

AMERICANS FOR TAX FAIRNESS

OPINION PIECES FROM EDITORIAL BOARDS & COLUMNISTS

May 7, 2014 – December 31, 2014

Below are opinion pieces written by editorial boards and columnists. They are included here because Americans for Tax Fairness is confident that it has directly influenced the media outlets or authors because they received five ATF editorial board memos in 2014, press releases promoting ATF reports, solicitations to run syndicated op-eds and in many cases direct outreach from American Forum, a media firm hired to reach out to editorial writers and columnists. While the columns may not mention ATF, they typically reflect some of the information and messaging that was provided through our materials.

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NATIONAL

Column: Salon – [How Wal-Mart Stole Christmas – and hijacked American politics](#)

By Sean McElwee, 12/28/2014

Wal-Mart in particular is known for its status as a corporate-welfare queen; one study estimates that one 300-person Supercenter costs taxpayers \$904,542 to \$1,744,590. Another estimates that Wal-Mart and the Walton family pull in \$7.8 billion a year in tax breaks and subsidies. Meanwhile, a brand-new report from **Americans for Tax Fairness** finds that Wal-Mart also avoids taxes on more than \$21 billion in offshore profits. In its most recent annual report, Wal-Mart openly admits that changes to government food stamp programs may hurt its financial performance. Hundreds of thousands of Wal-Mart workers make near-poverty wages...

Column: The Wall Street Cheat Sheet – [Can We Blame Burger King for Ditching the U.S.?](#)

By Sam Becker, 12/17/2014

Burger King, the longstanding fast food burger joint and home of the Whopper, has officially become a Canadian company. The move to the land of Wayne Gretzky, curling, and poutine was finalized recently when Burger King completed its merger with Tim Horton's, a Canadian coffee and doughnut chain. The move has earned the company a huge amount of backlash from those calling it what it likely is: a tax inversion. But guided by the unique logic of business, is Burger King really behaving that badly?

There are mixed estimates as to how much Burger King could actually end up saving as a result of its nationality switch, ranging anywhere from several million to more than a billion dollars. Because these savings amount to a loss of tax revenue for the U.S. government, groups like **Americans for Tax Fairness** (AFTF) are feeling particularly charbroiled over Burger King's decision to move north. AFTF estimates that Burger King will save at least \$400 million from the move.

"Burger King and its largest shareholders could dodge between \$400 million and \$1.2 billion in U.S. taxes over the next four years," reads an AFTF report on the issue. "At the same time, U.S. taxpayers provide an estimated \$356 million a year — \$1.4 billion over four years — subsidizing Burger King's low pay and meager benefits through public assistance programs."...

Column: The Washington Post Wonkblog & The Hamilton Spectator (Ontario) – [Burger King removes itself from higher U.S. tax rate if it moves to Canada](#)

By Roberto Ferdman, 12/11/2014

The fast-food giant stands to save as much as \$1.2 billion in taxes over the next three years by moving its headquarters from Miami to Canada, according to a report by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a corporate watchdog often critical of such maneuvers...

...The intricacies of corporate tax laws, especially when applied to companies that operate all over the world, as Burger King does, make it difficult to know exactly how much the company will save from its new Canadian citizenship. But if the company benefits at all in that regard, especially if the upside proves to be as substantial as **Americans for Tax Fairness** estimates can be, there could be a backlash in the company's birthplace...

Column: Grub Street -- Burger King's Canadian Tax Inversion Could Save It \$1.2 Billion

By Clint Rainey

December 11, 2014

...To hear them tell it, this amounts to a one percent rate cut at best — 26 percent instead of 27. However, according to a new report from **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a group that has positioned itself as a corporate taxpayer watchdog, that's likely a massive underestimate. The border hop, it contends, could save the company and its shareholders \$1.2 billion by 2018. It says profits held offshore at the end of 2013 may slip by tax-free (for \$117 million in savings), as could future earnings through 2018 (another \$275 million). Shareholders, meanwhile, are the real winners by ATF's calculations. By not paying capital gains taxes, they stand to pocket \$820 million...

Column: Yahoo Finance – [Guess who's opposed to corporate tax reform: Corporations](#)

By Rick Newman, 12/3/2014

...Many CEOs have been pushing for a simpler tax code that's more predictable and easier to comply with, as have trade groups representing much of corporate America, including the U.S. Chamber, the Business Roundtable and the National Association of Manufacturers. Those same groups, however, are also lobbying vigorously for tax breaks deemed beneficial to select business interests--which is why the tax code is so labyrinthine in the first place. "The politicians could come to a deal if industries weren't competing against each other," says Frank Clemente, executive director of the nonprofit public-interest group **Americans for Tax Fairness**. "It's really tough to lower tax rates if you want to do revenue-neutral tax reform."...

