

Study Shows Some In Michigan Support Tax Raise

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The more people know about Michigan's economy the more they support raising taxes. That according to a new state-wide poll. The results were aired on PBS stations across Michigan.

The poll was conducted by a group called "By the People". More than 300 different Michigan residents from diverse backgrounds participated in the scientific study.

All of them spent a weekend in Lansing where they got a big lesson in economics.

At the start of the study majority of the participants did not agree with raising taxes to fix the state's economy.

Many changed their minds after they went through small group sessions with economic experts, and dignitaries like Governor Jennifer Granholm.

The study shows that after the group was informed and had time to deliberate, most people changed their minds about how to fix the state's economy.

Support for increasing the state's sales tax increased from 37% to 51%. Support for increasing the income tax jumped from 27% to 45%.

More people agreed the state needs to transition into a greener Michigan(55%, 67%) and there was more support for increasing incentives to businesses that produce green products(60%, 75%).

Researchers believe participants were willing to accept tax increases after the indepth conversations because they recognized the need to maintain important services like education, healthcare, and pensions.

Researchers say they did this study to get the community more involved and to get them talking about the tough choices the state will have to make.

