

AMERICANS FOR TAX FAIRNESS

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NATIONAL MEDIA

Column: Corporate Artful Dodgers

The New York Times, Paul Krugman, 7/27/14

“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.”

Op-Ed: Walgreens’ Founder Wouldn’t Approve Company’s Unpatriotic Tax Dodge

USA Today, James Burke, Mayor of Dixon, IL, 7/26/2014

Charles Walgreen Sr., founder of the nation's biggest drugstore chain, would not approve of what the management of his company is planning. He would never have considered moving his headquarters address to a foreign country just to avoid paying the company's fair share in U.S. taxes. He loved his community and country too much....

Op-Ed: Time to Stop Corporate Defections

The Hill, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 7/23/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

In the most blatant display of national disloyalty since Benedict Arnold sold out to the British, at least a dozen American corporations are planning to renounce their corporate "citizenship" in the United States and declare themselves foreign companies....

Column: Corporate tax scam watch: The 'inversion' craze

The Los Angeles Times, 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: Walgreen shouldn't have a say about how the U.S. government does anything

Salon.com, Robert Reich, July 8, 2014

Column: If Walgreen goes Swiss and pays less taxes, then it shouldn't influence US politics

The Christian Science Monitor, The Huffington Post, Moyers & Company, Common Dreams, Nation of Change, TruthDig, AlterNet, Robert Reich, July 2014

TV: Kudlow: Where's the tax reform?

CNBC / Yahoo Finance, July 16, 2014

CNBC Senior Contributor Larry Kudlow disagrees with Treasury Secretary Jack Lew's sentiments on U.S. tax inversions. [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) executive director, provides perspective.

Column: At Walgreen, Renouncing Corporate Citizenship

The New York Times, 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.'"

Retailer's Executive Pay Plan Exploits Tax Break, Study Says

Bloomberg News, Michael Trimarchi, 6/27/2014

A report by two Washington groups takes Wal-Mart Stores Inc. to task for exploiting performance-based pay breaks in Internal Revenue Code Section 162(m) to subsidize excessive executive compensation at taxpayer expense.

The retailer, which is the largest private employer in the U.S., saved about \$104 million over the past six years by deducting performance-based compensation paid to eight top executives, said the June 4 report, by a think tank, [Institute for Policy Studies](#), and a national tax advocacy group, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#)...

Walgreen CEO fesses up: Drugstore chain mulls HQ move

Fortune, Phil Wahaba, 6/24/2014

.....Walgreen, which gets a big chunk of change from filling prescriptions for patients covered by the U.S. government's Medicaid and Medicare programs, faced criticism from groups like Change to Win and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), which in a report this month estimated that an inversion by Walgreen would cost U.S. taxpayers \$4 billion over a five-year period.....

In news analysis, Andrew Velarde examines the potential impact of a major U.S. retailer that chooses to invert

Tax Analysts, Andrews Valarde, 6/24/2014

Content is firewalled

But according to a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win Retail Initiatives](#), who put the \$4 billion price tag on the Walgreens inversion, the merger would be unusual in at least one respect: Walgreens could be the first major U.S. retailer to take advantage of a strategy more commonly associated with the technology and pharmaceutical sectors.

"Walgreens will still have the large majority of its sales and operations in the U.S. following the takeover of Alliance Boots," the report states.....

Blog Post: Fox Offers Free Public Relations For Walmart's Poverty Wages

Media Matters for America, Craig Harrington, 6/24/2014

...According to an *April 2014* study by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), Walmart benefits from roughly \$6.2 billion in annual taxpayer funded subsidies in the form of anti-poverty relief for underpaid workers. The company avoids nearly \$1 billion in federal taxes each year through tax breaks and loopholes, and the Walton family (worth nearly \$150 billion collectively) reaps over \$600 million in tax savings thanks to lower tax rates on capital gains than standard income. All told, Walmart and the Walton family skim at least \$7.8 billion from the pockets of American taxpayers each year, due in part to the company's persistently low wages.....

Op-Ed: Walmart's Top-to-Bottom Taxpayer Subsidies

Common Dreams, [Sarah Anderson](#) and [Frank Clemente](#), Institute for Policy Studies, Americans for Tax Fairness, 6/4/2014

.....Why are most corporate boards determined to maintain sky-high pay for executives even when they perform poorly? The most common explanation is that board members are often overpaid corporate leaders themselves. The last thing they want to do is provoke scrutiny of their own fat paychecks.

Another, lesser-known reason is that corporations actually have a perverse incentive for overpaying top-level executives. This is due to a tax loophole that allows corporations to deduct unlimited amounts from their federal income taxes for the cost of so-called "performance pay" for executives. The more corporations pay top officers, the less they pay Uncle Sam.

Guess who makes up the difference? Taxpayers.....

US pharmacy giant Walgreens eyes move to Britain over tax: Controversial switch of HQ may lead to Boots takeover

UK Newsday, Neil Craven, 6/14/2014

...The US think-tank [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) estimates that the US Treasury could lose \$4 billion in tax over five years if Walgreens reincorporates its business outside America....

Taxpayer Group Protests Walgreen Offshore Move

24/7 Wall Street, Paul Ausick, 6/14/2014

.....Last week a U.S. group called [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) published a report noting that if Walgreen relocated to Switzerland the company could avoid \$4 billion in U.S. taxes over a five-year period. The activist group notes, for example, that Walgreen gets 25% of its income from U.S. taxpayers through government programs like Medicare and Medicaid.....

Americans for Tax Fairness' Frank Clemente responds to the Tax Foundation's critique of its Walgreens report

Politico's Morning Tax, Mackenzie Weinger, 6/13/2014

[See letter at this link](#)

Tax Foundation Rebukes Walgreen Inversion Report

Law360, Drew Singer, 6/13/2014

An [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) report that said a Walgreen Co. inversion to Switzerland could cost taxpayers \$4 billion in lost revenue over five years is flawed from a misunderstanding of how corporate taxation works, a rival think tank said on Wednesday.....

Tax Foundation Finds Fault in ATF Walgreens Report

Politico's Morning Tax, Mackenzie Weinger, 6/12/2014

The Tax Foundation is pushing back against [Americans for Tax Fairness'](#) report this week on Walgreens and the claim it could cost \$4 billion in revenue over five years if the company moved its headquarters to Switzerland. "This concern is based on a misunderstanding of how the U.S. corporate income tax system works and how an inversion would affect Walgreens," the Tax Foundation's Kyle Pomerleau writes in a blog post.....

Walgreen Inversion Would Cost US \$4B In Tax Revenue: Study

Law360, Drew Singer, 6/12/2014

.....The study, conducted by think tank [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), said that Walgreens is in a position to invert itself with Alliance Boots, a Swiss pharmacy that Walgreens bought in 2012. Inversions occur when companies use a merger or acquisition to move overseas and lower their tax burdens....

Levin statement on new report detailing the cost of another corporate inversion

Office of Senator Carl Levin, 6/12/2014

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., issued the following statement today in response to a new report from [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), which found that a proposed corporate inversion by Walgreens could cost American taxpayers \$4 billion over five years. Levin is the author of the Stop Corporate Inversions Act, which would place a two-year moratorium on inversions, in which firms reincorporate overseas to avoid U.S. taxes:

“Walgreens is another example of an upcoming wave of U.S. companies which, unless we act, will reincorporate abroad to avoid paying their U.S. taxes. This latest corporate ploy, known as inversion, could drain the U.S. Treasury of tens of billions of dollars. Average taxpayers are fed up with profitable U.S. corporations using tax haven gimmicks to dodge their tax obligations, while still benefiting from this country’s laws, infrastructure, and workforce. Congress could put an end to this scheme if it wanted to, but many of my Republican colleagues are choosing to look the other way”

Walgreens Planned Move is a Tax Dodge

Talk Radio News Service, 6/12/2014

Walgreens, the nation’s largest pharmacy retailer with 8,200 stores in all 50 states, is reportedly making plans to move its corporate headquarters from Springfield, Ill., to Switzerland. [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) estimated in a report that the proposed move would save Walgreens as much as \$4 billion in U.S. taxes over a five-year period.....

Activists Claim Walgreen HQ Move Would Cost Taxpayers \$4B

Fox Business, Jennifer Booton, 6/12/2014

.....[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win Retail Initiatives](#) issued a report Wednesday alleging that the HQ move, a tax-saving maneuver known as corporate inversion, could cost U.S. taxpayers \$4 billion in lost revenue over five years.....

Report Says Walgreens Inversion Would Cost Taxpayers \$4 Billion

Tax Notes, 6/12/2014

Content is firewalled

If Walgreens Co. reincorporates in Switzerland, the company would continue to receive the benefits of operating in the United States while costing taxpayers \$4 billion in lost revenue over five years and gaining an unfair tax advantage over its competitors, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win Retail Initiatives](#) said in a June 11 report....

U.S. activists slam possible Walgreen tax move as 'unpatriotic'

Reuters, Yahoo News, The Timaru Herald (New Zealand), The Business Times (Singapore), and others, Kevin Drawbaugh, 6/12/2014

....Two groups issued a report that said such a move would be seen by many Americans as "deeply unfair and unpatriotic."

"Walgreens should show its commitment to our communities and our country by staying an American company," said Nell Geiser, an official at [Change to Win](#), a labor union coalition. The other group releasing the report was [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a tax activist group that gets some of its funding from unions.....

TV: The Big Number – Walgreens going for the Green?

ABC News, 6/11/2014

It is Wednesday June 11 the New York markets are open -- today's big number is four billion dollars that's how much Walgreens woods. Save in taxes over the next five years of the drugstore chain re incorporates in Switzerland. This according to a controversial estimate by the group [Americans for Tax Fairness](#).

ATF Estimates Walgreens Could Cost Taxpayers if it Moves Abroad

Politico's Morning Tax, Mackenzie Weinger, 6/10/2014

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win](#) Retail Initiatives have a report out today estimating that Walgreens could potentially cost taxpayers \$4 billion in lost revenue over a five-year period if it decides to move its corporate address offshore to Switzerland.....

"This report makes the case Sen. Wyden ought to move right away on legislation," [Clemente](#) said. "He's got an opportunity to stop this company and other companies who are trying to rob Americans by using offshore tax agents. ... He should not wait for bigger corporate tax reform."

Walgreen Company: All is Well Except the Dodge

Basics Media, Jason Gonzalez, 6/11/2014

...Walgreen is contemplating on whether it should change its corporate office to Switzerland where it has 45% stake in Alliance Boots, Europe's largest pharmaceutical wholesaler and retailer. Such move called inversion will cost the U.S treasury about \$4 billion in tax revenue over next few years.