Column: News.Mic – [Walmart Workers Respond to Offensive Donation Bins with a Powerful Message of Their Own](#)

By Tom McKay, 11/24/2014

...In comparison, more than half of the chain's American employees make less than \$25,000 a year. The progressive tax policy organization **Americans for Tax Fairness** estimates that public assistance to Walmart workers costs the government more than \$6 billion every year. One manager wrote to Gawker complaining that a median Walmart associate makes less than \$9 an hour and that employees "could not question the company's direction or offer critical feedback to the leadership" without facing retaliation from superiors...

Column: Counter Punch – [My Town Fought Wal-Mart – and Wal-Mart Won](#)

By Christopher Orlet, 11/21/2014

...At the same time as its phenomenal growth was taking place, Wal-Mart received hundreds of millions of dollars in corporate welfare (tax breaks, grants, low-cost financing, tax

abatements and free land) from state and local governments. A new report by **Americans for Tax Fairness** concluded that Wal-Mart receives \$6.2 billion a year in taxpayer subsidies. In a 2007 report, the nonprofit Good Jobs First noted that Wal-Mart's developer THF Realty received at least \$54 million in tax breaks from local governments for Wal-Mart stores between 1994 and 2006.

While Wal-Mart benefits enormously from corporate welfare, it has become adept at dodging local, state and federal taxes. The same report by ATF noted that Wal-Mart uses tax loopholes to avoid paying \$1 billion of federal taxes a year...

Column: Alternet – [Wal-Mart's Bottomless Greed: Dodging Billions in Taxes, Scheming to Avoid Billions More](#)

By Steven Rosenfeld and Alyssa Figueroa, 11/20/2014

...“Wal-Mart's offshore profits have doubled in recent years at the same time that its offshore investments flattened, suggesting that the company is piling up cash overseas to avoid paying U.S. taxes on the earnings,” a new report by **Americans for Tax Fairness** found. “Wal-Mart is working to reduce corporate tax rates and eliminate all taxation of foreign profits.”

“You're starting to see Wal-Mart playing games like other companies,” said Frank Clemente, **Americans for Tax Fairness** executive director and author of *How WalMart is Dodging Billions in Taxes and Scheming to Avoid Billions More*[4]. “They're engaging in a tax dodge.”

...Wal-Mart isn't even the country's biggest overseas corporate tax dodger. **Americans for Tax Fairness** [found](#) that distinction belongs to high-tech giants Apple, Microsoft, Oracle, Dell, and the pharmaceutical giants Amgen and Eli Lilly. But as America's biggest retailer, and a company who profits depend on delivering goods over public roads and bridges, Clemente said Wal-Mart's refusal to pay a fair share was notable....

Column: US News and World Report – [Should Burger King Be Allowed to Move to Canada to Dodge Taxes?](#)

By Rachel Brody, 8/25/2014

...But inversions aren't leaving a good taste in everyone's mouth. **Frank Clemente**, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said the deal [could backfire bigtime](#) for Burger King. “If the company goes through with an inversion and deserts America,” he told the blog *Naked Capitalism*, “its customers are likely to bring their business down the street to the nearest McDonald's or Wendy's.”...

Column: The Washington Post – [If Congress won't, Obama may have to address inversion](#)

By Katrina VandenHeuvel, 8/12/2014

...Their decision means that the United States government won't lose [an estimated \\$4 billion in tax revenue](#). That money alone could fund [six months of Head Start](#), providing a preschool education to nearly a million low-income children. Walgreen's reversal is a victory for the American people and a testament to the power of groups that advocated tirelessly against

the proposed inversion, including [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), [Campaign for America's Future](#), and the [United Food and Commercial Workers](#)...

Column: Fortune – [Walgreens Stays At Corner Of Patriotic and Globally Taxable](#)

By Robert Wood, 8/5/2014

Walgreens won't invert, won't go Swiss, will stay American. So says **Frank Clemente**, Executive Director of [Americans for Tax Fairness](#). That group is crowing, and perhaps President Obama should too. Ditto for Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, Sen. Carl Levin and Rep. Sander Levin. They have championed the [Stop Corporate Inversions Act](#).

