



Conducted by GS Strategy Group
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 Project Details: Conducted February 21-24, 2019
 N = 500 Likely Voters
 Margin of Error: +/-4.38%
 Paid for by Close the Gap Idaho

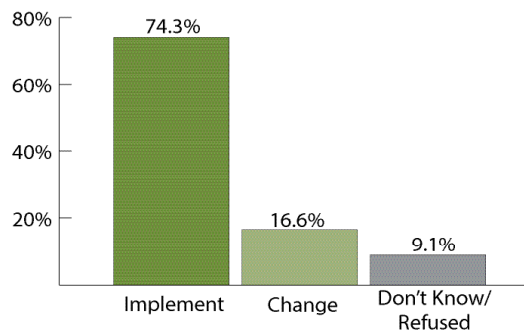
New Poll Shows Idahoans Support Unmodified Implementation of Medicaid Expansion, Oppose High-Stakes Reporting Requirements

Unmodified Implementation, No Barriers to Coverage

A new poll conducted February 21-24, 2019 found that Idahoans overwhelmingly support the unmodified implementation of Medicaid expansion while opposing modifications that increase administrative costs and deny access to care. Following the passage of Proposition 2 in November with 61% of the yes vote, 74% of Idahoans feel the Legislature should implement the law as it was passed by the voters, while 17% say the law should be changed.

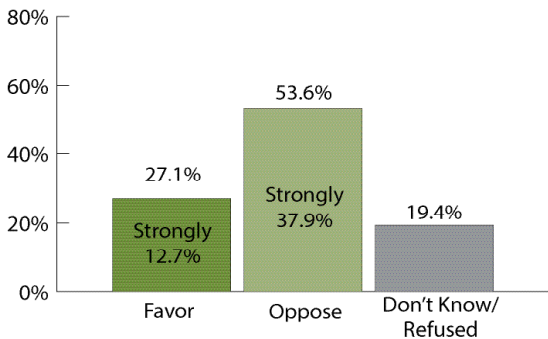
The Medicaid expansion measure, or Proposition 2, passed with 61% of the vote and is now law. Knowing this, which of the following comes closer to your opinion?

- The legislature should implement the will of the people as passed by the voters.
- The legislature should change the law passed by voters.



	Overall	Party		
		Democratic	Independent	Republican
Implement	74.3	92.6	76.6	66.2
Change	16.6	6.6	13.5	22.4
<i>Net</i>	<i>+57.7</i>	<i>+86.0</i>	<i>+63.1</i>	<i>+43.8</i>

Currently, the Idaho Legislature is considering changing the Medicaid expansion law passed by Idaho voters by adding new rules to determine who can get Medicaid coverage. Knowing that a new rule would cost the state at least \$2 million in administrative costs, do you favor or oppose the Legislature adding new rules to determine who can get Medicaid coverage?



	Overall	Party		
		Democratic	Independent	Republican
Favor	27.1	13.9	19.0	35.6
Oppose	53.6	75.7	62.6	41.7
<i>Net</i>	<i>-26.5</i>	<i>-61.8</i>	<i>-43.6</i>	<i>-6.1</i>

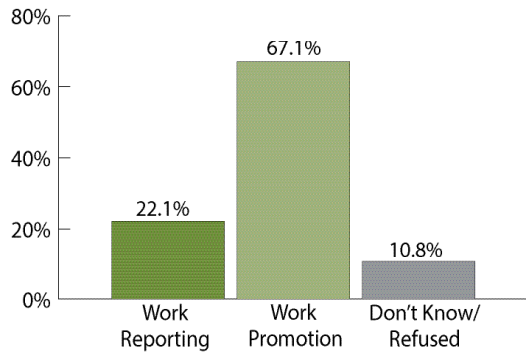
Idahoans Oppose Spending \$2 million on Administrative Costs

In the wake of the election, legislators are considering changing the law to include work-reporting requirements, projected to cost \$2 million annually. However, the poll found that 54% of Idahoans oppose spending additional money on administrative costs to change Medicaid expansion passed by the voters.

When asked about their budget priorities, Idahoans would prefer the Legislature prioritize spending on education and transportation instead. 81% of Idahoans say that tax dollars would be better invested in education (49%) or repairing Idaho's roads and bridges (32%). Only 11.5% favor increasing administrative costs beyond Governor Little's budget recommendation to fund unmodified Medicaid expansion.

Which of the following comes closer to your opinion?

- Idaho should create **new reporting requirements** which will make individuals prove they are working a certain number of hours or trying to find a job in order to qualify for Medicaid coverage, even if it costs Idaho taxpayers millions of dollars per year to track the paperwork
- Idaho should **create a program that connects individuals with job training and education assistance** when they apply for Medicaid, which would cost much less than adding new requirements to Medicaid.



	Overall	Party		
		Democratic	Independent	Republican
Favor	22.1	10.8	26.1	26.3
Oppose	67.1	79.9	66.3	61.6
<i>Net</i>	<i>+45.0</i>	<i>+69.1</i>	<i>+40.2</i>	<i>+35.3</i>

Work Promotion, Not Work Requirements

As an alternative to work reporting requirements, the poll found that 67% of Idahoans favor a less-costly and more effective work promotion program. This program would refer Medicaid participants to job training and education without threatening to take away their healthcare.

Work promotion programs have been proven successful in other states, including Montana, where program data show increased labor force participation rates among low-income households. After completion of their training, 58% of Montana participants increased wage earnings by an average of \$8,712 annually.

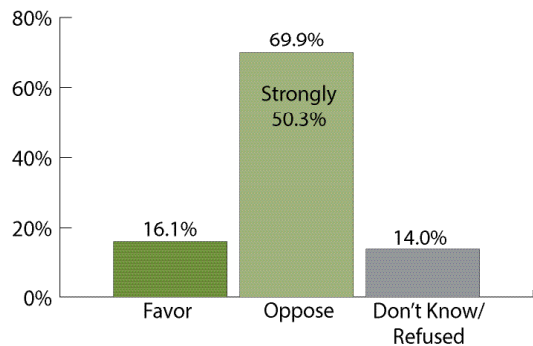
1 Montana Department of Labor & Industry "Help-Link Program 2018 Fiscal Year Report". http://lmi.mt.gov/Portals/193/Publications/LMI-Pubs/Special%20Reports%20and%20Studies/HELP-Link_2018Report.pdf

Idahoans Support Less Bureaucracy and Red Tape

70% of Idahoans oppose taking away health coverage from Medicaid participants who do not meet work-reporting requirements.

Idahoans, by wide margins and across political parties, oppose changes to Medicaid that was just passed by the voters. Seven out of ten Idahoans oppose the idea of taking coverage away when an Idahoan experiences a job loss, cannot meet new work reporting requirements, or cannot navigate the bureaucracy.

Legislators are considering a number of changes to the law that would add red tape and make it harder for people to enroll in Medicaid. Would you favor or oppose taking away health coverage from low-income Idahoans if they are unable to meet the additional requirements or get caught up in bureaucracy through no fault of their own?



	Overall	Party		
		Democratic	Independent	Republican
Favor	16.1	8.5	13.5	20.7
Oppose	69.9	87.4	72.6	60.8
<i>Net</i>	<i>+53.8</i>	<i>+78.9</i>	<i>+59.1</i>	<i>+40.1</i>