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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

 (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

 (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 |
| 1.20 Elect Director Anthony G. Eames | | | MGMT | | YES |
| 1.30 Elect Director Charles M. Elson | | | MGMT | | YES |
| 1.40 Elect Director David R. Hilty | | | MGMT | | YES |
| 1.50 Elect Director Paul A. Houston | | | MGMT | | YES |
| 1.60 Elect Director Olivia F. Kirtley | | | MGMT | | YES |
| 1.70 Elect Director John S. Lacey | | | MGMT | | YES |
| 1.80 Elect Director William R. Riedl | | | MGMT | | YES |
| 1.90 Elect Director W. Macdonald Snow, Jr. | | | MGMT | | YES |

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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

(Registrant)

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

(Signature & Title)

Date: August 23, 2004

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