User Name:

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

Raise the sales tax

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Raising the sales tax will certainly increase revenues but will also give government to ability to expand.

Lower the sales tax

Support

Please explain your position:
Lowering the tax allows people to keep more of the hard earn dollars. With more disposable income they may even make more purchases which will yet improve the economy.

Raise the income tax

Oppose

Please explain your position:

This is detrimental to the economy as people will have less disposable income. Such a move can be

counter-productive.

Lower the income tax

Support
Please explain your position:
Lowering the rate may allow people to make more purchases and stimulate the economy. They may even be afforded the opportunity to improve their personal savings giving themselves a more secure future.

Raise excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Why should one particular segment of the population be targeted?

Lower excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Leave it at current levels.

Provide special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Oppose

Please explain your position:

No one class should be given special treatment. If breaks are given they should apply to all.

Repeal special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Support

Please explain your position:
As in the previous question these breaks need to be reviewed. We need to level the playing field for all industries not just give certain enterprises an advantage.

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

Oppose
Please explain your position:
We all have disdain unfunded for unfunded mandates. This would make businesses "Tax Collectors" in other states for the benefit of Idaho. The intent may appear to encourage purchasing within Idaho but in reality is just another revenue generator from a different source.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

We need to make it more difficult to raise taxes.

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

Support
Please explain your position:
This will make it harder to raise fees.

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

Oppose

Please explain your position:
If we eliminate these exemptions in order to raise revenue we will be taxed on services such a visit to a barber or an attorney. Also, manufacturers would pay taxes on their materials prior to final production. This then cuts into their profit margin and they earn less or pass it on to the consumer. Either way it ends up being double taxation.

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:
Here again eliminating these exemptions allows for taxation on services provided such as a plumber or a physician. The ultimate goal is to lower the taxes, broaden the base then incrementally increase them again claiming a desperate need for increased revenue. To me it seems nothing more than smoke and mirrors.

Put in place stronger limitations on government spending in Idaho

Support

Please explain your position:
The statement is self-explanatory. If limitations aren't imposed government expands and will need greater revenue which translates into higher taxation.

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

Support

Please explain your position:
These programs are always need of reform in order to discourage abuses to the system.

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

Oppose

Please explain your position:

If expansion were to occur funding for these will only mean higher taxation.

Repeal the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Support

Please explain your position:

These programs erode the tax base and siphon funds away from other needed areas in taxing districts.

Expand the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Expansion will erode the tax base even further.

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

Support

Please explain your position:
People need to know what is going on in their communities. By giving people a say in who will be running these projects, it will allow the people to review the individuals but also the projects the commissioners intend to get involved with and thereby determine limitations if necessary.

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

Support

Please explain your position:
The private sector already has competition within their specific industries. Why allow a government agency to compete in a sector when they clearly having an advantage by not having to pay property taxes.

Ban minors from using tanning beds

Oppose

Please explain your position:

This is a parental decision matter.

Allow Idahoans to buy health insurance across state lines

Support
Please explain your position:
This will provide additional competitiveness which gives Idahoans the opportunity to determine the best coverage available for their specific needs at the best available cost.

Create a state government health insurance exchange

Oppose
Please explain your position:
Constitutionally a national health care scheme is not an area the Federal government should be involved in. However, if we are unable to undo what they have already instituted we do not need another government agency, more government expansion, to handle the administration requirements. This should be handled in the private sector.

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

Support
Please explain your position:
Parents must be given the opportunity to provide the best education for their children through innovative educational opportunities.

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

Regulates too much, and such regulations should be cut

Please explain your position:

Get government out of the way so that we can retain more of the fruits of our labor. Governments exist from revenue derived from taxation of people and businesses. Real jobs are not created by government but rather the private sector. In order for government to survive businesses have to thrive.