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) also credits the roughly 200,000 Americans who [wrote to Walgreens CEO Greg Wasson](#) to essentially threaten a boycott. The news prompting all this back-slapping is the [preliminary report](#) that Walgreens will not renounce American corporate citizenship to go Swiss. Walgreens shares [dropped 9%](#) after the decision was made public then rebounded slightly...

...[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) is also trumpeting the results of a [new poll](#) showing that Americans overwhelmingly disapprove of corporate inversions. The deals involve companies dissolving their U.S. corporate status and reincorporating in a low-tax country to avoid U.S. taxes. The poll found that about half of likely voters are aware of the issue...

Column: The New York Times – [Corporate Artful Dodgers](#)

By Paul Krugman, 7/27/2014

...The most important thing to understand about inversion is that it does not in any meaningful sense involve American business "moving overseas." Consider [the case of Walgreen](#), the giant drugstore chain that, according to multiple reports, is on the verge of making itself legally Swiss. If the plan goes through, nothing about the business will change; your local pharmacy won't close and reopen in Zurich. It will be a purely paper transaction — but it will deprive the U.S. government of several billion dollars in revenue that you, the taxpayer, will have to make up one way or another...

Column: Forbes – [Swiss Walgreens? \\$4 Billion Tax Cut Considered At Corner Of Happy, Healthy & Tax-Free](#)

By Robert Wood, 7/21/2014

...Walgreens is the U.S.'s largest pharmacy retailer with 8,200 stores across 50 states. America's drugstore, it has saturated the U.S. market. Most of Walgreens' yearly \$72 billion in sales and \$2.5 billion in profits come from the U.S. and are taxed here. Yet the company is considering a controversial move to lower-taxed Switzerland. An [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) Executive Summary says the move could cost American taxpayers \$4 billion over five years.....

Column: Salon.com – [Walgreen shouldn't have a say about how the U.S. government does anything](#)

By Robert Reich, 7/8/2014

Dozens of big U.S. corporations are considering leaving the United States in order to reduce their tax bills.

But they'll be leaving the country only on paper. They'll still do as much business in the U.S. as they were doing before...

...Which means the rest of us will have to make up the difference. Walgreen's morph into a Swiss corporation will cost you and me and every other American taxpayer about \$4 billion over five years, according to an analysis by **Americans for Tax Fairness**...

Column: The Los Angeles Times – [Corporate tax scam watch: The 'inversion' craze](#)

By Michael Hiltzik, 7/7/2014

...An inversion happens when a U.S. company merges with a smaller foreign firm and moves its official headquarters to the partner's home, typically a lower-tax jurisdiction. Management stays in the U.S., the workforce doesn't move and the company still sells as much as before to the U.S. market. But the tax treatment of some of its income changes. Walgreens, according to an estimate by the advocacy group **Americans for Tax Fairness**, could save \$4 billion over five years by merging with the drug retailer and wholesaler Alliance Boots and reincorporating in Switzerland...

Column: Christian Science Monitor, The Huffington Post, Moyers & Company, Common Dreams, Nation of Change, TruthDig, AlterNet – [If Walgreen goes Swiss and pays less taxes, then it shouldn't influence US politics](#)

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Column: The Nation – [This Fourth of July, Meet Your Unpatriotic Corporations](#)

By Katrina vanden Heuvel, 7/3/2014

....Walgreens, [The New York Times reported](#), is looking to relocate from Illinois to Switzerland, in the process merging with a Swiss corporation and reincorporating itself as a foreign entity. It is, bluntly, an old-fashioned tax dodge, aimed at trimming eleven percentage points off the company's corporate tax rate. **Americans for Tax Fairness** [estimates\[10\]](#) that the move will cost US taxpayers more than \$4 billion over the next five years...

Column: The New York Times – [At Walgreen, Renouncing Corporate Citizenship](#)

By Andrew Ross Sorkin, 6/30/2014

...In Walgreen's case, an inversion would be an affront to United States taxpayers. The company, which also owns the Duane Reade chain in New York, reaps almost a quarter of its \$72 billion in revenue directly from the government; it received \$16.7 billion from [Medicare](#) and [Medicaid](#) last year...."

"Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, called it 'unfair and deeply unpatriotic if the company moves offshore while continuing to make its money here, leaving the rest of us to pick up the tab for its tax avoidance.'" ...

