User Name:
ToddLakey

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

Raise the sales tax
Oppose
Please explain your position:
On any piece of proposed legislation I am committed to considering and weighing the positions of and information from both sides. So I would consider the reasons behind such a proposal but the above is my likely answer. This committment applies to all my answers contained herein.

Lower the sales tax
Not Sure
Please explain your position:
Need to see the reasons and supporting information.

Raise the income tax
Oppose

Lower the income tax
Support
Please explain your position:
I see this as a tool to promote economic development and growth and expansion of commerce and industry.

Raise excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine
Not sure
Please explain your position:
I generally work not to raise taxes. However, tobacco for example has specific economic impacts on the other taxpayers that do not use the product in the form of increased medical costs born by government. Therefore I am open to considering such an increase on that product as a matter of equity for the majority of tax payers. That said I need to see and analyze the relevant information before deciding.

Lower excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine
Not sure
Please explain your position:
See above and need to see and review applicable information.

Provide special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries
Not sure
Please explain your position:
I am not sure what you mean by this question. I am likely to oppose a tax break solely for an individual business on the grounds of tax equity. However, I also may likley support tax incentives to promote innovation and expansion of commerce and industry in certain broader catagories of commerce and industry.

Repeal special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries
Not sure
Please explain your position:
See above

Collect sales tax on Internet sales by participating in the national Streamline Sales Tax Project
Not sure
Please explain your position:
Dont want a tax increase but also would want tax equity among businesses and purchasers in Idaho. So need review the information and arguments from both sides. A "national effort" does necessarily endear sympathy.

Propose a constitutional amendment to require a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate on tax increases
Not sure
Please explain your position:
I support this concept in local elections of the voting public. The citizens have excercised their will in electing their legislators and I am not sure how I feel about the same application in the legisaltive body of our republic. Need more thought and information.

Propose a constitutional amendment to require a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate for fee increases
Oppose
Please explain your position:
Again I don't favor increasing the cost of government. However, I view fees for users which may help lessen the burden on the general taxpayers that do not use that service more favorably than a general tax increase.

Eliminate income and/or sales tax exemptions, credits and deductions in order to raise state government revenue
Oppose
Please explain your position:
Case by case basis. Again often a good reason for a particular exemption.

Eliminate income and/or sales tax exemptions, credits and deductions in order to lower the overall sales and/or income tax rates
Not sure
Please explain your position:
See above

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:
Again devil is in the details but seems to be room for improvement

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

Repeal the use of urban renewal in Idaho
Oppose
Please explain your position:
I believe there has been a good compromise in the Urban renewal statutes last year and we should give them a chance to see how they work. Urban renewal can be a tool for economic development if used properly.

Expand the use of urban renewal in Idaho
Oppose

Reform urban renewal by limiting the projects and holding elections for urban renewal commissioners
Oppose
Please explain your position:
Lets see how the current reforms work

Ban the Land Board or other government agencies from owning businesses that compete with the private sector
Support
Please explain your position:
A good general concept but need to see examples.

Ban minors from using tanning beds
Not sure
Please explain your position:
Don't use the things and don't know the pros and cons.

Allow Idahoans to buy health insurance across state lines
Not sure
Please explain your position:
I am generally a free market guy but need to know more.

Create a state government health insurance exchange
Not sure
Please explain your position:
I oppose and detest Obamacare. Avoid if we can but better us than the feds.

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