

IMPulse

Intermountain Media Pulse

A TRUETONE INCORPORATED COMPANY

**news
CLIP**

11623 Lake Shore
Nampa, ID 83686
(208) 880-9814

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho

Monday May 8, 2017

by Nathan Brown

Page 1 of 1

Most Idahoans support idea of local sales tax for roads, poll finds

Most Idahoans support the idea of letting cities levy a local option sales tax to fund road and transportation projects, according to the latest poll released by Idaho Politics Weekly.

While support for the idea is strongest among self-identified Democrats and liberals, majorities even of Republicans and conservatives support it, according to Dan Jones and Associates' findings.

The polling firm surveyed 628 Idahoans from Feb. 16 to 18. The poll, which found 72 percent support for the idea and 21 percent opposition, had a 4 percent margin of error.

A proposal to do just this was included in one of the larger transportation funding deals this session but didn't make it into the final version that passed.

The power to levy local option sales taxes in Idaho is mostly restricted to a handful of designated "resort cities" now. Local officials in larger cities such as Boise and Twin Falls have at times called for expanded authority to levy a local option tax. Bills to do this have been floated in recent years, most recently one in 2014 that would have let cities levy a local option tax to fund specific projects, but haven't made it out of committee. The idea's supporters tend to be either Democratic lawmakers or Republicans who represent the handful of big retail hub cities that could benefit; Republicans representing more rural districts whose constituents could potentially pay more while benefiting less tend to oppose it.

The poll found 70-23 support for the idea among Republicans, 70-24 among independents, 82-12 among Democrats and 73-10 among members of minor political parties. (Most of which are conservative in Idaho.) People who self-identify as "very conservative" back it 62-32, while moderates favor it 84-10, and people who call themselves "very liberal" favor it 85-7.

###

Copyright 2017 Times-News