



MEMORANDUM

TO: Glenn Hamer, President & CEO
Arizona Chamber of Commerce

FROM: Marcus Osborn, PhD., Deputy Director-Government and Public Affairs
R&R Partners

RE: Tax Package Poll Results

DATE: April 6, 2010

The Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Arizona Manufacturers Council contracted with R&R Partners and Summit Consulting group to conduct a poll of 500 likely voters during the week of March 29, 2010 to ascertain voter opinions about a proposed "Jobs Package". The statewide survey had a margin of error of +/- 4.5% at a 95% confidence level. Respondents were randomly chosen from the voter registration file among voters of all parties who have participated in two of the last three general elections (likely voters).

The gender of the respondents was broken down with 52.4% of the respondents being female and 47.6% male. Various counties were represented with 59.8% of the respondents from Maricopa; 16.2% from Pima; 13.6% from northern counties; and 10.4% from southern counties. The overall political parties were represented with 36.8% Republican; 33.2% Democrat, and 26.8% Independent. The remaining 3.2% was made up of other parties or refused to identify their party affiliation.

Elements of the Jobs Package utilized in the survey were derived primarily from the provisions contained in H.B. 2250 (Arizona Job Recovery Act). The legislation sponsored by Speaker of the House Kirk Adams has passed the House and is awaiting action by the Senate.

The results demonstrate that there is overwhelming support across the board for some type of state stimulus or jobs creation program. Support for the elements of H.B. 2250 are strong across all party affiliations even after supporting and opposing arguments are presented. Legislators should feel comfortable that a vote in support of the Jobs Package is a vote that is supported by their constituents.

Key Findings

Strong Support for the Idea of an Economic Reform Package

Arizonans overwhelmingly support the idea of an economic reform package with 60.4% of respondents replying they strongly agree with the need for an economic reform package and 24.4% of respondents somewhat agreeing Arizona needs a jobs package.

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Please tell if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree or have no opinion on the following statement.

“Arizona needs an economic reform package that will make Arizona more economically competitive and create jobs”

Strongly Agree	60.4%
Agree	24.4%
Somewhat Disagree	2.6%
Strongly Disagree	5%
No Opinion	5.6%
Undecided	2%
Refused	0%

When Arizona voters are asked whether they would advise their legislator to support a specific package modeled after H.B. 2250 the support remains strong with 69% of voters answering that they either strongly support or somewhat support the jobs package.

The legislature is proposing a “Jobs Package” developed by leading economists that would phase in future corporate income tax reductions, decrease future business property taxes, provide incentives for businesses who locate in depressed or rural areas, make tax reductions for manufacturers who produce high wage jobs, reduces individual income tax burden for small businesses and would fund the state’s job training program.

“If you were advising your Legislator today would you tell your legislator that you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, strongly oppose or have no opinion?”

Strongly Agree	39%
Agree	30%
Somewhat Disagree	6.6%
Strongly Disagree	10.8%
No Opinion	9.8%
Undecided	3.8%
Refused	0%

Since the Arizona Jobs Package has experienced a robust debate as it has moved through the process, we examined the overall support of the package once arguments both for and against the Jobs Package were presented. After the supporting and opposing argument 62.8% of the respondents still supported the package.

Arguments Presented In Opposition to the Jobs Package

- Arizona’s economy will recover without a Jobs Package
- Any effort to reduce business tax rates will lead to a reduction in future spending on K-12 education, university funding and health care.
- The reductions in corporate income taxes are really just corporate welfare and will do nothing to help Arizona.

Arguments Presented In Favor of the Jobs Package

- The package is supported by well-know business and economic development groups like the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- Arizona has lost a greater percentage of its workforce than any other state in the country, including California and Michigan.
- The Jobs Package was designed by leading economists who believe the legislation will spur economic growth and improve state revenues.
- The package would reduce Arizona’s corporate income tax rate so that we would be the 6th most competitive state in the country from 24th.
- It makes sense for us to reduce our corporate income tax rate so that it is lower than regional competitors such as Utah and Colorado.

“Now that I have read the arguments both for and against the Jobs Package, If you were advising your Legislator today would you tell your legislator that you strongly favor this package, somewhat favor this package, somewhat oppose this package, strongly oppose this package or you have no opinion?”

Strongly Favor	26.2%
Somewhat Favor	36.6%
Somewhat Oppose	11%
Strongly Oppose	13.8%
No Opinion	6.4%
Undecided	6%

Support for the Jobs Package Crosses Party Boundaries

The support for the Jobs Package crosses party boundaries as a majority of Republicans, Democrats and Independents either strongly favor or somewhat favor the package. After reviewing the arguments both for and against the Jobs Package, 72.29% of Republicans, 54.82% of Democrats and 58.21% of Independents either Strongly Favor or Somewhat Favor the package. This across the board support demonstrates that Arizonans are most concerned about getting our economy moving. Job creation is not a partisan issue although support for the package is strongest among Republicans. State legislators of both parties can be comforted in knowing that a vote in support of the Jobs Package is supported by their constituents.

“Now that I have read the arguments both for and against the Jobs Package, If you were advising your Legislator today would you tell your legislator that you strongly favor this package, somewhat favor this package, somewhat oppose this package, strongly oppose this package or you have no opinion?”

Party	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Strongly Favor	33.7%	19.88%	20.9%
Somewhat Favor	38.59%	34.94%	37.31%
Somewhat Oppose	7.61%	13.86%	12.69%
Strongly Oppose	5.98%	22.29%	15.67%
No Opinion	8.15%	5.42%	4.48%
Undecided	5.98%	3.61%	8.96%