Editorial: The New York Times – [Pfizer's Ploy and the Porous Tax Laws](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/23/2014

...Even if the bid fails — the deadline is May 26 — Pfizer's action has drawn the attention of officials in Washington who, quite rightly, have vowed to tighten laws that, when exploited by companies like Pfizer, result in higher taxes for everyone else or reduced government services...

Editorial: USA Today – [Cutting taxes without paying for it](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/7/2014

...Making a useful tax cut permanent makes sense, but doing it without offsetting the cost — and pretending the cost doesn't even matter — does not. Any House member who votes for this stinker will forfeit any credibility on deficits or the national debt. Because it's vote after vote just like this one that have made the problem the lawmakers claim to care about impossible to fix...

Column: National Memo – [Walmart on Welfare](#)

By David Cay Johnston, 4/14/2014

...These figures on welfare for Walmart and the Waltons were calculated from a report released today by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, part of a broad coalition of union, civil rights and other organizations trying to shame the Walton family into paying wages that if not good, are at least enough to make sure Walmart employees do not qualify for food stamps....

ALABAMA

Editorial: The Decatur Daily – [Companies are dodging the taxman](#)

By The Editorial Board, 9/23/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers...

Editorial: The Florence Times Daily – [Dodging the taxman](#)

By The Editorial Board, 9/23/2014

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CALIFORNIA

Column: The Los Angeles Times – [Close loopholes that let U.S. firms avoid taxes by using inversions](#)

By Michael Hiltzik, 8/2/2014

...A recent report by the Congressional Research Service identified 47 inversions undertaken in just the last decade, involving firms in the pharmaceutical, financial services and manufacturing industries, among others. The report was released this week by Rep. Sander Levin, D-Mich., who has introduced a bill to clamp down on this tax-driven scam, which he says could cost the U.S. treasury \$17 billion over the next decade...

Column: The Davis Enterprise – Stop The Corporate Artful Dodgers

By Paul Krugman, 7/30/14, link is expired

...There is, however, one big difference between corporate persons and the likes of you and me: On current trends, we're heading toward a world in which only the human people pay taxes...

... Which brings us to the tax-avoidance strategy du jour: "inversion." This refers to a legal maneuver in which a company declares that its U.S. operations are owned by its foreign subsidiary, not the other way around, and uses this role reversal to shift reported profits out of American jurisdiction to someplace with a lower tax rate...

Editorial: The Los Angeles Times – [Give U.S. multinationals an incentive to not dodge taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/20/2014

When is a U.S.-based company not considered a U.S. company by the IRS? When it buys a smaller firm in a foreign country and — presto chango! — deems that company to be its parent, escaping the obligation to pay taxes to the U.S. Treasury on its foreign earnings. This process, called "inversion," is becoming increasingly popular among U.S. multinationals, drawing howls from lawmakers and the Obama administration.

Column: The San Francisco Chronicle – [Tax Dodge Should Cost Corporations their Political Rights](#)

By Robert Reich, 7/18/2014

...Even if it becomes a Swiss corporation, Walgreens will remain your Main Street druggist. It just won't pay nearly as much in U.S. taxes. Which means the rest of us will have to make up the difference. Walgreens' morph into a Swiss corporation will cost you and me and every other American taxpayer about \$4 billion over five years, according to an analysis by **Americans for Tax Fairness**...

Editorial: The Californian – [Companies take US benefits, but flee US taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/17/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers.... *(reprinted from The Raleigh News & Observer)*

Column: The Los Angeles Times – [Corporate tax scam watch: The 'inversion' craze](#)

By Michael Hiltzik, 7/7/2014

...An inversion happens when a U.S. company merges with a smaller foreign firm and moves its official headquarters to the partner's home, typically a lower-tax jurisdiction. Management stays in the U.S., the workforce doesn't move and the company still sells as much as before to the U.S. market. But the tax treatment of some of its income changes. Walgreens, according to an estimate by the advocacy group **Americans for Tax Fairness**, could save \$4 billion over five years by merging with the drug retailer and wholesaler Alliance Boots and reincorporating in Switzerland...

Editorial: Hanford Sentinel – [Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/15/2014

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

Editorial: Fresno Bee – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

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Editorial: The Californian – [Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014

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Editorial: The Santa Rosa Press-Democrat – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

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Editorial: The Sacramento Bee – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

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Editorial: The Los Angeles Times – [Corporations and their tax shell games: Time for a global crackdown](#)

By the Editorial Board, 6/16/2014

...Just as water flows downhill, so do the profits of multinational corporations travel toward the countries with the lowest tax rates. That's a fact of life in an era of global markets and businesses; there will always be countries that set unusually low corporate tax rates in the hope of attracting investment and economic growth...

