Walters		MGMT	YES	FO
2.00	Approve Omnibus Stock Plan		MGMT	YES	FO
3.00	Ratify Auditors		MGMT	YES	FO
Washington Group International Inc					
		WGII 938862208	5/7/04	Annual	
1.00	Declassify the Board of Directors		MGMT	YES	FO
2.10	Elect Director Stephen G. Hanks		MGMT	YES	FO
2.20	Elect Director Michael P. Monaco		MGMT	YES	FO
2.30	Elect Director Cordell Reed		MGMT	YES	FO
2.40	Elect Director Bettina M. Whyte		MGMT	YES	FO
3.00	Ratify Auditors		MGMT	YES	FO
4.00	Approve Omnibus Stock Plan		MGMT	YES	AG

Any ballot marked 'Abstain' is considered to have been voted. Ballots marked 'Abstain' are considered to have been voted against management's recommendation, regardless of whether the recommendation is 'For' or 'Against,' except where management has made no recommendation or has recommended that shareholders 'Abstain.'

Where management has recommended that shareholders 'Abstain' from voting on a ballot item: 1) a ballot marked 'Abstain' is considered to have been voted for management's recommendation to 'Abstain' and 2) a ballot voted 'For' or 'Against' is considered to have been voted against management's recommendation to 'Abstain.'

Where management has made no recommendation on a ballot item, the abbreviation "N/A" is used to denote that there is no applicable recommendation compared to which a vote may be 'For' or 'Against' the recommendation of management.

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SIGNATURES:

Pursuant to the requirements of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Putnam Premier Income Trust

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(Registrant)

By:           /s/ Charles E. Porter\*, Executive Vice President,  
              Associate Treasurer and Principal Executive Officer

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(Signature & Title)

Date: August 23, 2004

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\* By Jonathan S. Horwitz,  
pursuant to a Power-of-Attorney