Walgreen Ponders \$4 Billion Tax Dodge

The Huffington Post, Ben Hallman, 6/11/2014

....Such a move, through a maneuver called an inversion, would cost the U.S. treasury \$4 billion in tax revenue over the next five years, according to a new report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a tax reform advocacy group. It also may prompt other U.S. retailers, which typically

pay high tax rates compared with large multinationals like Apple and General Electric, to seek foreign acquisitions in order to dramatically lower their bills.

....The tax savings of moving a corporate address abroad can be enormous. Companies are no longer on the hook for paying U.S. taxes on profits earned abroad, potentially a huge benefit for companies with big overseas sales. Walgreens, because its stores are located primarily in the U.S., would likely realize big tax savings in a different way: By shifting large amounts of debt from its foreign operation to its domestic operation in order to offset profit, said **Frank Clemente**, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**....

Move to Switzerland to dodge IRS may give Walgreen blues

The New York Post, James Covert, 6/11/2014

....But the move could also cause a major public-relations headache for Walgreen, according to the study compiled by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a Washington think tank.

That's because Walgreen gets nearly a quarter of its revenue from US taxpayer-funded Medicare and Medicaid programs, the report calculates — not to mention millions in federally subsidized bonuses enjoyed by top Walgreen execs.

“Many Americans will find 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,” said **Frank Clemente**, executive director of the think tank....

Blog Post: Taxpayers Have Spent \$104 Million Propping Up Walmart Executives' Bonuses Since 2009

ThinkProgress, Alan Pyke, 6/5/2014

Since 2009, Walmart has ducked *\$104 million in taxes* by exploiting a tax loophole around bonus payments to just eight top executives, according to a new report from the **Institute for Policy Studies** (IPS) and **Americans for Tax Fairness** (ATF).....

'Walmart moms' walk off job in protest

PressTV, 6/5/2014

....The strikes followed a new report by the **Institute for Policy Studies** and lobby group **Americans for Tax Fairness** that showed between 2009 and 2014 eight top Walmart executives received \$298 million dollars in “performance pay” that was fully tax deductible. The report found a tax loophole had given Walmart a tax break of \$104 million.....

Wal-Mart Used Tax Loophole To Save \$104M: Report

Law360, Matthew Villmer, 6/4/2014

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has used a performance-based executive compensation tax loophole to fleece the government out of almost \$104 million over a six-year time period, according to a joint report released Wednesday by two fiscal watchdog groups.

The [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Institute for Policy Studies](#) report found that Wal-Mart's high-dollar tax savings was made possible by a loophole in U.S. tax law that allows companies to deduct unlimited amounts for performance-based compensation.....

Blog Post: You Pay Taxes? Guess Who Doesn't

Down with Tyranny, Howie Klein, 6/4/2014

Tuesday we were looking at the nexus of democracy-destroying avarice and the outsourcing of public services to private companies. I saw a report from our friends from [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) that reveals how WalMart was able to get around \$104 million in taxes by handing out lavish "performance-based bonuses to top executives. How's that for a sound use of tax payer money? That's a government subsidy for the very richest-- combined with social interest loopholes that big corporations pay politicians to insert in appropriations bills. A full \$40 million was clipped off their tax bill because of an outrageous bonus to recently retired CEO Michael Duke, who pocketed \$116 million in stock options and other performance-based compensation.

Wal-Mart attacked for big tax breaks

Fortune, Benjamin Snyder, 6/4/2014

....The retail giant received tax write-offs for doling out \$298 million in performance pay to executives over the last six years, according to the report's authors, the [Institute for Policy Studies](#), a Washington think tank, and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a coalition of 400 national and state organizations for tax reform. Such loopholes ultimately cost regular taxpayers dearly in terms of government service and higher tax rates, the groups said.

[Frank Clemente](#), the executive director at [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), called the tax break "outrageous" and added that it's "truly one of the most perverse loopholes of all time." Sarah Anderson, the global economy director at [Institute for Policy Studies](#), said that the \$104 million "would have been enough, for example, to cover the cost of providing free lunches for 33,000 children."

Blog Post: New Study: Walmart Scammed American Taxpayers for \$104 Million by Giving Executives Obscene Bonuses

Alternet, Lynn Stuart Parramore, 6/3/2014

....According to a new report by the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) (IPS) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) (ATF) Walmart managed to finagle \$104 million in taxpayer subsidies over a six-year period due to tax deductions for "performance-based" executive compensation. Eight top executives were able to rake in more than \$298 million in "performance pay" that was fully tax deductible.....

How taxpayers subsidized Walmart execs' pay

CBS News, Aimee Picchi, 6/5/2014

While many of Walmart's workers rely on food stamps and other government aid to make ends meet, its top eight executives are living better, thanks in part to \$298 million in tax-deductible "performance pay" during the past six years.

That's according to a new report from the left-leaning [Institute for Policy Studies](#) (IPS), which found that Walmart lowered its federal tax bills by \$104 million because of the "performance pay" loophole. Of course, Walmart isn't alone in benefiting from that loophole, which was created in 1993 as a way to allow corporations to take tax deductions for "performance-based pay....."

'Walmart moms' walk off the job in protest at pay and conditions

The Guardian, Sarah Jaffee, 6/4/2014

....A report published on Wednesday raised a separate issue over Walmart and tax, in terms of a loophole the study said had given the company a tax break of \$104m, enough to cover the cost of free lunches for 33,000 schoolchildren.

In its report, the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) and lobby group [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) calculated that between 2009 and 2014, the top eight Walmart executives took home more than \$298m in "performance pay" that was fully tax deductible.....

How Your Tax Dollars Subsidize Walmart Executives' Paychecks

The Huffington Post, Jillian Berman, 6/4/2014

....Over the past six years, Walmart has cut its tax bill by \$104 million thanks to a loophole in the corporate tax code that lets companies deduct the cost of performance-based pay for executives. That's according to a report released Wednesday by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and the [Institute for Policy Studies](#), a think tank opposed to "concentrated wealth" and "corporate influence."....

Walmart Slashed Tax Bill By Giving Top Execs Big Bonuses

Forbes, Kelly Phillips, 6/4/2014

The largest private employer in the U.S. continues to exploit tax breaks to rewards its executives, according to the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) (IPS), a D.C. based think tank which has researched executive compensation, and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) (ATF), a tax reform coalition. That finding was published in a report released today, Walmart's Executive Bonuses Cost Taxpayers Millions, focusing on the retail giant's tax strategy.....

Walmart Continues to Exploit Tax Breaks to Reward Executives

AccountingWEB, Jason Bramwell, 6/4/2014

Walmart continues to exploit tax breaks to reward its executives, according to the [Institute for Policy Studies](#), a DC-based think tank that has researched executive compensation, and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) (ATF), a tax reform coalition. That finding was published in a report released today, *Walmart's Executive Bonuses Cost Taxpayers Millions*, focusing on the retail giant's tax strategy, Forbes tax contributor Kelly Philips Erb wrote today.....

Walmart Tax Cut Report Drops this Morning

Politico's Morning Tax, Mackenzie Weinger, 6/4/2014

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) & [Institute for Policy Studies](#) are set to come out with a joint report today on extremely large tax deductions at Walmart for incentive-based pay. Look for it at 11 a.m.

10 Corporate Tax Dodgers You Should Know About

Moyers and Company, Joshua Holland, 5/29/2014

This week, *Bill speaks* to Nobel prize-winning economist Joseph E. Stiglitz, who argues that we must reform the tax code and stop subsidizing tax dodgers. A recent report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) suggests that corporate taxes are near a 60-year low — and that's partially because corporations have become adept at not paying their share.

Here's a [list of 10 tax-dodging corporations](#) excerpted from the [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) report.....

Inversions, Reactions

Politico's Morning Tax, Mackenzie Weinger, 5/21/2014

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) sent letters to both Levins in support, with ATF executive director [Frank Clemente](#) writing that inversions are simply a way for businesses “to avoid paying their fair share of taxes to the American people. Thankfully, your legislation would stop many of these schemes.”

First look: ATF highlights options from camp for closing tax loopholes

Politico's Morning Tax, Mackenzie Weinger, 5/2/2014

The liberal-leaning [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), along with the [National Women's Law Center](#), is releasing a report today identifying 23 provisions in House Ways & Means Chairman Dave Camp's tax reform bill worth further discussion. “It's time for Congress to eliminate these special-interest loopholes, make corporations and the very wealthy pay their fair share, and raise the revenue the nation needs to expand opportunity for all,” the report states.

Op-Ed: How Congress Rigs the Rules

The Huffington Post, Robert L. Borosage, [Campaign for America's Future](#), 4/29/2014

But perhaps this time business as usual may bear a price. Warren is right: Americans are increasingly onto the game. As [polling for Americans for Tax Fairness](#) has shown, voters are outraged that corporations and the wealthy aren't paying their fair share of taxes. They are incensed at the notion that Congress is giving multinationals incentives to ship jobs or report profits abroad. Or that Wall Street banks are paying lower tax rates than small businesses.

Tax extenders arguments: there and back again

Politico's Morning Tax, Mackenzie Weinger, 4/29/2014

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) released a letter yesterday signed by over 30 organizations calling on members of the House Ways and Means Committee to reject the tax extender bills unless they are paid for. "We do not understand how the Committee can consider making these tax breaks permanent and not require that they be paid for, while many in the *House of Representatives* have demanded that other vital investments be paid for."

Blog Post: Taxpayers Subsidize Walmart and America's Richest Family to the Tune of \$7.8 Billion Annually

AFL-CIO Now, Kenneth Quinnell, [AFL-CIO](#), 4/23/2014

A new report from [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) shows that taxpayers in the United States subsidize Walmart and the Walton family, who owns the majority of Walmart stock and is the richest family in the country, by at least \$7.8 billion annually. The report, *Walmart on Tax Day: How Taxpayers Subsidize America's Biggest Employer and Richest Family*, was released in conjunction with tax day, when millions of Americans and small businesses do their civic duty and pay their fair share to support the economy and services critical to many Americans. At the same time, the report shows, taxpayers help pad Walmart and the Walton family's profits.....

Blog Post: Taxpayers in Phoenix, Arizona delivered a special tax bill to Walmart Chairman, Rob Walton

TruthOut.org, Thom Hartmann, 4/23/2014

According to the group Americans for Tax Fairness, the retail giant received an estimated \$7.8 billion dollars in tax breaks and subsidies in 2013. Those benefits include lower tax rates on dividends issued to the Walton family and Walmart executives, loopholes and special tax breaks from the government, and social services that employees use to subsidize Walmart's poverty wages.....

TV: Walmart employees rely on food stamps

MSNBC's Disrupt with Karen Finney, 4/20/2014

A nine-minute television segment prompted by the ATF Walmart report

A recent report [[by Americans for Tax Fairness](#)] finds that many of Walmart's employees rely on food stamps, healthcare and other taxpayer-funded programs. This report comes on the heels of two previous reports that found the fast food industry is costing American taxpayers \$7 billion each year.

