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:

In today's challenging economy, raising the sales tax would only make things worse. Our legislature needs to evaluate their spending instead of looking for ways to increase revenue by raising any taxes on Idahoans.

Lower the sales tax

Support

Please explain your position:

Less sales tax will improve the economy as people will have more money to spend. A perfect example is the fact that when I need to make some major purchases at Costco, I will drive the extra 45 minutes from my house to go to Kalispell, Montana instead of Coeur d'Alene. That is because there is no sales tax in Montana, and it saves me a lot of money vs. the gas and time it takes to get there. People are looking for ways to save even small amounts of money to be able to put food on the table, make their house payments and keep their lights on.

Raise the income tax

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Again, our legislature needs to curb spending and all of the entitlement programs that are given away indiscriminately. When people have more income and are able to support themselves, there will be less welfare and people can be responsible for themselves instead of relying on government.

Lower the income tax

Support

Please explain your position:

Idaho needs to take back our lands from the federal government, especially here in north Idaho. The USFWS is in the middle of trying to close down another 375,362 acres of our Selkirk Mountain Range, making it even more difficult for people up here to make a living. The USFS has shut down so many of our roads that residents cannot log, ride their snowmobilies, ATV's, ride their horses, go fishing, hunting or even huckleberry picking because of all the closures and onerous federal regulations.

Raise excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Although I do not smoke, I do not believe that our state legislature should be singling out people for specific taxes to pay for other programs.

Lower excise taxes on tobacco, beer or wine

Not sure

Please explain your position:

I am not familiar enough with the excise taxes on these commodities to make an informed comment.

Provide special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I do not believe that this is the way to go. If a business is viable in today's economic climate, then they should do like the rest of us: put our free market principles forth and do what we can to be successful. I am a real estate broker and I certainly don't expect anyone to provide a special tax break to me in order for me to be successful. I work hard and provide great service and integrity to my clients. If I do my job I will get repeat business. If I don't, then I won't, nor should I.

Repeal special tax breaks to certain businesses or industries

Support

Please explain your position:

Idaho should welcome businesses to Idaho with open arms, but not at the expense of its taxpayers by providing special tax breaks for businesses to come here or to stay here. We are a right to work state, we are a Republican state that according to our platform we believe in free market values. We should make the business atmosphere here desirable but not at the expense of everyone else. All businesses should have the same opportunity to prosper, not just some.

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

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Absolutely not. Again, this goes back to free market values. I spoke to one gal that argued that it is unfair competition for retail stores. She may have a point, but many people up in north Idaho, especially in Boundary County, do not have access to many goods and retail products. Businesses with good service and products to sell will actually do better because not everyone wants to shop on line. Many people want to see, feel, taste or have the "hands on" experience of the product. Again, spending needs to be curbed instead of looking for more ways to take money out of our wallets to pay for someone else's wants.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

Tax increases are detrimental to our economy and to raise them should require a larger majority of legislators voting on them than by a simple majority.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

The same goes for fee increases as for tax increases. When the fishing license fees went up, many people just quit buying them (like my husband) as they had gotten so far from a reasonable amount of money to throw a fishing line in the water. So what happened then? They raised the fees again because there were less people buying fishing licenses. Fees to me is just another word for taxes.

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

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Most income exemptions, credits and deductions, at least in my experience, have to do with business expenses for self-employed business people like myself. When we have an actual business related deduction, if we could not take that deduction, it would make it even more difficult to stay in business.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

Any legislation that lowers overall sales and/or income tax rates I would be in favor of. If there are loopholes that businesses are using to not pay their fair share, then those should be eliminated or at the very least evaluated.

