



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**NEW POLL SHOWS VOTERS REJECTING *BY NEARLY 20 POINTS*
BRIAN HEYWOOD’S INITIATIVE THAT WOULD CUT BILLIONS
FROM EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE**

Initiative 645 is Deep Underwater as Voters Reject Cuts to Health Care and K-12 Education and Reject Tax Increases on Small Businesses and Working Families

SEATTLE, WA – Today, the coalition to defeat Initiative 645 released the results of a recent statewide survey, with numbers showing strong public support for rejecting a repeal of the Millionaires Tax, which is likely to go before voters on the November ballot.

The top line result of the poll – before any message testing – shows **only 38 percent of Washington voters support passing Initiative 645, with 57 percent saying they would vote ‘No’** – a 19 point margin against the measure. Conventional wisdom is that initiatives need to start above 60% in polling, and Initiative 645 starts 22 points under that benchmark.

The passage of Initiative 645 would result in at least \$16 billion in budget cuts to health care, child care, and K-12 education, and would lead to tax increases on small businesses and working families.

These poor polling results highlight the questionable decision-making of hedge fund multi-millionaire Brian Heywood, who is pushing the measure to avoid paying the tax that will only fall on the top one half of one percent of earners - just 20,000 people in the state.

Heywood’s decision to push this measure forward this year has come under fire from even his allies. In May, even Tim Eyman [issued a highly public warning](#) to Heywood urging him not to run an initiative in 2026.

“Brian Heywood is out on an island as he seeks to slash his own taxes while cutting essential funding for health care, child care, and K-12 education, and putting in jeopardy tax cuts for working and middle class families and small businesses. I-645 is sloppily written and fiscally irresponsible and this new polling shows that voters aren’t impressed,” said Erik Houser, spokesperson for the coalition to defeat Initiative 645. “That said, opponents of Initiative 645 are taking nothing for granted. We know that there is a lot of confusion among the public about the impacts of I-645 and the harm it would do to our

public schools and health care system, and our campaign has work to do to educate voters across our state.”

More on the poll (see attached memo):

The poll was conducted by the firm GBAO from June 7 – 11 via landline, cell phone, and text-to-web, and includes 1,000 likely 2026 general election voters. The margin of error is +/- 3.1 percentage points.

Respondents were first asked how they will vote on Initiative IP26-645, the ballot measure that Heywood is expected to turn in signatures for on Thursday:

Initiative Measure No. IP26-645 concerns state and local taxes. This measure would repeal a 9.9 percent tax on annual individual income over \$1,000,000; prohibit taxes measured by individual income and taxes on individual income or the receipt of individual income; and define “income.”

This measure would decrease funding for K-12 education, healthcare, human services, and higher education.

If the election were held today, would you vote yes or no on this measure?

Total Yes.....38
Total No.....57

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To: Interested Parties
From: GBAO
Date: June 30, 2026

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IP 645 Polling Results

Recent research on the initiative to repeal the Millionaire's Tax finds that voters oppose repealing the Millionaire's Tax by nearly 20 points. Only 38% of voters support passing Initiative 645, with 57% saying they would vote 'No.'

The following are key findings from a survey of likely 2026 voters in Washington conducted via landline, cellphone, and text-to-web. The survey of 1,000 likely voters was conducted June 7 – 11, 2026 and the total sample is subject to a ± 3.1 percentage-point margin of error at the 95% confidence level.

Before any message testing was conducted, 'No' starts with a solid advantage on an initiative to repeal the Millionaires Tax.

Initiative Vote

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If the election were held today, would you vote yes or no on this measure?

