



Congress Backs Off Medicare Cuts Lies & Reality About GOP Tax Plan



Pres. Trump Signs GOP Tax Plan; Medicare Spared

SOME GOOD NEWS!

On December 22nd, Congress agreed to waive the Senate's sequestration rules that said because its tax bill created over \$1 trillion in new debt in 10 years, it had to make \$136 billion in cuts in mandatory spending programs during 2018, including \$25 billion in cuts to Medicare. Protests (including calls from UUs and people of faith) helped motivate Congress to back off from these cuts in an election year. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Pres. Trump promised a "big fat, beautiful Christmas tax gift"
LETS OPEN IT UP!



The Lies and Reality About the Trump Tax Bill

(drawn from CNN analysis by Gregory Krieg, "The fine print of Trump's tax talking points", 12/22/17)

1. **Trump:** "It's the largest -- I always say the most massive -- but its the largest tax cut in the history of our country."

TRUTH: It's not. Trump's tax cut will be the fifth largest since 1964. Larger tax cuts as a percent of GNP came under Presidents Reagan, Obama and Kennedy.

2. **Trump:** "Excited to be heading home to see the House pass a GREAT Tax Bill with the middle class getting big tax cuts".

TRUTH: While not entirely false, this is fundamentally misleading. While 80% of tax filers will see some kind of cut, they are not the main target of the bill. As Trump himself conceded, "the corporate tax cut is probably biggest factor in this plan".

3. **Trump:** This plan "is going to cost me a fortune...believe me, this is not good for me".

TRUTH: The tax bill will almost surely further enrich Trump and his family.

The Point: Trump is always a salesman, but his sales pitch is about to come under greater scrutiny than past business deals. Its now up to citizen activists to inform the public that the GOP tax plan is not a good deal for poor or middle income people.

While the GOP wants us to believe their tax scam will help the middle class, the majority of Americans don't buy it. Per a 12/12/17 Marist University poll, 52% of Americans believe the bill will "harm their personal finances" and 60% of the respondents said it would provide the most relief to the wealthy. According to the Tax Policy Center, 62% of the GOP tax breaks will go to the top 1%, averaging \$33,000/year in 2027. Half of all households making \$200,000 or less will pay MORE in taxes in 2027.



With Medicare temporarily off the hook, Republicans will be looking for ways to cut \$1 trillion from the budget. We can expect funding for Food Stamps (SNAP), student loans, education and other social services to be on the chopping blocks. The tax bill also eliminates the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate to purchase subsidized health care. It's projected this will result in 13 million low income working people losing their health care coverage and will cause everyone's premiums to go up by 10 percent.

Click [HERE](#) for more information on the impacts of the GOP tax plan from Americans for Tax Fairness.

WE MUST RESIST, PROTEST AND PERSIST IN 2018!



Make Your Voice Heard!

Post your views on Facebook, including the pages of your members of Congress. This call to action is posted on Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network (MUUSJN) Facebook pages:

www.Facebook.com/MUUSJN
www.Facebook.com/ReproductionandJustice

PLEASE go there and share.

Together, we can do great things,

Randy Block, Director
 Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network

P.S. Please consider becoming a member or making a generous donation to MUUSJN by going to: www.uujustice.org/getinvolved.html before January 1, 2018. Under the new tax law, doubling the standard deduction would reduce incentives for charitable giving according to new research from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy.



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