COLORADO

Editorial: Loveland Reporter-Herald – [The U.S. needs good corporate citizens here](#)

By The Editorial Board, 8/18/2014

Many people, especially those who've lost their jobs when the work moved overseas, wonder why companies are fleeing the United States. And it's not just factory jobs leaving. Increasing numbers of companies are choosing to move their corporate headquarters away so they can avoid paying taxes...

...The advocacy group **Americans for Tax Fairness** said if Walgreens, America's largest drugstore chain, left it would have cost Americans \$4 billion in lost tax revenue over five years, so the company's decision is clearly good for the country...

Editorial: The Denver Post – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

CONNECTICUT

Editorial: The Middletown Press – [A taxing situation](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/15/2014

...The best that can be said for the Senate bill is that its sponsor, Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., swears it's the last such smorgasbord of his finance chairmanship and, therefore, the prelude to tax reform. Maybe. What's certain is that Wyden was unable to sell his colleagues on a way to pay for the bill, so its entire cost would add to the federal deficit. This is fiscal irresponsibility, pure and simple...

FLORIDA

Editorial: The Leesburg Daily Commercial – Dodging the taxman

By The Editorial Board, 9/23/2014, link is expired

...Appeals for Congress to act quickly are likely to fall on deaf ears. Only tax reform can solve the problem, but until Congress is ready to act, President Obama must do what he can by regulatory action to stop U.S. corporations from eroding America's corporate tax base...

Editorial: The Miami Herald – [Dodging the Taxman](#)

By The Editorial Board, 9/19/2014

...Appeals for Congress to act quickly are likely to fall on deaf ears. Only tax reform can solve the problem, but until Congress is ready to act, President Obama must do what he can by regulatory action to stop U.S. corporations from eroding America's corporate tax base...

Column: Bradenton Herald – [Corporate Artful Dodgers](#)

By Paul Krugman, 7/29/14

...There is, however, one big difference between corporate persons and the likes of you and me: On current trends, we're heading toward a world in which only the human people pay taxes...

... Which brings us to the tax-avoidance strategy du jour: "inversion." This refers to a legal maneuver in which a company declares that its U.S. operations are owned by its foreign subsidiary, not the other way around, and uses this role reversal to shift reported profits out of American jurisdiction to someplace with a lower tax rate...

Editorial: The Orlando Sentinel – [Don't Deepen Deficits with Federal Tax Breaks](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/14/2014

...Congress has no business extending the federal tax breaks — even the best ones in the bunch, such as the incentive that encourages research and development — without paying for them...

Editorial: The Myrtle Beach Sun News – [Companies take US benefits, but flee US taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/14/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers... *(reprinted from The Raleigh News & Observer)*

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By The Editorial Board, 5/14/2014, Syndicated by American Forum

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GEORGIA

Editorial: The Rome News-Tribune – [Companies take US benefits, but flee US taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/20/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers... *(reprinted from The Raleigh News & Observer)*

Editorial: The Macon Telegraph – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House’s latest target for “executive authority” is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an “inversion.” In plain English, it’s called a tax dodge...

ILLINOIS

Column: Peking Daily Times – [Gehrt: Billionaires thrive; we struggle](#)

By Amy Gehrt, 10/30/2014

...Take Walmart workers, for instance. An April report from **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a coalition of more than 425 national and state-level organizations, found that the retail giant’s employees relied on an estimated \$6.2 billion in government aid in 2013...

Column: The Illinois Times – [Walgreens ploy to tax dodge](#)

By Jim Hightower, 7/17/2014

...How would you react if one of your neighbors announced that while he obviously benefits from having clean water, highways, Medicare, police protection, parks, schools, and other public services, he was no longer going to pay his part of the taxes that make them available?

....If Walgreens doesn’t want to support public programs like these, the programs should not be supporting Walgreens.

Editorial: The Belleville News Democrat – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House’s latest target for “executive authority” is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an “inversion.” In plain English, it’s called a tax dodge...

INDIANA

Editorial: Courier & Press – [Companies enjoy U.S. residence, but duck U.S. taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/17/2014

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IOWA

Editorial: The Des Moines Register – [Walgreens Turns Back on Taxpayers](#)

By The Editorial Board, 8/3/2014

...While the company will continue to do its business in the United States, make money from American customers and benefit from the government services paid for by other taxpayers, it will dodge corporate taxes in this country by pretending it is a Swiss company...