Is Wal-Mart the Welfare Queen of Corporate America?

Yahoo Finance, Erin McWhinnie, 4/18/2014

Wal-Mart and the Walton family are the beneficiaries of tax breaks and subsidies estimated at more than \$7.8 billion per year, according to [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a coalition of 400 organizations that strive for tax reform. Wal-Mart receives an estimated \$6.2 billion annually from federal taxpayer subsidies, such as Section 8 Housing Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and Medicaid. Another \$1 billion is the result of Wal-Mart using tax breaks and loopholes to write off capital investments. The Waltons, America's wealthiest family, also avoid an estimated \$607 million in federal taxes each year through lower tax rates on capital gains.....

Blog Post: Walmart's Wages Are So Low, You're Actually Paying For Their Employees

Policy Mic, Tom McKay, 4/17/2014

On Tuesday, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a coalition of 400 national and state-level progressive groups, determined many Walmart employees' wages are so low that many of their basic living released an *analysis* that expenses end up being subsidized by the taxpayer. Employees at the mega-chain cost the country roughly \$6.2 billion annually in public assistance such as SNAP (food stamps), Medicaid, subsidized housing and other benefits.....

Blog Post: Walmart Worker: Why Did the Walton's Get \$8 Billion in Subsidies While I Had to Pay Taxes?

Democratic Underground, 4/17/2014

While millions of working- and middle-class Americans pay taxes each year, the richest family in the world—the Walton's—received nearly \$8 billion in tax breaks last year, according to a new report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a campaign fighting for progressive tax reform.

Blog Post: Walmart Worker: 'I Struggle Financially and Paid Taxes, While the Waltons Received \$8 Billion in Subsidies'

AlterNet, Alyssa Figueroa, 4/16/2014

While millions of working- and middle-class Americans pay taxes each year, the richest family in the world—the Waltons—received nearly \$8 billion in tax breaks last year, according to a new report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a campaign fighting for progressive tax reform.

That's why Walmart worker Richard Reynoso and his fellow co-workers decided to bring the \$7.8 billion tax bill to Walmart Chairman Rob Walton's doorstep on Tuesday. Reynoso traveled from his home in Southern California to Phoenix, Arizona to bring this unfairness to light.....

The Real Cost of Walmart to Taxpayers

TheStreet.com, Orit Nathan Mahalal, 4/17/2014

....A report released Wednesday by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) found that each Walmart Supercenter employee costs the taxpayer \$3,015 to \$5,815. Since Walmart has 1.4 million employees nationwide, the total estimated cost to U.S. taxpayers is \$6.2 billion. The assistance that Walmart employees receive includes school breakfasts and lunches for their kids, earned income tax credits, section 8 housing assistance, food stamps and other benefits. *Walmart Generates Revenues from Customers on Welfare....*

Workers Say Walmart Chairman Owes \$7.8 Billion Tax

24/7 Wall Street, Paul Ausick, 4/15/2014

A new report from a coalition called [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) (ATF) claims that Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Chairman Rob Walton and the entire Walton family owe the United States some \$7.8 billion in taxes for 2013. The amount is calculated on what the group calls subsidies to the company and its majority owners, the Walton family.....

7 Facts About Our Broken Tax System

The Nation, George Zornick 4/15/2014

Some of your tax dollars are given to hugely profitable companies. You'll note in the chart above that these companies have a negative tax rate—meaning they actually get money from the government. This can come in the form of federal tax breaks and other preferential treatment of certain financial instruments. Then consider the subsidies given directly to industry, along with the safety net programs some of these companies force employees to rely on, and the number gets quite big.

Take Walmart, the largest private employer in the country. They take in \$16 billion in profits annually. Yet, all told, Walmart cost taxpayers \$7.8 billion last year, according to [Americans for Tax Fairness](#)....

Blog Post: Don't cry for Walmart on tax day

Daily Kos, Laura Clawson, 4/15/2014

Walmart and the Walton family certainly have reason to be having a happy tax day. [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) rounds up the tax avoidance strategies Walmart and the Walton family use to keep taxpayers subsidizing their big profits and enormous wealth....

Blog Post: Vigilante Tax Collectors Demand \$7.8 Billion From Walmart At Walton Family's Desert Fortress

Wonkette, Alex Ruthrauff, 4/15/2014

It's Tax Day, which means political entities everywhere are scrambling to graft their agendas onto something with the word "tax" in it, so people who are frantically asking their internet friends "what for I owe so much tax?" will give them their email addresses. Us here, we got this nice thing in our email, says "Taxpayers Deliver \$7.8 Billion Tax Bill To Walmart Chairman." And they did! The taxpayers went to Rob Walton's compound in Paradise Valley, AZ, with a piece of paper, and now you are reading about it, so they did a good job. The \$7.8 billion that Walmart "owes" is a figure from a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#)...

Blog Post: Walmart on Tax Day: How Taxpayers Subsidizes America's Biggest Employer and Richest Family

Ritholtz.com, 4/15/2014

Walmart and the Waltons—America's largest employer and richest family—received tax breaks and subsidies worth an estimated \$7.8 billion in 2013, according to a report released today by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#). Released for Tax Day, when millions of American taxpayers and small businesses pay their fair share to support critical public services and the economy, the report shows Walmart and the Waltons have their own set of rules to game the system and get taxpayers to pick up the tab.....

"...Major companies and leaders like Walmart and the Waltons are taking advantage of the tax system and leaving taxpayers to foot the bill," said [Clemente](#). "It's time they paid their fair share like the rest of us do."

Walmart Workers Cost Taxpayers \$6.2 Billion In Public Assistance

Forbes, Claire O'Connor, 4/15/2014

Walmart's low-wage workers cost U.S. taxpayers an estimated \$6.2 billion in public assistance including food stamps, Medicaid and subsidized housing, according to a report published to coincide with Tax Day, April 15.

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a coalition of 400 national and state-level progressive groups, made this estimate using data from a 2013 study by Democratic Staff of the U.S. Committee on Education and the Workforce.....

Walmart benefits from billions in government subsidies: Study

MSNBC, Ned Resnikoff, 4/15/2014

Walmart is the beneficiary of billions of dollars per year in federal subsidies, according to a new report from the non-partisan, progressive group [Americans for Tax Fairness](#)....

Column: Walmart On Welfare

National Memo, David Cay Johnston, 4/14/2014

Next time you drive past a Walmart, think about how much in taxes you pay to subsidize the nation's largest private employer, owned by the nation's richest family. Your cost this year: \$247 if you are single, \$494 if you are a couple, and \$987 if you are a couple with two kids.....

.....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.....

Blog Post: Undermining the #WorstRate Campaign with #NobodyPaysThat

Social Media Today, Alan Rosenblatt, 4/9/2014

Back in 2010, I developed a strategy for seizing other campaigns' hashtags called "Denial of Hashtag" or DoH! The idea behind the Denial of Hashtag tactic is to flood someone else's hashtag timeline with counter messaging to either shift the conversation in your direction or to simply shutdown their hashtag campaign. The other day I discovered a brilliant example of this tactic implemented by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#).....

Congress once again moves to extend 'tax extenders'

Al Jazeera, David Dayen, 4/5/2014

.....Meanwhile, lobbyists charge corporations immense fees to work on getting tax extenders passed. A report based on data from the Center for Responsive Politics finds that over 1,300 lobbyists — one out of every ten registered by the federal government — have reported lobbying on the tax extenders bill, spending \$2.9 billion in the process.....

.....However, the lion's share of the tax breaks — roughly 90 percent, according to [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) — affect the corporate bottom line. Four tax breaks supply almost all of the cost of the bill, and one of the largest, the Active Financing Exception (AFE), provides an example of the true nature of tax extenders.....

.....A substantial portion of the lobbying on the tax extenders bill focuses on the AFE, led by the financial arm of General Electric, GE Capital. They dispatched 48 lobbyists and spent millions to argue for maintaining a loophole that has allowed them to receive \$3.1 billion in tax refunds from 2008-2012, according to [Citizens for Tax Justice](#). The return on investment equals around \$24 for every \$1 spent lobbying.....

Senate Tax-Extenders Bill Triggers Flood of Amendments

National Journal, Billy House, 4/3/2014

Senate tax writers face a political-messaging and amendment blitz from colleagues and special interests as they head into a Thursday meeting to consider renewals for dozens of tax breaks, credits, and write-offs that lapsed on Dec. 31.....

One left-leaning group, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), issued a report earlier this week saying its research shows 1,269 lobbyists representing 373 companies and trade associations have reported lobbying on the broad topic of “tax extenders.”

The group’s executive director, [Frank Clemente](#), praised Wyden for such moves as not including the so-called CFC look-through rule,” which has allowed corporations to defer otherwise taxable income through use of foreign entities. But he also predicted in a statement Wednesday that the Wyden-Hatch package will grow larger and more costly during Thursday’s markup.

[Clemente](#) said it is “troubling how quickly senators appear to be able to work out a deal on tax extenders that are unpaid for and largely benefit corporations while spending months crafting an emergency unemployment-benefits package that is paid for by cutting other spending.”

Congress Prepares To Give GE A Big Tax Break

Yahoo News, Abigail Field, 4/3/2014

.....General Electric is famous for paying little or no income tax. Indeed, GE was one of 26 Fortune 500 companies that was consistently profitable for the five years 2008-2012, and yet paid no income tax across those years, according to this report from [Citizens for Tax Justice \(CTJ\)](#). In fact, across those years GE received more than a billion net refund.

.....Just as in the 1990s, this year’s effort is backed by fierce lobbying. GE leads the current effort, according to a very recent report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Public Campaign](#). The report found that—just on the GE loophole alone—292 individual lobbyists representing 41 companies and trade associations worked on Congress, and 98 of them were paid for by GE. Twenty-eight of those are “revolvers”—former members of Congress, former Congressional staffers, or former Executive Branch officials.....

An “Army of Lobbyists” Is Quietly Fighting for Budget-Busting Corporate Tax Breaks

Moyers and Company, Joshua Holland, 4/3/2014

An army of corporate lobbyists is trying to push a huge package of tax cuts through Congress without drawing public attention.

The 55 cuts, known on Capitol Hill as “extenders,” expired at the end of 2013 but in the past have been renewed retroactively on a bipartisan basis with little fanfare. Altogether, according to the Congressional Budget Office, they could cost the federal government \$46 billion in revenues in 2014 and as much as \$700 billion over the next 10 years. While some of the breaks

would help working people, 90 percent of them would benefit the bottom lines of large, US-based multinationals.

