



ACTION TOOLKIT

Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress are reeling over their failure to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA). So, they are pivoting to their next big priority: cutting taxes, mostly for the wealthy and big corporations.

Polling shows that the public doesn't like what they're offering, but Republicans will try to build public support for their tax plan, and Trump has committed to traveling the country to sell it. The Koch brothers are funding a massive lobbying campaign through their network of conservative groups. And the corporate tax lobby—from the Chamber of Commerce to the Business Roundtable—have committed to spending millions on TV ads.

Trump and Republicans plan to introduce their massive tax-giveaway legislation over the next several weeks. Make no mistake—they are still coming after our healthcare. Their plan is to cut Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, public education, and other priorities for working families in order to pay for tax breaks for millionaires and wealthy corporations. Trump's and Paul Ryan's Medicaid cuts alone are more drastic than what they proposed in their ACA repeal bills. It's no secret—these drastic cuts to services we all depend on along with their proposed tax cuts for the rich, are outlined in Trump's tax and budget plans summarized below.

Cutting taxes is the cornerstone of conservative ideology. Remember, a key part of Trumpcare was cutting \$600 billion in taxes on the rich and corporations, paid for by slashing Medicaid. **Just as we won the health care fight, we can win the tax fight.**

That's why we need to sustain and strengthen the grassroots energy that has helped us beat back attempts to repeal our healthcare. Phone calls, letters, sit-ins, protests, town halls, rallies—you name it, we need it. We need members of Congress to feel the heat, and we need the media to understand the public is opposed to cutting healthcare and education to fund tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations, period.

WHAT'S AT STAKE

The table below shows the harm that will occur to services that working families depend on if Trump's tax and budget plans are enacted by Congress. An online version of this table is available at StopTrumpTaxCuts.org.

<p style="text-align: center;">TRUMP-RYAN TAX CUTS (Tax Cuts Over 10 Years)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HARM TO WORKING FAMILIES (Trump's Budget Cuts Over 10 Years)</p>
<p>\$2.4 trillion: Total cost of GOP's unpaid-for tax cuts, mostly for the wealthy and corporations</p> <p><i>Note: Tax cuts below total more than \$2.4 trillion, as they are partially paid for by ending other tax breaks, many of which benefit the middle class.</i></p>	<p>\$4.3 trillion: Trump's budget cuts to Social Security, Medicaid, education & all other services</p>
<p>\$2 trillion corporate tax rate cut</p>	<p>\$2.5 trillion cut to services that boost working families</p>
<p>\$1.2 trillion tax cut from changing individual income tax rates mostly benefitting the rich</p>	<p>\$1.9 trillion cut to Medicaid and other health care services</p>
<p>\$770 billion tax cut for hedge fund managers, corporate lawyers and real estate developers like Trump</p>	<p>\$346 billion cut to education, training, employment and social services</p>
<p>Possible \$600 billion tax break on untaxed corporate profits now offshore</p>	<p>\$261 billion cut to transportation infrastructure</p>
<p>\$440 billion tax cut from repealing a minimum tax on the wealthy that will benefit Trump</p>	<p>\$193 billion cut to nutrition assistance</p>
<p>\$240 billion tax cut from repealing tax on estates worth more than \$5.5 million that will benefit Trump's heirs</p>	<p>\$72 billion cut to support for people with disabilities</p>

WHAT YOU CAN DO

#1 Stay informed and connected.

At StopTrumpTaxCuts.org you can get the information you need to stay informed and the resources you need to resist, including a digital toolkit for social media. Also visit [Facebook.com/Americans4TaxFairness](https://www.facebook.com/Americans4TaxFairness) and [@4taxfairness](https://twitter.com/4taxfairness) pages to keep updated.

#2. Be on message.

- The Trump-Ryan tax plan is not tax “reform,” it’s a TAX SCAM. It’s massive tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations that will be paid for by cutting Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and education.**
 - Federal revenue will be slashed by \$2.4 trillion because most of the tax breaks are not being paid for by closing tax loopholes. [Source: Tax Policy Center]

- To keep the deficit in check, Republicans will demand that the tax cuts for the rich and corporations be paid for by cutting Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education and many more priorities for working families.
- Such massive cuts are already in Trump's 2018 budget. It [slashes more than \\$4 trillion](#) from Social Security, Medicaid, education and other services. Ryan's budget on the floor of the House this week [slashes nearly \\$6 trillion](#) from Medicare, Medicaid, education and more.
- The wealthy and big corporations must pay their fair share so we can protect Social Security, healthcare, and education from cuts. They should not get one penny in tax cuts.