KENTUCKY

Editorial: Henderson Gleaner – [Loophole proves tax code needs reform](#)

By The Editorial Board, 9/24/2014

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

Editorial: The Millsboro Daily News – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

MAINE

Editorial: The Kennebec Journal – [Companies take US benefits, but flee US taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/31/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers... *(reprinted from The Raleigh News & Observer)*

Editorial: The Waterville Morning Sentinel – [Companies take US benefits, but flee US taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/31/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers... *(reprinted from The Raleigh News & Observer)*

MARYLAND

Editorial: The Baltimore Sun – [Stop Inversions Now](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/22/2014

...No doubt some conservatives will argue that the U.S. could remove the incentive for inversions tomorrow by lowering the corporate tax rate significantly. But such a plan is not reality-based. Ireland has the lowest tax rate in the world at 12.5 percent, so to match that would require the U.S. to find billions of tax dollars elsewhere, once again shifting the burden from corporations to mom-and-pop businesses and the public...

Column: The Baltimore Sun – [The limits of corporate citizenship](#)

By Robert Reich, 7/16/2014

...Which means the rest of us will have to make up the difference. Walgreen's morph into a Swiss corporation will cost you and me and every other American taxpayer about \$4 billion over five years, according to an analysis by **Americans for Tax Fairness**...

Editorial: The Milford Daily News – [The unseemly practice of tax avoidance](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/15/2014

...Rather than being forced to flee burdensome U.S. taxation, corporations are paying less and less of the cost of running the nation that nurtures their success. Fortune reports that tax cuts and tax avoidance "have pushed down the corporate share of the nation's tax receipts - from 30 percent of all federal revenue in the mid-1950s to 6.6 percent in 2009." Lawmakers and taxpayers ought to be indignant about this unseemly avoidance of tax payments and unpatriotic shirking of responsibility... *(Edited version of editorial by The Raleigh News & Observer)*

Editorial: Metro West Daily News – [The unseemly practice of tax avoidance](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/15/2014

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Lawmakers and taxpayers ought to be indignant about this unseemly avoidance of tax payments and unpatriotic shirking of responsibility...

Editorial: The Baltimore Sun – [Companies take US benefits, but flee US taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/14/2014

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MASSACHUSETTS

Editorial: Athol Daily News – Loophole proves tax code needs reform

By The Editorial Board, 9/23/2014, link is expired

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

Editorial: Lynn Evening Item – Loophole proves tax code needs reform

By The Editorial Board, 9/24/2014, link is expired

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

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By The Editorial Board, 7/15/2014

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Editorial: Metro West Daily News – [The unseemly practice of tax avoidance](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/15/2014

...Rather than being forced to flee burdensome U.S. taxation, corporations are paying less and less of the cost of running the nation that nurtures their success. Fortune reports that tax cuts and tax avoidance "have pushed down the corporate share of the nation's tax receipts - from 30 percent of all federal revenue in the mid-1950s to 6.6 percent in 2009." Lawmakers and taxpayers ought to be indignant about this unseemly avoidance of tax payments and unpatriotic shirking of responsibility... *(Edited version of editorial by The Raleigh News & Observer)*

Editorial: Metro West Daily News – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

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MISSISSIPPI

Editorial: Jackson Clarion-Ledger – Loophole proves tax code needs reform

By The Editorial Board, 9/24/2014, link is expired

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

MISSOURI

Editorial: The St. Louis Post-Dispatch – [Pfizer's Greatest Thing since Viagra: Ditching U.S. Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/7/2014

...But now the people who run Pfizer have decided it is time to head back across the Atlantic. Reason: To further enrich themselves and their shareholders by dodging their fair share of the taxes on which their company was built...

NEVADA

Column: The Nevada Daily – The limits of corporate citizenship

By Robert Reich, 7/16/2014, link is expired

...Which means the rest of us will have to make up the difference. Walgreen's morph into a Swiss corporation will cost you and me and every other American taxpayer about \$4 billion over five years, according to an analysis by **Americans for Tax Fairness**...