A report released on Monday by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Public Campaign](#) calculates that, “1,359 individual lobbyists swarmed Capitol Hill to press members of Congress on the issue between January 2011 and September 2013.” Lobbyists appeared “12,378 times in quarterly lobbying reports in the period studied – each report representing from one to dozens of contacts with members of Congress and their staffs during the quarter it was filed.....”

Op-Ed: Congress Should Keep Lights Off on Tax Package That Nets GE Billions in Tax Breaks

The Huffington Post, J. David Cox Sr., American Federation of Government Employees, 4/3/2014

....Nowadays, the only thing GE is interested in bringing to life is the tax loophole that enables the company to avoid paying its fair share in federal income taxes. The so-called active financing tax loophole, one of the 55 tax breaks that expired at the end of 2013, enables GE and other large corporations to make it appear that profits earned in the U.S. were generated in offshore tax havens like the Cayman Islands. The [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) has just issued an eye-opening report.....

Hashtag Battle on Taxes

Morning Money, Ben White, 4/2/2014

Per [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) in response to the RATE Coalition's hashtag #WorstRate: “Many highly-profitable corporations pay far below the statutory corporate tax rate — in fact, *26 paid zero between 2008 and 2012...* So in response to #WorstRate. [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) today started the hash tag #NobodyPaysThat”

Congress renews annual temporary tax laws fight

Reuters, Kevin Drawbaugh, 4/2/2014

In the Senate, the new chairman of the tax-writing Finance Committee unveiled legislation that would modestly trim the list of about 55 laws known as the "tax extenders" because they expire every year or two and need to be regularly extended.

A study by a left-leaning tax activist group on Monday said that General Electric Corp alone employed 48 lobbyists from January 2011 through September 2013 to work on the tax extenders, in general, and one of them in particular - a provision that lets multinationals shelter offshore financial income from U.S. corporate income tax.

Citigroup employed 29 lobbyists over the same period for the same purposes, said the report from [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), which is backed by unions and progressive groups.

A GE spokesman said on Monday the [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) report distorted the facts and was "politically motivated."....

If GE Gets Its Way, The U.S. Government Could Lose \$62.5 Billion

The Huffington Post, Ben Hallman, 4/1/2014

When it comes to squeezing big rewards from obscure provisions of the tax code, General Electric leaves nothing to chance.

Over the past two years, GE has deployed more lobbyists than any other company to argue for a tax loophole that lets businesses deduct interest earned from overseas lending, according to a new report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a tax-reform advocacy group. This particular tax break will likely cost the U.S. government \$62.5 billion in revenue over the next decade, according to the report.

According to the report, GE lobbyists made contact with lawmakers or their staffs at least 863 times over a two-year period between 2011 and 2013 to argue for the loophole, known as the "active financing exemption." Congress is expected to extend the exemption again soon, with bipartisan support. The company paid its lobbyists \$63 million to advocate for the exemption and other tax-related interests over that time, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) found.....

Group chides GE after study of U.S. corporate tax break lobbying

Reuters, Kevin Drawbaugh, 4/1/2014

General Electric Co has lobbied more aggressively than any other corporation to preserve a tax loophole that lets multinationals shelter offshore financial profits from U.S. taxes, an activist group said on Monday.

As Congress considers the annual renewal of scores of tax breaks, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) released a study focused on the "active financing exception (AFE)," enacted in 1997, which U.S. companies use to avoid taxes on offshore financial income.

"No company has lobbied more aggressively on the AFE or benefits more handsomely than General Electric," said the group, which is backed by labor unions and progressive political organizations, in the 25-page study....

Extenders are a Lobbying Bonanza

Politico's Morning Tax, Lauren French, 3/31/2014

Confirming what we long knew, more than 1,000 lobbyists are attempting to sway Congress on the tax extenders package, according to a report set to be released today by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Public Campaign](#). "It will reveal which industries are most active, the corporations that lobby most aggressively, how many lobbyists they employ, and how intensely those lobbyists press their case on Capitol Hill," said a release from the left-of-center groups.

Tax extenders a lobbying bonanza

The Hill, Bernie Becker, 3/31/2014

Corporate titans unleashed an army of lobbyists to seek an extension of a key tax break on offshore income, according to a report that liberal groups released Monday.

The study from [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Public Campaign](#) found that more than 1,350 lobbyists worked on the group of temporary tax incentives commonly known as extenders between January 2011 and September 2013.

Almost 300 of those K Street officials lobbied specifically on a tax break known as the active financing exception, a preference that expired at the end of 2013 and allows financial services companies to defer paying taxes on profits made abroad.....

McConnell Deficit Spends on Tax Extenders, Not Unemployment Benefits

The New Republic, Danny Vinik, 3/31/2014

Back in January, Mitch McConnell demanded that Democrats “find a way to pay for” an extension of unemployment insurance. But he's entirely okay with adding tens of billions to the deficit to pay for tax breaks to corporations.

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Public Campaign](#) released a report Monday on the huge lobbying efforts by companies to renew 55 tax breaks that expired at the end of 2013. These tax breaks, known as “tax extenders,” largely benefit big corporations like General Electric, HP and Citigroup. The report finds that between January 2011 and September 2013, 1,359 unique lobbyists representing 373 companies and trade associations contacted members of Congress or their staff about the tax package.....

Blog Post: The New Populist Movement: Organizing to Take Back America

The Huffington Post, Roger Hickey, [Campaign for America's Future](#), 3/16/2014

A new progressive populist movement is rising up in the United States. Inspired by an expansive vision of greater economic opportunity for all Americans, this new movement is also fueled by anger over politicians' broken promises. After decades of recurring economic crisis, which now seems systemic and permanent, millions of Americans have come to realize that much of our democratic system is now owned by a moneyed elite that use their power to resist real change and to manipulate the economy for their own financial gain.

In early 2012, the Bush tax cuts were allowed to expire for everyone making more than \$450,000 a year, requiring the top 1 percent of Americans to pay an amount closer to their fair share of taxes. That victory will raise *\$620 billion over 10 years*. This first major new tax increase in a generation was successful because of grassroots pressure from around the country- organized by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) - representing the joined efforts of more than 400 national and state-based organizations.....

Op-Ed: Close Corporate Tax Loopholes to Fix Holes in Our Infrastructure

Roll Call, Bryan McGannon, [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 2/21/2014

.....Small business owners know that modernizing America's infrastructure is essential for our economy. But if we establish the precedent that the only way to pay for our national priorities is by paying ransom to those who already evade their responsibilities, then we will face a grim

future. U.S. multinationals will shift more profits, jobs and investments offshore — and shift more of their taxpaying responsibilities onto the rest of us.

The best way to fix our aging infrastructure is by closing the barn door on corporate tax dodging, not making the same mistakes we've already made.

Op-Ed: Eliminating the U.S. corporate income tax won't help American workers

Americans for Tax Fairness, [Frank Clemente](#), 1/7/2014

Eliminating the U.S. corporate income tax won't help American workers ("Abolish the Corporate Income Tax," op-ed, Jan. 6) because there's no real-world evidence that lower corporate taxes leads to economic growth. In fact, over the past 60 years the U.S. economy has been stronger when corporate tax rates have been higher, *according to one recent study*.

What would really help working families is having corporations once again pay their fair share of taxes, so that we can adequately fund new investments in education, medical research and infrastructure repair to grow the economy. That means closing offshore tax loopholes that reward corporations for hiding profits and shipping jobs overseas.

In the 1950s, corporate tax receipts represented about *one-third of federal revenue; now they make up only 10 percent*. When corporate taxes decline, everyone else pays more to make up the difference, or they lose valuable services and benefits. American workers win when corporate tax loopholes get closed.

Lawmakers are closing in on a budget deal — Americans for Tax Fairness outlines priorities

Politico, Lauren French, 1/13/2014

The liberal-leaning group will issue its political recommendations today for the 2014 midterms — a response to the RATE Coalition's advice from last week. [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), based on polling the group commissioned, said voters are angling for a tax increase on the wealthiest Americans to pay down the deficit. The recommendations: 1) Voters want corporations and the wealthy to pay their fair share. 2) Money raised from closing loopholes should be used for new investments and deficit reduction, not for reducing tax rates 3) Making it simpler means making it fairer 4) Times have changed — change with them. "Voters are aware that many large corporations shift profits to tax havens to avoid paying their fair share of federal income taxes, and they know that some highly — profitable corporations pay absolutely nothing, the report said.

Letter to the Editor: End the Corporate Tax?

The New York Times, 1/6/2014

To the Editor: Eliminating the corporate income tax won't help American workers because there's no real-world evidence that lower corporate taxes lead to economic growth.

What would really help working families is having corporations once again pay their fair share of taxes, so that we can adequately finance new investments in education, medical research

and infrastructure repair to grow the economy. That means closing offshore tax loopholes that reward corporations for hiding profits and shipping jobs overseas.

In the 1950s, corporate tax receipts represented about a third of federal revenue; now they make up only 10 percent. When corporate taxes decline, everyone else pays more to make up the difference, or loses valuable services and benefits. American workers win when corporate tax loopholes get closed.

FRANK CLEMENTE

Executive Director, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#)

Washington, Jan. 6, 2014

Op-Ed: Small Business Needs Big Business to Pay Its Fair Share

Roll Call, John Arensmeyer, [Small Business Majority](#), 12/9/2013

We need a balanced approach that strengthens our economy while asking huge corporations to pay their fair share. This is a strategy small-business owners support. [Small Business Majority's](#) scientific opinion polling found that 90 percent of entrepreneurs believe large corporations use loopholes to avoid paying taxes that small businesses must pay. And three-quarters say their small business is harmed when loopholes allow big corporations to avoid taxes.

But over the years, lawyers and lobbyists have created untold numbers of special tax breaks for their corporate clients — breaks small businesses don't enjoy. Household names such as General Electric Co., Boeing Co. and Verizon Communications Inc. have gone several years without paying any federal income tax at all, according to [Citizens for Tax Justice](#).

Women's, retiree groups ask voters to take sequester remedy action on Dec. 12

The Examiner, Laura Gabbay, 12/8/2013

On December 12, several prominent community advocacy organizations, including the, the [Alliance for Retired Americans](#), the National Disability Rights Network, [9to5](#), the [AFL-CIO](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), are asking voters to take action across this nation and contact their elected officials in Washington, D.C. The request to our representatives is to tell them to address the next round of expected 2014 federal sequester cuts . First started this past March, the sequester cuts are, some say, ham-handed, across-the-board cuts to federal spending and hit Latinos and women the hardest.

There is little debate that the effects of the sequestration cuts are not good for the country, adversely impacting everything from Head Start programs for low-income children to health care research. Due to sequestration cuts, the National Institutes of Health has been forced to cut \$1.75 billion from its budget, for example.

