User Name:

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

Raise the sales tax

Not sure

Please explain your position:

This is an issue that many people have brought up as I have been knocking on doors in my District. It is something that I would like to look into further before opposing or supporting. If sales taxes were increased, there would need to be an equal decrease in taxes elsewhere to offset. Many of the people I have met with feel that increasing sales tax and lowering property taxes would be a better way to support the government.

Lower the sales tax

Oppose

Raise the income tax

Oppose

Lower the income tax

Oppose

Raise excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Support

Please explain your position:

I would be in support of raising taxes on tobacco, IF those revenues were directed to programs directly related to the use of tobacco/cigarettes.

Lower excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Oppose

Provide special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Support

Please explain your position:

This would not be an essential free for all, but for businesses/industries that would have the greatest positive impacts on Idahoans. I have seen an unfair balance of monies being awarded to certain businesses in my community, while others are overlooked. There is a fine line that has to be monitored so as to not provide an unfair playing field for business.

Repeal special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Not sure

Please explain your position:

I would support and oppose these types of repeals, dependent on whether they are providing an actual benefit to the business community in general. Reiterating what I said in my previous answer, you must be careful not to get in the way of a free enterprise system, where the invisible hand guides business growth. However, there are circumstances that bolstering businesses can provide a long lasting positive impact for the State.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

The more I think about this sales tax, the more in favor I am of it. It essentially levels the playing field for all businesses. By not collecting a sales tax, you are essentially providing special tax breaks for online retailers, and in this instance I do not believe this provides for a long lasting positive impact for our State.

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

Not sure

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

Oppose

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

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I support fiscal responsibility at any level of government. I also believe that the State needs the ability to spend tax dollards wisely as it deems appropriate. While this type of legislation would be beneficial for unecessary spending, it would hamstring certain expenditures that are prudent and appropriate.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

I believe we need to completely re-evaluate all State run entitlement programs. I am a strong proponent of giving someone a helping hand, not a handout. A helping hand means that the person receiving aid is being an active participant in the aid. Whether that is establishing community farms that recipients are

required to work so many hours in order to receive that aid or a similar program, I would be in full support of that.

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

Oppose

Repeal the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Support

Please explain your position:

Urban renewal in its simplest form is taxation without representation. I have seen Urban Renewal projects that were beneficial to the community where they were built. However, that doesn't mean that the projects could not have been accomplished by allowing the people to have a say on paying for it. I believe providing a local option tax would be a better way to fund such projects.

Expand the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Oppose

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

Not sure

Please explain your position:

This would be something to look into, dependent on the limitations of the projects and terms of the commissioners.

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

Oppose

Ban minors from using tanning beds

Oppose

Allow Idahoans to buy health insurance across state lines

Support

Create a state government health insurance exchange

Not sure

Please explain your position:

This is something that I would want to investigate further and see the benefits and drawbacks before taking a stand in support or opposition.

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:

More often than not, the most seamlessly run companies are those that have the simplest processes. Over the years government has continued to grow, but not evolve. If today's businesses had not evolved over time and took advantage of the technological and other advances the world has seen, they would have been out of business decades ago. There are government programs that need to be cut or eliminated. There are other programs that should be bolstered up or even new programs to deal with todays world and economy. We have to be progressive in order to be productive!