Editorial: The Las Vegas Sun – [Companies take Benefits, Flee Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/18/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers... *(reprinted from The Raleigh News & Observer)*

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Editorial: The Concord Monitor – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

Editorial: Concord Monitor – [Attention Walgreens Shoppers](#)

By The Editorial Board, 5/21/2014

...To prevent a rush to the border, we dearly hope Walgreens does the right thing and remains an American corporation. And if it doesn't, we expect regulators to strictly enforce laws that prevent foreign companies from spending to influence political decisions that should be made by Americans. Expatriates, as Walgreens could learn, may gain some revenue but they lose their right to vote...

NEW YORK

Column: The Albany Times-Union – [Stop The Corporate Artful Dodgers](#)

By Paul Krugman, 7/28/14

Editorial: The Albany Times-Union – [Companies take U.S. benefits and then flee U.S. taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/14/2014

...Technically, merging and reincorporating abroad to avoid taxes is called an inversion. Bluntly, it's called a disgrace. U.S. companies should push for tax reform rather than departing on paper and handing their tax burden to American taxpayers... *(reprinted from The Raleigh News & Observer)*

Column: Buffalo News – ['Inversion' By Walgreen Would Be A Corporate Tax Dodge](#)

By Andrew Ross Sorkin, 7/6/1014

... Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, called it "unfair and deeply unpatriotic if the company moves offshore while continuing to make its money here, leaving the rest of us to pick up the tab for its tax avoidance."

According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a move by Walgreen to Switzerland would most likely cost U.S. taxpayers about \$4 billion over five years. Illinois taxpayers would also be hurt. The company's tax rate would be cut to 20 percent as part of Alliance Boots from about 31 percent now...

Editorial: Albany Times-Union – [Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum

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NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial: Asheville Citizen-Times – ["Inversion virus" needs to be stopped in its tracks](#)

By The Editorial Board, 9/20/2014

...The theoretical tax rate and the real-world tax rate are two different things. "Many U.S. large corporations don't pay anything close to the 35 percent statutory rate" according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**...

Americans for Tax Fairness argues that a public outcry is necessary, saying that public opposition caused Walgreens to back off its plan to go Swiss. "Only if there is continued media attention and public outcry will policymakers feel compelled to act strongly to restrict corporate inversions," the organization says.

Editorial: The Raleigh News & Observer – [Companies Take U.S. Benefits, but Flee US Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/9/2014

...They enjoy making money in the United States. They have a strong market here in a society where their rights and their businesses are protected by the police, the courts and the military. They are served by a vast network of government-built and maintained roads, water supplies and schools, and their lives benefit from an array of government inspections, regulations and assistance. Yet these people don't want to pay taxes to the United States of America. They'd rather acquire a company in a country with a lower tax rate so they can shield their incomes from U.S. taxes...

Editorial: Hilton Head Island Packet – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

Editorial: Tideland News – Corporations get tax pass while citizens face cuts

By The Editorial Board, 6/18/2014, link is expired

...The more conservative wing of the U.S. Congress has spent a lot of time and taxpayer money (an estimated \$24 billion during the October shutdown) trying to convince the American people that social programs – from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to Social Security – must be reined in if our country is to come to grips with its massive debt. Perhaps these lawmakers should take note of a recent article by **Frank Clemente**, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. In it, **Clemente** points out how U.S. tax and business ownership laws are skewed toward big business in a way that robs the American people of precious tax dollars.

....While **Clemente** considers the move "unpatriotic" – and we don't necessarily disagree – we prefer to think of it as a successful company taking advantage of a system that is run by the

wealthy and geared toward the wealthy, because it is the wealthy who can contribute so generously to those who are elected and entrusted to write the laws that allow this type of travesty....

PENNSYLVANIA

Editorial: Oil City Derrick – [Loop-hole proves tax code needs reform](#)

By The Editorial Board, 9/23/2014

The White House's latest target for "executive authority" is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an "inversion." In plain English, it's called a tax dodge...

Editorial: Franklin News Herald – Loop-hole proves tax code needs reform

By The Editorial Board, 9/23/2014, link is expired

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Editorial: The Pocono Record – [The Latest Tax Dodger](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/23/2014

...CEO Gregory D. Wasson plans to move its corporate headquarters to Switzerland to merge with Europe-based Alliance Boots. Walgreens likes making money here, but Wasson aims to dodge U.S. taxes. The move, called an inversion, could cost American taxpayers as much as \$4.5 billion over five years, according to the **Americans for Tax Fairness**...