According to the [National Women's Law Center](#) today, "Congress can fix this! Closing tax loopholes will raise the revenue needed to end the sequester and protect programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid from the chopping block. That's why we're joining forces with other organizations to tell Congress to end the sequester and close corporate tax loopholes."

Small Business Saturday Is Under Attack (From Small Business)

The New York Times, Robb Mandelbaum, 11/27/2013

On Tuesday, the **Main Street Alliance**, a left-leaning, locally focused small-business trade association, announced its own campaign — this one aimed at exposing what it termed the “hypocrisy” of American Express. “Every Saturday should be Small Business Saturday, but the irony of American Express being the ones to sponsor Small Business Saturday is glaring,” said Barb Campbell, who owns Wabi Sabi, a Japanese crafts store in Bend, Ore. “Every other day of the year, American Express just puts the squeeze on Main Street merchants.”

In particular, the alliance objects to the card company’s “swipe fees,” the transaction costs billed to the merchant whenever consumers use a card at the register. American Express’s fees are the highest of the card companies; according to the Nielson Report, which tracks the card industry, the average cost of an American Express transaction is 2.22 percent, compared to 2.05 percent for a MasterCard or Visa transaction.

The **Main Street Alliance** also chides American Express for sheltering \$8.5 billion in profits abroad, which “robs the country of resources necessary for economy-boosting investment,” said Kelly Conklin, an alliance leader and the owner of Foley-Waite Associates, an architectural woodworking business in Elizabeth, N.J.

American Express attacked over Small Business Saturday sponsorship

Business Journals, Kent Hoover, 11/26/2013

Main Street Alliance, a left-leaning organization for local business owners across the country, wants Americans to shop at small businesses this Saturday, but they want them to pay for their purchases with cash, not credit cards -- especially not American Express cards.

American Express started Small Business Saturday in 2010, and has lots of partners in this effort to encourage consumers to do their holiday shopping on this day with locally based small businesses.

Its partners include local chambers of commerce, as well as national organizations such as the National Federation of Independent Business and **Small Business Majority**.

But **Main Street Alliance** contends that American Express’ sponsorship of Small Business Saturday is a cynical marketing ploy to make consumers think the credit card company is a good partner with small business when it isn’t.

"American Express is not the friend of Main Street it claims to be," said Amanda Ballantyne, director of **Main Street Alliance**....

How Much Does Small Business Saturday Boost Main Street?

Bloomberg News, Patrick Clark, 11/25/2013

American Express Vice President May Ann Fitzmaurice Reilly says measuring the sales impact is difficult because shoppers use different forms of payment. “We couldn’t be more proud and

more humbled by how small businesses have taken ownership," she says. "It's become a part of the shopping culture, along with Black Friday and Cyber Monday."

Not everyone is a fan. It's been argued that the campaign is a bigger coup for American Express than it is for Main Street businesses. And advocacy group [Main Street Alliance](#) is holding a press conference tomorrow to "denounce the hypocrisy" of American Express promoting small businesses while charging the credit card "industry's highest" swipe fees and corporate tax strategies.

Op-Ed: For Democrats, a Tax-the-Rich Road to Victory

The Huffington Post, Richard Eskow, [Campaign for America's Future](#), 11/17/2013

Tax increases are a subject people seem reluctant to mention in the nation's capital. Republicans have convinced everyone inside the Beltway that new tax revenues are politically impossible. The talk on the Hill is that the White House is urging Senate and House Dems to accept a cuts-only budget deal for the next go-round. It seems that the conventional wisdom says tax increases are best left unmentioned.

But the conventional wisdom is wrong.

New polling by Hart Research Associates, conducted for [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), confirms and amplifies findings from earlier studies showing that Americans strongly support higher taxes for the wealthy and corporations. And when we say "strongly," we mean very strongly.

Democratic pollster: Voters OK with tax increases

The Hill, Bernie Becker, 11/12/2013

...The new poll from Hart Research found that, by a 56 percent to 39 percent margin, voters want the next budget agreement to include both revenues and cuts.

Independents and swing voters strongly backed that idea, according to the poll conducted for [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a liberal group. The poll surveyed 1,009 voters in late October, for a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.

Poll: Voters back tax hikes to offset spending cuts

Politico Pro, Rachel Bade, 11/12/2013

Polling by Democratic firm Hart Research Associates found that Americans overwhelmingly want to replace at least some of the automatic spending cuts with tax hikes on large corporations and the wealthy. And that's true even for independents and some Republicans.

Leading by a 17-point margin, 56 percent of Americans say lawmakers should come up with a budget agreement that includes new tax revenue from either Corporate America or the wealthiest individuals. Thirty-nine percent favored the GOP's cuts-only approach.

The results hand ammunition to Senate Budget Chairman Patty Murray (D-Wash.), who is pushing to replace the widely unpopular sequester cuts with \$1 of new revenue from closing tax loopholes for every \$1 of spending cut.

The study was done for the liberal group [Americans for Tax Fairness](#).

Column: Big Majorities Favor Progressive Tax-and-Spend Policies, Polls Show

National Memo, David Cay Johnston, 11/12/2013

Asked what budget priorities they want Congress to focus on, 68 percent of voters chose strengthening the economy and creating jobs while just 28 percent want deficit reduction and lowering the national debt (the Tea Party platform).

Those figures come from a Hart Research Associates telephone poll of 1,009 registered voters conducted in late October for [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a coalition of 325 progressive, labor and similar organizations.

While the poll was conducted for progressives, it is consistent with other polls sampling public attitudes about the economy, taxes and federal spending.

Indeed, the latest poll shows that even a quarter of Tea Party Republicans favor some progressive tax and spend policies.

Op-Ed: Wall Street's nightmare: Here's how to really expedite the recovery

Salon, George Goehl, [National People's Action](#), 11/7/2013

The question, then, is: Who should pay? Are seniors, students, the poor and working class expected to continue to make all the sacrifices? Or will those who benefit the most from the laws — and in many cases lack of laws — of our nation pay their fair share and fully contribute to the rebuilding of this country.

According to a 2013 poll by [Hart Research Associates](#), 62 percent of Americans support a small tax on stock, bond and market trades. The same poll found that nearly two-thirds of Americans want corporations to pay more in taxes.

Senators Want To Close Tax Loophole After JPMorgan Case, But Banks Will Still Probably Save Billions

The Huffington Post, Ben Hallman, 11/6/2013

Francisco Enriquez, a tax expert at the [U.S. Public Interest Research Group](#), a left-leaning group that recently delivered 160,000 signatures [collected with [Americans for Tax Fairness](#)] to the Justice Department to protest the agency's settlement policy, said his group supports the legislation.

"This is a step in the right direction," he said. "But our position is that in most cases, restitution payments made as a part of a settlement should not be deductible."

Senate bill targets corporations that deduct settlement payouts

The Washington Post, Danielle Douglas, 11/7/2013

“Ordinary citizens don’t deduct their parking tickets or library fines from their taxes,” said Francisco Enriquez, a tax and budget program associate at the **U.S. Public Interest Research Group**. “Corporations like JPMorgan shouldn’t be able to deduct their settlements for wrongdoing, either.”

On Monday, **U.S. PIRG** and **Americans for Tax Fairness** sent a petition signed by 160,000 people to the Justice Department, urging prosecutors to bar JPMorgan from claiming a tax deduction on any part of the pending settlement. The request arrived days after five senators, including Nelson and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), sent a similar letter to Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr.

Letter to the Editor: End worst abuses of offshore tax havens

The Huffington Post, Jamie Woo, **U.S. PIRG**, 11/6/2013

.....**U.S. PIRG**, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, and the **Financial Accountability and Corporate Transparency (FACT) Coalition** sent a letter to Congress today calling on lawmakers to support this common sense bill. It was signed by 538 state and national organizations representing tens of millions of Americans, including small business, labor, faith-based, environmental, and tax justice groups.....

People Are Starting To Get Really Angry That The Huge JPMorgan Settlement is Tax Deductible

Business Insider, Yahoo Finance, Linette Lopez, 11/6/2013

JP Morgan's potential \$13 billion settlement with the government hasn't been finalized yet, but already politicians and public interest groups are crying foul because up to \$9 billion of the settlement is tax deductible.

That means the bank could write \$3 billion off their corporate tax bill as a business expense, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness** and the **U.S. PIRG**, the federation of state **Public Interest Research Groups**.

On Monday, **Americans for Tax Fairness** and the **U.S. PIRG** presented Congress with a 160,000 signature petition asking the Justice Department to add a provision to the settlement that would stop this from happening, and a bunch of Congressmen have jumped on board, calling U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to do something.

Pressure mounts on DOJ over JPMorgan settlement

The Hill, Julian Hattem, 11/4/2013

Critics from both sides of the aisle are raising their voices to make sure taxpayers aren’t responsible for footing part of JPMorgan Chase's record \$13 billion penalty.

Unions, lawmakers and public interest groups say the department should prevent the bank, which is the country's largest, from writing off a portion of its settlement as a tax deduction. Letting it deduct billions of dollars would penalize consumers who have already been hurt by the financial crisis, they say....

Also on Monday, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and the [U.S. Public Interest Research Group](#) delivered to the department a petition with 160,000 signatures asking it to specifically prevent JPMorgan from claiming a tax deduction on the penalty.

Will You Have to Pay for JPMorgan's \$13 Billion Fine?

The Fiscal Times, David Francis, 11/4/2013

Most people think of tax write-offs as a benefit of money given to charity or expenses related to running a small business. Corporations play by a different set of rules. In their world, costs related to financial settlements with the government for wrongdoing can be written off, reducing the real-world effect of the imposed fines and reducing the revenues the government collects.

The [U.S. Public Interest Research Group \(U.S. PIRG\)](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) are trying to make sure the same thing doesn't happen with JPMorgan Chase's expected \$13 billion settlement with the government. The bank reportedly could claim as much as \$4 billion of that total as a tax deduction unless the terms of the agreement prevent it from doing so.

Left pushes to trip JPMorgan tax breaks on settlement

The Hill, Peter Schroeder, 11/4/2013

Liberal advocacy groups are mounting pressure on the Justice Department to bar JPMorgan from deducting from the bank's taxes any portion of a broad government settlement in the works.

The reportedly \$13 billion settlement over the bank's mortgage activities before the financial crisis, which is still being hammered out, would be the largest such settlement in U.S. history. But reports that JPMorgan is seeking use up to \$4 billion of the settlement as a tax write-off has led to protests from liberal groups and lawmakers.

On Monday, two groups delivered over 160,000 petitions to the Justice Department calling for barring any potential tax benefit. The groups, [U.S. PIRG](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), argue it is patently unfair for taxpayers to help subsidize JPMorgan's fines through the tax code.

