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Could Tax Increases Speed Up the Economy? Democrats Say Yes

Generations of economists, across much of the ideological spectrum, have long held that higher taxes reduce investment, slowing economic growth. That drag, the consensus held, would offset the benefits to growth from increased government spending in areas like education.

Ms. Warren and other leading Democrats say the opposite. The

Democratic presidential nomination, contends that her plans to tax the rich and spend the revenue to lift the poor and the middle class would accelerate economic growth, not impede it. Other Democratic candidates are making similar claims about their taxand-spend proposals. Some liberal economists go further and say that simply taxing the rich would help growth no matter what the government did with the money.