Editorial: The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette – [Mylan Inc. Joins U.S. firms that Incorporate Elsewhere to Cut their Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/22/2014

...Mylan benefits from contracts worth \$3 billion with the Department of Veteran Affairs, yet this transaction will enable it to pay less in taxes to that same U.S. government. Companies that have built their success in part on business from the public should be willing to pay their fair share to support the public treasury...

Editorial: The Scranton Times-Tribune -- [End Corporate Tax Inversions](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/18/2014

...This politically fractured Congress has zero chance of undertaking corporate tax reform, however. But several stopgap measures have been introduced to make tax inversions unattractive. For example, one would allow an inversion only if more than 50 percent of a company's stockholders are foreign; another would preclude inversion if a company is

managed and controlled in the United States and has “significant domestic business activities...

Editorial: The Scranton Times-Tribune – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House’s latest target for “executive authority” is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an “inversion.” In plain English, it’s called a tax dodge...

Editorial: The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum, link is expired

The White House’s latest target for “executive authority” is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an “inversion.” In plain English, it’s called a tax dodge...

SOUTH CAROLINA

Editorial: Myrtle Beach Sun News – [Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/14/2014

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Editorial: Hilton Head Island Park – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum, link is expired

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TENNESSEE

Editorial: Myrtle Beach Sun News – Corporations will dodge billions in taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House’s latest target for “executive authority” is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an “inversion.” In plain English, it’s called a tax dodge...

Editorial: The Johnson City Press – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

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VIRGINIA

Column: Virginian-Pilot – Walgreens and its taxing situation

By Frank Cerabino, 7/9/2014, link is expired

...The maneuver, known as "inversion" allows American companies to reincorporate to tax-haven countries if 20 percent of its stock is owned outside the United States. It's called an inversion because the American company becomes a subsidiary of the smaller foreign company, even though the merged company is actually controlled by the shareholders of the original U.S. corporation.

All for a company that derives about 23 percent of its business from U.S. government-paid Medicaid sales, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness...**

WASHINGTON

Editorial: The Spokesman-Review (Spokane) – Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

The White House’s latest target for “executive authority” is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an “inversion.” In plain English, it’s called a tax dodge...

WEST VIRGINIA

Editorial: The Charleston Gazette – [Sen. Manchin opposes his daughter’s action](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/24/2014

West Virginia’s Sen. Joe Manchin says he would support law changes to prevent unpatriotic “inversions” — such as his daughter’s decision to shift Mylan Pharmaceuticals’ national identity to Holland to duck U.S. taxes. I think, basically, inversion should be absolutely repealed,” he told The National Journal this week. “All of them. Get ’em all...

WISCONSIN

Editorial: Racine Journal Times – [Dodging the taxman](#)

By The Editorial Board, 9/24/2014

The White House’s latest target for “executive authority” is the scheme that allows American companies to establish a corporate headquarters in another country to reduce their debt to the U.S. Treasury. In the business world it is called an “inversion.” In plain English, it’s called a tax dodge...

Editorial: Kenosha News – [Inversions should spark tax reform](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/14/2014

...No one is suggesting that these companies, or others that are negotiating similar combinations, are doing anything illegal, but there have been plenty of suggestions that what they are doing is morally wrong...

Editorial: The Capital Times – [Corporations 'citizens'? Then act like it](#)

By The Editorial Board, 7/6/2014

...The latest American corporation that is considering moving its headquarters overseas so it can pay lower taxes on its profits is none other than drugstore giant Walgreens. It would be the latest in a line of U.S. companies that don't like to pay their fair share of taxes even though they owe much of their success to government programs and infrastructure that were provided by other American taxpayers over the years...

Editorial: Kenosha News – [Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014

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Editorial: The Madison Capital Times – [Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes](#)

By The Editorial Board, 6/30/2014, link is expired

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Editorial: The Madison Capital Times – [Corporations win, little guys lose – again](#)

By Dave Zweigel, 5/21/2014

Let’s take a look at two recent stories that help explain a lot about what’s been happening in our country.

The first, which came from the U.S. Department of Commerce in early April, reported that corporate profits are at their highest level in at least 85 years. That was the good news, at least for those who have money to invest...

...Several organizations have strongly opposed the extensions — including **Americans for Tax Fairness**, which points out that the bill passed last week would cost the treasury \$156 billion over 10 years. Passing all six bills would put a \$310 billion hole in federal revenue.

"Fiscal conservatives who have blocked an extension of emergency unemployment benefits because of expressed concern for the deficit are aggressively pushing these corporate tax breaks that are not paid for and will blast a hole in the federal budget," **ATF** said in a statement...