Democrats Bill Would Block J.P. Morgan Settlement Deductions

The Wall Street Journal, Alan Zibel, 11/1/2013

...Pressure on the issue is building. Next week, two advocacy groups — the [U.S. Public Interest Research Group](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) — plan to present 150,000 petitions to the Justice Department arguing that it is unfair for J.P. Morgan to reap a “tax windfall” off the settlement.

Business as Usual

The New Yorker, George Packer, 10/28/2013

With the extra workload, face-to-face audits have dropped by half since 1992, as have the odds of being convicted for a tax crime. [Frank Clemente](#), the director of [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), says, “When the I.R.S. doesn’t have the money to do its job, it’s easier for wealthy people and big corporations to cheat the system, especially by hiding profits offshore.” For every dollar added to the I.R.S. budget, the agency is able to collect at least seven dollars in revenue, but in times of austerity that money doesn’t come in—which means that, in recent years, the Treasury has lost billions in taxes, starving government services and increasing the deficit. Another result, Jenny Brown pointed out, is that wait times at the Ogden call center have risen from ten or fifteen minutes a few years ago to an hour or more today. “By the time they get the I.R.S. on the phone, they’re frustrated, and they vent awhile, which takes up more time,” she said.

Senator Levin aims at offshore tax loopholes

The Hill, Bernie Becker, 9/19/2013

Speaking at an event hosted by The Hill and sponsored by [Small Business Majority](#), Levin, who has long crusaded against offshore tax loopholes, said his bill takes aim at a number of complex tax tactics that big-time corporations employ, including the shifting of intellectual property rights and the setting up of offshore shell companies.

Op-ed: Cutting corporate tax loopholes is not food for kids

The Hill, Deborah Weinstein, [Coalition on Human Needs](#), 9/18/2013

[Op-Ed drafted and placed by ATF]

Corporate tax dodging goes beyond offshore tax havens. Familiar corporate giants like General Electric, Wells Fargo, and Verizon go years without paying any federal income tax, despite billions of dollars in profits, according to the non-partisan think tank [Citizens for Tax Justice](#). Big, profitable corporations pay on average just one-third the official corporate tax rate, the Government Accountability Office has found. And corporate tax receipts as a portion of total federal income is at a 60-year low, the Office of Management and Budget reports....

Blog Post: Tax Reform Advocates Make Their Case At Tax-Evading FedEx

Think Progress, Alan Pyke, 9/9/2013

A legislative listening tour meant to make the case for comprehensive tax reform will stop on Monday at a giant corporation that's paid a 4.2 percent tax rate on over \$9 billion in profits over the past five years.

The tax reform tour, which is the brainchild of Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT) and House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dave Camp (R-CA), features a mix of corporate-hosted events and meetings with small businesses. On Monday, the two men will visit the Memphis, Tennessee headquarters of shipping giant FedEx. According to an analysis by **Citizens for Tax Justice (CTJ)**, FedEx raked in \$9.3 billion in profits from 2008 to 2012, but paid just \$395 million in federal taxes. That means the company faced an effective tax rate of 4.2 percent – roughly one-eighth the statutory rate reformers insist is crushing the business community.

Op-Ed: Fulfilling Martin Luther King's dream

Politico, Rep. John Conyers, 8/28/2013

But the most obvious failure to achieve equality is in the economic realm. With a few exceptions, U.S. income inequality has consistently worsened since reaching a low in 1968, according to the Congressional Budget Office and the U.S. Census Bureau. Over that same period, the average African-American household continued to earn about 60 percent of the average white household. The percentage of Americans living in poverty — after dropping to 11 percent in the years immediately following Dr. King's 1963 speech — was back to 15 percent in 2011.....

Op-Ed: Time to end the dangerous shell game

The Hill, Frank Knapp Jr., **American Sustainable Business Council**, 8/28/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

But how many other shell companies are used to financially benefit enemy states because U.S. state laws don't require the identity of owners to be disclosed? How many are used by drug traffickers, terrorist cells, tax cheats, pimps, arms traders, fraudsters or other criminals to further illegal activity? How many American dollars are secretly sent to groups most of us would never support?

Coalition Presses Congress to Close Corporate Tax Loopholes

Accounting Web, Jason Bramwell, 8/21/2013

Groups in sixteen states already held or are holding events later this week to demand that Congress close corporate tax loopholes in order to help avoid more deep cuts to essential benefits and services.

The events, which are organized by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) (ATF), a coalition of more than 325 national and state organizations, are being held in advance of the expected showdown in Congress shortly after Labor Day on budget and tax issues.

"With members of Congress back in their states this August, people are demanding that Congress stop corporate tax dodging and invest in America," ATF Campaign Manager [Frank Clemente](#) said in a written statement. "Congress faces a clear choice in September when it debates how to keep the government funded: Continue to whack away at critical services that protect our families and that are needed to grow our economy, or close gaping tax loopholes so that big corporations and the rich pay their fair share of taxes."

Groups Press Members of Congress to End Corporate Tax Breaks

Accounting Today, Michael Cohn, 8/20/2013

Ahead of an expected showdown in Congress over budget and tax issues after lawmakers return from their August recess, groups in 16 states are holding 28 events this week to demand that Congress end corporate tax breaks to avoid deeper cuts to spending programs.

The events are being organized by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a coalition of more than 325 national and state organizations.

"With members of Congress back in their states this August, people are demanding that Congress stop corporate tax dodging and invest in America," said [Frank Clemente](#), campaign manager of [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), in a statement. "Congress faces a clear choice in September when it debates how to keep the government funded: continue to whack away at critical services that protect our families and that are needed to grow our economy, or close gaping tax loopholes so that big corporations and the rich pay their fair share of taxes."

Demand an End to Corporate Tax Dodging

Moyers and Company, 8/20/2013

It's no secret that large corporations are using loopholes to avoid taxes and the federal government is missing out on revenue that could help fund programs on the chopping block in upcoming budget negotiations. Between 2008 and 2012, more than two dozen corporations — Facebook, GE and Verizon among them — managed to avoid paying any income tax at all.

As the Sept. 30 federal budget deadline draws near, a coalition of local and national advocacy groups is asking Congress to end corporate tax avoidance. Here's how you can help:

- Find out more about inequities in the corporate and individual tax system through [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), one of the groups seeking to put pressure on Congress. Protests and actions are planned around the country, some of which are listed on the [National People's Action](#) website and the [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) blog. Actions are already planned in New York City, Chicago, Des Moines, Bangor and Los Angeles in the next few days.

Corporate Tax Reform and S-Corps

Business Finance, Karen Kroll, 8/20/2013

Indeed, the [Main Street Alliance](#), a network of small business coalitions, says the study “leads to the conclusion that the goal of tax reform must be to correct unfairness in the U.S. tax code by requiring large corporations to pay their fair share.”

It seems the most effective reform would include all these changes: limiting the deductions that allow the largest companies to pay effective tax rates that are a fraction of their statutory rates, while also looking at the corporate and individual tax structures together, so that those choosing to operate as a pass-through entity aren’t penalized.

Op-Ed: Obama’s Tax Plan a Bad Bargain for Small Business

The Hill, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/2/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

President Obama is right to address the urgent need to modernize our once grand infrastructure. Unfortunately, the president’s corporate tax reforms would leave us in a deeper hole down the road.

The president’s plan to cut corporate tax rates responds to the tireless mantra of U.S. multinational corporations that America’s tax rates hurt their global competitiveness. In reality, American corporations are enjoying their highest level of profits in 60 years while their federal income taxes are close to the lowest level. The Government Accountability Office recently reported that large profitable U.S. corporations paid an effective federal tax rate of just 12.6 percent in 2010, a rate lower than many small businesses and middle-class families.

Small Businesses Want more from Obama’s Tax Proposal

Inc.com, Jana Kasperkevic, 8/1/2013

"Small business owners need corporate tax reform to focus on requiring corporations to pay their fair share for economy-boosting investments that bolster consumer demand on Main Street, not lowering corporate rates," Reshonda Young, operations manager at Alpha Express in Waterloo, Iowa and member of the [Main Street Alliance](#) executive committee.

Letter to the Editor: Why should Acme Corp. get to pay in taxes less than you?

The Washington Post, Frank Clemente, Americans for Tax Fairness, 7/12/13

Missing from coverage of how little big corporations pay in income taxes [“GAO says profitable U.S. companies paid taxes at a 12.6% rate in 2010,” news, July 2] was an examination of how their tax rates stack up against those of middle-class workers. It’s that comparison that really drives home the need for tax reform that raises more revenue from big firms that aren’t now pulling their weight.

As Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.), who requested the Government Accountability Office report, noted, “America’s large, profitable corporations are now paying a lower tax rate than our

teachers and firefighters.” He could have added nurses and construction workers: All four of these vital parts of our society pay roughly twice the federal tax rate that big corporations pay, according to the research organization [Citizens for Tax Justice](#).

Tax policy involves choices. Only by recognizing who’s picking up the tab for corporate tax dodging — middle-class workers — can we start to make the right decisions, including closing the loopholes that cost us \$600 billion over 10 years in lost corporate revenue.

Op-Ed: Popular Movement For Higher Taxes? Now There's a Story

The Huffington Post, Richard Eskow, [Campaign for America’s Future](#), 7/2/2013

"The American people are on our side," says Rep. Keith Ellison, co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. "The time is now."

Ellison was talking to a small group of writers and activists about higher tax rates for U.S. corporations. Although he was upbeat, Ellison acknowledged that winning those tax increases would be an uphill fight....

Blog Post: How Walmart's Bosses Get Rich off Welfare Abuse

The Huffington Post, Carl Gibson, Co-Founder of US Uncut, July 30, 2014

..... Out of all of its revenues, food stamps accounted for \$13.5 billion in sales for Walmart just last year. Walmart is using their soaring profits to give "performance-based" pay raises to executives, and using the performance pay loophole in the US tax code to dodge their federal tax obligations. The [Institute for Policy Studies](#) learned that taxpayers have had to pay for \$104 million in the last six years (beginning at roughly the same time as the recession) for Walmart's performance-based pay bonuses that topped out just short of \$300 million. This would be enough in tax dollars to pay for 33,000 impoverished children's free/reduced school lunches over the same time period.....

....As [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) (ATF) discovered, the annual \$7.8 billion that Walmart leeches off of US taxpayers could instead be used to hire 105,131 teachers. In Alice Walton's home state of Texas, \$813 million could fund hiring 12,000 more teachers. Walmart chairman Rob Walton could see to it that the company pays employees fairly, saving taxpayers in his home state of Arizona \$176 million. That alone could hire 2,500 more teachers in Arizona's schools. Page 10 of the [ATF report](#) lists how much each state would gain in new tax dollars for public education if Walmart and the Walton family weaned themselves off of government welfare programs.....

