User Name:

MikeDuff

Candidate email address

voteformikeduff@gmail.com

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

Raise the sales tax

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I do not support raising sales taxes.

Lower the sales tax

Support

Please explain your position:

Idaho is often uncompetitive because of our relatively high sales tax.

Raise the income tax

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I oppose raising income taxes. I support a flat tax concept.

Lower the income tax

Support

Please explain your position:

Lower tax rates stimulate the economy and provide stability for families.

Raise excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Oppose

Please explain your position:

In Bingham County such tax increases will place our businesses at a competitive disadvantage with those on the Ft. Hall reservation. Government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers.

Lower excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Government has a compelling interest in regulating these substances. Excise taxes are limiting to a degree and meet the constitutional goal of maintaining the public morals, while providing for excercise of conscience and personal freedom.

Provide special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I am pro-business. But I beleive that in the long-run we need a level, fair, flat tax that will be applied to all citizens and businesses. It is in the best interests of the people and our state and republic that everyone pay something to support the state, as everyone benefits from it. I do not believe that government should be in the business of picking winners and losers. Tax policy should encourage free market enterprise, but not by granting special treatment but from being as unobtrusive as possible.

Repeal special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Until the conditions described in the previous answer can me met, consistency in tax policy is important. Uncertainty benefits no one. Lets do a comprehensive reform and let our people do what they do best.

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

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

Please explain your position:

Eventually this will be done in order to establish a flat tax. Until such a flat tax reform is in place, consistency and depenability are important for the economy.

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:

We must reform these programs to end the cycle of dependence on such programs. The people of Idaho are very generous, but the intention of these programs was for temporary assistance. Reform is necessary to eliminate dependence, lower the burden to the taxpayer, and to put the proper role of government back into proper perspective.

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

Oppose

Repeal the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Oppose

Expand the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Support

Please explain your position:

If urban renewal agencies meet the criteria outlined in the next answer, then I would consider expanding the process. I worry about about unaccountable people indebting the people. But it can work if properly structured and responsibly administered. In Bingham County we have had reasonable success.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

The concept of urban renewal can work if there is a responsible, elected controlling body with a fiduciary responsibility to protect the tax payer. These bodies must be accountable to the taxpaters.

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:

Is this what government is for? I dont think so.

Allow Idahoans to buy health insurance across state lines

Support

Create a state government health insurance exchange

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I oppose action on creating health care exchanges until they are ruled constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court (heaven forbid), are market based, prohibit the subsidization of abortion , contain conscience or religious exemptions for health care providers, insurors, customers

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