User Name:

GayleLBatt

Candidate email address

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Would you be likely to support or oppose a bill to:

Raise the sales tax

Oppose

Lower the sales tax

Support

Please explain your position:

I would like to eliminate the personal property tax first. We made great strides in reducing the income tax this year and I would like to get this punitive tax even lower. I do not believe that we should be penalizing hardworking folks or their businesses for success.

Raise the income tax

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I was thrilled that we reduced the income tax this Legislative Session.

Lower the income tax

Support

Please explain your position:

What a great victory to lower the income tax during the 2012 Session!

Raise excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I am firmly against "sin" taxes.

Lower excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Support

Provide special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Support

Repeal special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Oppose

Collect sales tax on Internet sales by participating in the national Streamline Sales Tax Project

Oppose

Propose a constitutional amendment to require a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate on tax increases

Support

Please explain your position:

I supported this legislation in Committee and on the Floor of the House in the 2012 Legislative Session.

Propose a constitutional amendment to require a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate for fee increases

Support

Eliminate income and/or sales tax exemptions, credits and deductions in order to raise state government revenue

Oppose

Eliminate income and/or sales tax exemptions, credits and deductions in order to lower the overall sales and/or income tax rates

Oppose

Put in place stronger limitations on government spending in Idaho

Support

Reduce, reform or end participation in entitlement programs such as unemployment insurance, Medicaid and food stamps

Support

Please explain your position:

I am continually frustrated that the State's hands are tied by the Federal government when it comes to placing limitations on entitlement programs.

Expand participation in entitlement programs such as unemployment insurance, Medicaid and food stamps

Oppose

Repeal the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Not sure

Please explain your position:

I supported significant changes to the Urban Renewal laws during the 2011 and 2012 Session. I recognize that there are some communities that have properly utilized the law for the original intent, however there are plenty examples of bad actors that have taken advantage of the opportunity. I would like to see **project specific plans** be approved by the voters. The Urban Renerawal agency deals with a large sum of taxpayer's dollars and I believe they should be **elected** instead of appointed. I firmly believe that the Urban Renewal agency **should not have the power of eminent domain** . Taxpayers need to know how much of their money goes to an Urban Renewal agency. If we do not see decreased abuses of the Urban Renewal law, then I would fully support repeal.

Expand the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Oppose

Reform urban renewal by limiting the projects and holding elections for urban renewal commissioners

Support

Please explain your position:

I voted for this change during the 2011 Legislative Session.

Ban the Land Board or other government agencies from owning businesses that compete with the private sector

Support

Ban minors from using tanning beds

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I voted against this bill during the 2012 Session. Individuals need to be accountable, that includes making informed decisions and measuring risk.

Allow Idahoans to buy health insurance across state lines

Support

Please explain your position:

I voted in Committee and on the House floor supporting legialation that would have allowed Idahoans to buy insurance acrosss state lines.

Create a state government health insurance exchange

Oppose

Expand school choice options in Idaho including charter schools, public schools and home schools

Support

In general, I believe state government (select one):

Regulates too much, and such regulations should be cut

Please explain your position:

The need to remove burdensome government regulations is one of the main reasons I became involved in the policy arena. Government should not be the greatest threat or hurdle to the success of business or the individual.