The Bad Boss Tax

In These Times, Sarah Jaffe, July 21, 2014

....Just how much money are low-wage businesses draining from local, state and federal coffers? A study released in April by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a coalition of more than 400 organizations that advocate progressive tax reform, estimated that Walmart alone costs taxpayers \$6.2 billion annually in public assistance.....

Your Tax Dollars Pay for Walmart Execs' Bonuses

The Fiscal Times, Yuval Rosenberg, June 4, 2014

From 2009 to 2014, Walmart awarded Michael Duke, its CEO until late last year, nearly \$116 million in so-called performance pay — exercised stock options and other compensation that carried an added benefit: It was fully tax deductible, meaning the company got an added \$40 million in federal tax breaks, according to a [new report](#) from tax-reform advocates at [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and the left-leaning [Institute for Policy Studies](#).....

“When Walmart gets a \$104 million tax break for giving its executives outrageous pay packages, the rest of us pick up the tab,” [Frank Clemente](#), executive director at [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), said in a statement. “With this tax loophole, the bigger the executive bonuses the less Walmart pays in taxes. This is truly one of the most perverse loopholes of all time.”

That so-called loophole has been the target of tax reform proposals from both Democrats and Republicans. Closing it would generate more than \$50 billion in tax revenue over 10 years, according to estimates from the Joint Committee on Taxation cited by the [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) report.....

Critics, including the authors of the new report, say Walmart’s pay practices subject U.S. taxpayers to a double hit: Not only does the company get to deduct performance pay for executives from its taxes, but it pays its workers so little that many of them rely on public assistance programs like food stamps and Medicaid. [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) estimated that Walmart employees receive \$6.2 billion a year in taxpayer-funded subsidies.....

The Walmart heirs should save Detroit

The Daily Kos, Jon Perr, June 8, 2014

Walmart has had a very bad week. On Thursday, the New York Times reported that at least eight senior executives have left the company since an investigation was launched to probe [allegations of massive bribery](#) in Mexico and other foreign markets. Already shaken by previous revelations that low-wage workers at the nation's largest employer [require \\$6.2 billion a year from U.S. taxpayers](#) for food stamps, Medicaid, housing subsidies and other public assistance, Walmart was buffeted by a new report from the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) showing that its top eight [executives ducked \\$104 million in taxes](#) just since 2009. And adding insult to injury, a new study found that the Walton family heirs who own Walmart have [given virtually nothing to their own charity](#), the Walton Family Foundation....

How Corporations Inflate CEO Pay with Stock Buybacks – And Why It’s Bad for the Rest of Us

Moyers & Company, Sam Pizzigati, June 9, 2014

Back in 1979, notes a new [Economic Policy Institute report released](#) last week, households in America’s statistical middle — the 20 percent of households making more than the nation’s poorest 40 percent and less than the nation’s most affluent 40 percent — averaged \$16.72,

after inflation, per hour worked. In 2012, households in this same statistical middle averaged \$16.26 per hour.....

Over the past six years, report the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), the “performance pay” subsidy for just eight high-ranking Wal-mart execs has saved the company \$104 million off its corporate tax bill, enough money to cover six years of free school lunches for 33,000 poor kids.....

Video: Are Your Taxes Paying for CEO Bonuses? – The Thom Hartman Program

By Thom Hartman, June 2014

Interview with report co-author Sarah Anderson.

Op-Ed: Walmart’s Top-to-Bottom Taxpayer Subsidies

Common Dreams, Truthout, Other Words, [Frank Clemente](#) and Sarah Anderson, June 4, 2014

We're all footing the bill for bonuses the company's executives pocket and food stamps its underpaid workers obtain for survival.

Low-income families weren’t the only ones hurt by cuts to food stamps last fall. Top Walmart executives also took a hit.....

A new report we co-authored for the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) calculates just how much this bonus loophole benefits Walmart. For example, we found that Mike Duke, the big box retailer’s recently retired CEO, pocketed nearly \$116 million in exercised stock options and other “performance pay” between 2009 and 2014. That translates into a taxpayer subsidy for Walmart of more than \$40 million....

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy’s Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

World News (WN.com), [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

ALABAMA MEDIA HITS

Op-ed Big businesses should pay fair share

The Montgomery Advertiser, Frank Knapp Jr., American Sustainable Business Council, 8/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

ARIZONA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Florance Reminder & Blade-Tribune, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

As Congress heads home to celebrate the Fourth of July, it leaves with two critical issues unaddressed. The first is the increasing -- and troubling -- trend of big corporations essentially giving up their American citizenship and reincorporating overseas to reduce their U.S. taxes....

Op-Ed: You pay taxes — why doesn't General Electric?

The Phoenix Reporter & Item, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), Syndicated by American Forum, 4/21/2014

You pay your fair share of taxes. Small businesses do too. It's the price we pay to educate our kids, protect our communities and have some security in retirement. Why shouldn't some of America's largest corporations pay their fair share too?

Corporations are making record profits. But 111 profitable Fortune 500 companies paid zero federal income taxes in one or more of the past five years, according to a recent report by [Citizens for Tax Justice](#). What's worse – 26 of them, including Boeing, General Electric and Verizon, paid nothing over the entire five-years. Astoundingly, they got tax refunds instead.....

ARKANSAS MEDIA HITS

New report focuses on taxpayer subsidies for Walmart executives

The Arkansas Times, Max Brantley, 6/4/2014

Another report for Walmart shareholders' week, this one from the [Americans for Tax Fairness](#). It focuses, not on the wages and working conditions of low-level Walmart employees, but "excessive pay" for executives, subsidized by taxpayers.....

Organizations rally for tax fairness at Capitol

Arkansas Times, David Ramsey, 4/15/2014

Representatives from **Women's Action for New Directions** (WAND) and the **American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees** (AFSCME), along with other local organizations, will speak on tax and budget fairness at a rally at the Capitol today at noon. The event, part of a series called "Truthful Tuesdays" coincides with the income tax deadline today. Press release after the jump.

Speaking of this topic, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) released a report yesterday that is making the rounds arguing that Walmart and the Waltons are receiving nearly \$8 billion every year in tax breaks and subsidies from taxpayers. Tax Day is a good day to consider the way our policy choices structure the tax code, including ways that benefit billionaires — though elements of

this Walmart report in particular frankly rely on a debatable premise (here's some pushback from a Forbes columnist).

Arkansas Politics Pastor/judge urges Tim Griffin to reopen federal government

Arkansas Times, Max Brantley, 10/15/2013

Supporters of [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) had announced earlier that they would visit Griffin's office on University at noon today to deliver a letter calling for him to vote to end the government shut down, lift the debt ceiling, end the automatic spending cuts and raise revenue by closing corporate tax loopholes. Several unions, clergy and others participated.

CALIFORNIA MEDIA HITS

Column: Tax Dodge Should Cost Corporations their Political Rights

The San Francisco Chronicle, 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](#).”

Op-Ed: Walmart's Top-to-Bottom Taxpayer Subsidies – The San Diego Free Press

The San Diego Free Press, [Frank Clemente](#) and [Sarah Anderson](#), June 4, 2014

We're all footing the bill for bonuses the company's executives pocket and food stamps its underpaid workers obtain for survival.

Low-income families weren't the only ones hurt by cuts to food stamps last fall. Top Walmart executives also took a hit....

A new report we co-authored for the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) calculates just how much this bonus loophole benefits Walmart. For example, we found that Mike Duke, the big box retailer's recently retired CEO, pocketed nearly \$116 million in exercised stock options and other “performance pay” between 2009 and 2014. That translates into a taxpayer subsidy for Walmart of more than \$40 million....

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Hanford Sentinel, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Fresno Bee, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

The Californian, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Sacramento Bee, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Pasadena Citizen, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Tulare Advance-Register, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, 7/1/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Visalia Times-Delta, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, 7/1/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

As Congress heads home to celebrate the Fourth of July, it leaves with two critical issues unaddressed. The first is the increasing -- and troubling -- trend of big corporations essentially giving up their American citizenship and reincorporating overseas to reduce their U.S. taxes....

Demonizing their donors

The Orange County Register, 4/17/2014

..... Democratic staff of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce released a report last May accusing the retailer of reaping "significant profits through the depression of labor costs."

Wal-Mart's business practices "not only harm workers and their families," the Democratic report maintained, they also "cost taxpayers" and dampen economic growth.

And, as it happens, the same conclusion was reached by a report this week by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), a "nonpartisan, progressive group," which claims that Wal-Mart and the controlling Walton family, profit from nearly \$7.8 billion a year in federal subsidies and tax breaks.

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Pasadena Citizen, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

Op-Ed: Tax Extenders Cost Billions

The Los Angeles Independent Media Center, Deborah Field, 4/15/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Fifteen years as an accountant in corporate America taught me that big multinational companies think they can play by their own rules. That's especially true when it comes to taxes: some corporations take pride in paying close to nothing in federal income taxes. Now that I run my own small printing and stationery businesses, I'm paying my fair share along with the rest of the middle class....

One of the expired tax loopholes, known as the "active financing exception," enables banks and other companies with financing operations to make it appear that U.S. profits were earned in offshore tax havens. General Electric depends on this loophole to lower its tax bill, and so has put four dozen lobbyists working to keep it alive, according to a recent study by [Americans for Tax Fairness and Public Campaign](#).

Lawmakers want to outlaw tax deductions for government settlements

The Los Angeles Times, Jim Puzzanghera, 11/6/2013

A report in January by the [U.S. Public Interest Research Group](#) found that even though the law is clear that punitive fines and penalties issued by government agencies are not tax deductible, settlements often are not clear on how much of the payment amount is punitive.

[U.S. PIRG](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) delivered a petition with 160,000 signatures to the Justice Department on Monday calling for language in any JPMorgan settlement prohibiting a tax write-off for the penalties.

Op-Ed: Medical device tax giveaway would deny Americans health care

Santa Monica Daily Press, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 11/1/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

In their efforts to defund the Affordable Care Act, aka Obamacare, the Republican leadership in the House of Representatives also demanded a \$29-billion tax break for one of the country's more profitable industries, medical device-makers. When they couldn't get their way on Obamacare and the tax break, the GOP literally shut down the U.S. government. It was another dramatic example of how far the right wing will go to allow corporations to avoid paying their fair share of taxes.

It is also a proposal they are likely to champion during the ongoing budget debate.

When Congress passed the law establishing the Affordable Care Act in 2010, it included mechanisms to help pay for new benefits, like ending denial of services because of pre-existing conditions and extending healthcare to previously uninsured Americans. Among these

mechanisms was a 2.3 percent excise tax on medical devices ranging from surgical gloves to MRI machines. The tax would raise \$29 billion over 10 years.