Put in place stronger limitations on government spending in Idaho

Support

Please explain your position:

I believe if our Idaho Constitution did not mandate a balanced budget, we would be in the predicament that many other states are in. California is a perfect example. Their out of control spending has nearly bankrupted that state, and instead of curbing spending, they continually raise taxes, running hard working, middle class people as well as businesses out of the state. I would like Idaho to have a budget plan using "zero based budgeting" at least every 3 to 5 years. This is basically having each department starting from scratch and making sure that those departments are funded with money that is "needed", not just "wanted." You will seldom find any governmental entity returning unspent funds. In fact, the opposite occurs. They always ask for more than they need just to make sure that they don't lose funds. They figure if they don't spend it all, they will have less money during the next fiscal year, whether they need it or not.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

By improving Idaho's economy by getting our lands and forests back from the control of the federal government, we can be a self-sufficient state instead of a welfare state that is taken care of by the federal government. PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) also known as SRS (secure rural schools) is money coming in from the federal gov't because 75% of Boundary County and 69% of Bonner County are

controlled by the federal gov't. If Idaho would take back control of our natural resources, we could be one of the richest states in the country. USFS can be replaced by the IDL, the USFWS can be replaced by IDFG and the EPA can go away and DEQ can step in, and allow Idahoans to manage our state instead of the Feds.

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

Oppose

Please explain your position:

Any federal funding comes with strings attached. The more money Idaho takes from the federal gov't, the more dependent our citizens become on the federal gov't. Idaho needs to become self-sufficient. It will be painful and will take time, but to do otherwise will keep Idaho under the thumb of the Feds. Churches and charities should play a bigger part in helping our citizens than the gov't does.

Repeal the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Support

Please explain your position:

Urban renewal is just more taxes that go to special interests. In Boundary County, Bonners Ferry City Council pushed through an Urban Renewal program just before the law changed that required a vote of the people. People up here were against it, but the liberal city council went forward with it anyway. According to Idaho Statute, urban renewal is to be used for very specific reasons, i.e., blighted areas, which Bonners Ferry does not have. It is being abused here as well as many other places to the detriment of the taxpaying public.

Expand the use of urban renewal in Idaho

Oppose

Please explain your position:

For the same reasons as stated above.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

In areas that truly are in need of an urban renewal program, then the commissioners need to be voted in, not appointed by cronies of those in political power. This just leads to more abuse. All urban renewal projects need to be approved by the voters and so should those that serve on the commission that makes the decisions. Voters can then make the commissioners accountable.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

Any function that can be performed by free enterprise vs. government should prevail. No governmental agency should be in competition with any business. Government needs to get out of the way of businesses instead of forestalling economic growth or competing with them.

Ban minors from using tanning beds

Oppose

Please explain your position:

I do not know if there is a health issue involved here, but my first thought is that if a minor wants to get a tan, then that should be the decision of the parent(s), not the government. We already have too many regulations controlling our lives and making the decisions that should be left up to parents.

Allow Idahoans to buy health insurance across state lines

Support

Please explain your position:

When there is competition in any industry, that is good for the people. We are limited in Idaho regarding health insurance so competition from other insurance companies from other states would be welcome. Then the Idaho insurance companies would have to become competitive or lose the business of the populace.

Create a state government health insurance exchange

Oppose

Please explain your position:

A state run governmental health insurance exchange is simply getting on board Obamacare, no matter what they want you to believe. Free enterprise needs to reign, not more government whether it be the State of Idaho, or the federal gov't.

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

Support

Please explain your position:

Parents, not government, should have the final say on how their children are educated, whether it be a charter school, public school or home schools. Some of the most intelligent, communicative and well-informed kids I have spoken too have been home schooled. I would like to see vouchers for all parents for their children so they can actually have the ability to choose their children's educational paths. Many parents up here have no choice but to send their kids to public school due to the costs of private or charter schools.

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

Regulates too much, and such regulations should be cut

Please explain your position:

Government that rules least, rules best!!! For more information on me, please go to my website at: www.Capurso4Idaho.com. I will never waver from the core values and principles of being Pro-life, Pro-God and Pro-Constitution, especially when it comes to the 2nd amendment!