[Go here for our more detailed talking points.](#)

#3 **[Print one of these signs](#) for public events.**

Preferably on yellow paper so it is bold for the public and TV cameras to see. Take it to town hall meetings with your member of Congress and to other events. This format is to print on regular paper (8.5" x 11").

#4 **Ask your member of Congress questions at town halls.**

- **Trump's Tax Cuts:** President Trump and House Republicans are proposing tax cuts of \$3 trillion (House) to \$5 trillion (Trump). These will mostly benefit the wealthy and big corporations. To pay for these tax giveaways, their budgets propose about \$4 trillion in cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, public education and a lot of other critical services. **How will cutting taxes for millionaires and big corporations and paying for them by cutting critical services going to help my family? Will you commit to OPPOSE ANY new tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations to protect funding for Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and public education?**
- **Budget Vote in Congress:** Before Congress votes on tax legislation you will first vote on a budget and on a fast-track process known as reconciliation. This will pave the way for Congress to pass a massive tax cut later on that mostly benefits the wealthy and big corporations. This budget will put Medicare, Medicaid, education, and other critical services at great risk of being cut to pay for those tax cuts. **Will you commit to oppose any budget that puts tax cuts on the legislative fast-track known as reconciliation?** [Note: reconciliation was the procedure Republicans used to try to repeal the Affordable Care Act; it requires 51 votes in the Senate, rather than the usual 60.]
- **Corporate Taxes:** Corporate profits are at record highs but the amount corporations pay in federal taxes is at record lows. Few corporations pay close to the 35% tax rate. Many of them—like General Electric and Verizon—pay little or nothing because of all the tax loopholes. But President Trump and House Speaker Ryan want to give deep tax cuts to corporations anyway, including to corporations that send jobs and stash profits offshore. **Will you oppose tax cuts for corporations and fight to make sure they pay their fair share of taxes?** [Note: Trump proposes to cut the corporate tax rate from 35% to 15% and Ryan from 35% to 20%]

- **Not One Penny:** At a minimum, Congress should make sure that the wealthy and corporations do not get one more penny in new tax cuts. **Will you oppose any tax plan that results in the wealthy and corporations paying less in taxes than they pay now?**
- **Trump’s Tax Returns:** President Trump is proposing massive tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations. This includes a new low 15% tax rate for real estate developers like himself. Trump is the first president in 40 years not to release his tax returns. **Before you vote on tax legislation, will you demand to see Donald Trump’s tax returns so we know how he and his family may benefit from his tax plan?**

PUBLIC OPINION ON TAXES

[Gallup News Service](#) (April 5-9, 2017, Q 26)

- 67% of Americans think corporations pay too little in taxes.
- 63% of Americans think upper-income people pay too little in taxes.

[Pew Research Center](#) (April 5-11, 2017, Q. 67)

- 80% of Americans (62% “a lot”) are bothered that some corporations don’t pay their fair share of taxes.
- 78% of Americans (60% “a lot”) are bothered that some wealthy people don’t pay their fair share of taxes.

[Washington Post-ABC News poll](#) (Jan. 12-15, 2017, Q19c)

- 61% oppose “reducing income taxes paid by higher-income people,” while 36% support it.

SUGGESTED VISIBILITY EVENTS

Town Hall Meetings or “Empty Chair” Town Halls: If the Congressional Members in your area hold town halls, attend them and confront the Members with questions about where they stand on giving tax breaks to millionaires and corporations while cutting healthcare and education in the budget. If your Congressional targets do not hold town halls, organize an “empty chair” or “empty suit” town hall that brings together constituents to demand answers and accountability.

Constituency Events: Hold a press conference or other event that focuses on a particular impacted constituency like children, seniors, women, people of color, or small business. These events can be held in an iconic location that symbolizes your constituency (a small biz, school, hospital, clinic, nursing home, Social Security Office, etc.) and should feature directly impacted people as well as “experts” who can talk about broader impacts on this constituency. Experts can include doctors, teachers, local elected or state elected officials, academics and others.

Clergy-Led or Congregation Events: Hold a vigil, procession, march, prayer services or other religious themed events that condemns the reverse morality of giving more money to the wealthy and corporations at the expense of the most vulnerable Americans. Clergy can be

powerful messengers in these events and elevate scriptural teachings from a variety of traditions to challenge these policies and help the public understand what's at stake.

Direct Actions, Demonstrations & Rallies: Hold an event that directly confronts a targeted Member of Congress and challenges him/her to reject a budget that hurts constituents to give tax breaks to the rich and corporations. These events can be held in front of MOC offices, at MOC homes, outside a venue (like a fundraiser) where the MOC is speaking, or at a symbolic location in the district (i.e., a company that has shut down and offshored jobs). These events can also feature deliveries (petition signatures, paystubs, checks for millionaires, etc.)