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Santa Barbara News-Press, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/17/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Will Congress ever get its act together? That question is likely on the minds of many Americans, but the latest impasse should actually serve as a reminder that we need to redouble our efforts to make sure Congress focuses on the right priorities and moves the country forward. As a former educator, I do not believe in giving up on anyone, even a Congress that always seems to be at loggerheads. Here are a few key budget lessons that Congress should heed.

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

La Prensa San Diego, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

La Prensa San Diego, Rep. John Conyers, 9/6/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

City Terrace Comet, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

East Los Angeles Brooklyn-Belvedere Comet, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

East Los Angeles Brooklyn-Belvedere Comet, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Monterey Park Comet, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Wyvernwood Chronicle, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Commerce Comet, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Montebello Comet, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Northeast Sun, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Eastside Sun, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Mexican American Sun, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Bell Gardens Sun, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Vernon Sun, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Eastern Group Publications, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Protesters Rally Over Corporate Tax Dodgers

Santa Monica Daily Press, Illeana Najarro, 8/21/2013

On Aug. 20 the Associated Press reported that four demonstrators from the [National People's Action](#) group were arrested outside of the Verizon headquarters building where they were hoping to call out the company's alleged frauds and bring attention to the need for Congress to act in favor of America's poor and middle class rather than large corporations.

Verizon Wireless Protest in Santa Monica Petitions 4 Verizon to Pay its Fair Share

Wireless and Mobile News, Lynn Walford, 8/21/2013

Protesters tried to deliver a petition with thousands of signatures demanding that Verizon leave the "Fix The Debt" coalition and pay their fair share of taxes to invest in vital community programs such as Social Security and Medicare.

CONNECTICUT MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Middletown Press & Journal, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014,
Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

You pay your fair share of taxes. Small businesses do too. It's the price we pay to educate our kids, protect our communities and have some security in retirement. Why shouldn't some of Americas largest corporations pay their fair share too?...

GE lobbies hard for tax loophole, groups say

Connecticut Mirror, Ana Radelat, 4/4/2014

"...*Corporate Lobbying on Tax Extenders and the 'GE Loophole,'*" a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Public Campaign](#), says GE has deployed 48 lobbyists to urge Congress to renew a tax break called the Active Financing Exception, or AFE. The provision enables multinational corporations like GE to avoid paying federal income taxes on financial income that is generated offshore.

The groups say GE Financial is one of the biggest beneficiaries of this tax break now under consideration by Congress in a package of dozens. Collectively, these breaks are known as "extenders" because they are not a permanent part of the tax code and must be periodically renewed.

"An army of corporate lobbyists has converged on Congress to convince lawmakers to pass the 'GE Loophole' and the entire tax extender package," said [Frank Clemente](#), executive director of [Americans for Tax Fairness](#). "The general of this army is General Electric...."

Small Business Saturday, A Nationwide Effort Facing Headwinds

Hartford Courant, Dan Haar, 11/29/2013

Then there's the outright backlash against American Express, which, merchants said, typically charges them a higher percentage rate in its "swipe fees" than Visa and MasterCard. On Tuesday, the [Main Street Alliance](#) — an anti-corporate small business group that formed in 2008 — attacked what it called the "hypocrisy" of American Express coming up with this "marketing invention.

DELAWARE MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Close tax loopholes; Don't cut Social Security

Delaware State News, Karen Marvel, Retired Social Security Administration District Manager, 12/13/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Op-Ed: Delaware families want more tax fairness

The Wilmington News-Journal, Ezra Temko, [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#), 12/10/2013

Meanwhile, many big corporations have become expert at avoiding their responsibilities. Whereas 60 years ago corporate taxes represented one-third of all federal income, now corporations contribute only 10 percent of federal receipts. In several recent years, big, profitable companies like Boeing, Wells Fargo and General Electric have avoided paying any federal taxes at all – some even got refunds. Our own DuPont has been a leading tax dodger.

While Washington continues to be divided about what to do regarding comprehensive tax reform, the sequester cuts continue to impact our communities. But Washington dysfunction should not stand in the way of moderate common-sense reforms like the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act (S. 1533).

Op-Ed: End persistent poverty by ending corporate tax dodging

The Wilmington News-Journal, Darlene Battle, [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#), 10/23/2013

Delaware families are barely treading water in the wake of the Great Recession—and some are drowning. Given the grim picture painted by the latest poverty and income statistics released this week by the Census Bureau, it's essential that we maintain safety net programs and make the kind of public investments that spur economic growth. But that's only possible if corporations and the wealthy start to once again pay their fair share of taxes.

Letter to the Editor: Editorial's warning applies to sequester cuts as well

Delaware Online, Susan Meany, 10/10/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

This summer the Congressional Budget Office estimated that canceling the 10-year austerity measure would add 900,000 to our economy. Of course, they also noted a downside - greater federal debt. The trick would be to end the sequester cuts and still decrease the federal deficit through increased revenue from fairer taxes. One first step to do this would be to pass the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act, which would raise \$220 billion to replace budget sequester cuts and eliminate many tax incentives for U.S. companies to move jobs and operations offshore.

Stop corporations from controlling our government

Delaware Online, Amy Shay, 10/10/2013, Secured by **Delaware Americans for Democratic Action**

If wealthy Americans and corporations paid their fair share of taxes, we would have the revenue to rebuild our roads, bridges, and neighborhoods, to move to clean, renewable energy, and to support businesses that innovate and invest in our future. A good start would be to make the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act law. This bill would close tax loopholes that encourage U.S. corporations to move jobs, profits and operations offshore and help ensure that they pay their fair share of taxes.

Letter to the Editor: House Republicans pursue the wrong legislative course

Delaware Online, Katherine Ware, [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#), 10/6/2013

An Oct. 2 headline was “Some low-income families, federal workers in state first to feel the pain [of the federal government shutdown].” These workers were also the first to feel the pain from the sequester cuts. It’s time for Congress to get their priorities right and stop harming our economy and people’s lives. The House Republicans need to end the government shutdown and stop attempting to obstruct implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

They also need to stop obstructing policies that will help our economy and lift up working America – like raising revenue from closing corporate tax loopholes and using that money to end the sequester and invest in our future. I hope the Senate stands strong against House obstruction. I also hope they pass Sen. Levin’s “Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act,” which would end tax breaks for sending jobs overseas and help end the sequester. I’d like to see what the House Republicans come up with to defend their opposition to that.

Letter to the Editor: We need to encourage investments in our country

Delaware Online, Katherine Caudle, [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#), 10/7/2013

...We need to stop these cuts and instead invest in our country. Tea Party Congressmen say our country is broke and has no money, but we continue to find money to subsidize corporations through our tax code. For example, Apple, Inc., channels tens of billions of dollars of profits into overseas dummy corporations. There is a box on an IRS form they can check and poof - the profits they made from these subsidiaries simply disappears and is not taxed. I hope Sen. Tom Carper and Sen. Chris Coons sign on to the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act. It would prohibit corporations from participating in some of the most egregious tax dodging practices like the one mentioned above and would raise \$220 billion over the next decade that could stop the continued cuts to working families and the middle class.

Op-Ed: What SNAP cuts and corporate gravy train have in common

Delaware Online, Craig Stack, 10/1/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Would you take food from hungry children to save the government money while at the same time shielding big corporations from paying their fair of taxes? That's what the U.S. House of Representatives tried to do by voting to cut kids from the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program while preserving huge tax loopholes for multinational corporations. I appreciate Congressman John Carney's vote against this measure and hope the U.S. Senate can put a stop to this nonsense.

Op-Ed: Tax fairness is peachy

Middletown Transcript, Ezra Temko, [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#), 9/3/2013

Community members from [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#), [SEIU 32BJ](#), and other members of the [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) coalition marched in the Middletown Peach Festival, declaring, "Public Investment is Peachy" and "Corporate Tax Dodging is the Pits."

Op-Ed: Tax reform should help working families

Delaware Online, Gabe Morgan, 8/20/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Tax Expert Speaks to Advocacy Group

Delaware Cape Gazette, Kara Netback, 8/7/2013

Fortune 500 companies are using loopholes to legally avoid paying taxes to Delaware and the federal government, a tax expert says.

Matt Gardner, executive director of the [Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy](#) spoke to a group of about 15 people at an [Americans for Democratic Action](#) meeting, July 26, at Bethany Blues in Lewes.

Gardner said he researches tax loopholes that allow corporations, including DuPont, to avoid paying any taxes to the federal or state government. "We need revenue-raising tax reform," Gardner said. "It has to focus on the corporate side."

Blog Post: Corporations exploit tax system, hurt working people

Delaware Online, Jerry Northington, 7/12/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

...This is the latest illustration of who pays for corporate tax dodging. These furloughs are not necessary! Corporations like Apple, Microsoft and Google along with many others employ loopholes in the American tax system and in that of other nations around the globe to avoid paying taxes. Americans are now feeling the hurt by paying more than their fair share to pick up the slack for lost revenue from these corporate tax dodgers.

It is time to demand that corporations pay their fair share. Congress must put an end to the current situation which allows massive corporations to earn billions and pay nothing at all.

Blog Post: Corporations get breaks at workers' expense

Delaware Online, Jenna Fenstermacher, 7/10/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

I couldn't agree more with a recent writer that "We'd all benefit from a competitive tax rate." Right now the losers in tax policy are working families and the middle class, and domestic small businesses. According to a study by the [U.S. Public Interest Research Group](#), the federal government loses approximately \$150 billion in revenue each year due to offshore accounting schemes by wealthy investors and multinational corporations. So who pays? That \$150 billion is the equivalent of each American taxpayer paying an additional \$1,026. Similarly, small businesses would each need to pay an additional \$3,067 in taxes to shoulder the burden of multinational corporate tax dodging.

Blog Post: Bring revenue from overseas tax loopholes home

Delaware Online, Brian Boyle, 7/6/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

If you marched down Main Street this past Fourth of July, you didn't pass any shops with money stashed in overseas tax havens. Unlike their huge corporate counterparts, small and mid-sized domestic businesses can't play foreign accounting tricks. They need their cash to meet payroll, pay local suppliers, pay off loans from the local bank, and fulfill their tax obligations.

When multinational corporations ship profits and jobs overseas to avoid paying their fair share of taxes, they deprive our communities of revenue needed to invest in schools, roads, research and public safety. They also receive an unfair advantage over their domestic competitors, who patriotically pay their taxes each year.

There's legislation in Congress that would close overseas corporate tax loopholes, raising \$600 billion over the next decade for hometown investment and leveling the playing field for small business. Find your member of Congress at the parade this year and urge a vote for corporate tax reform.

Blog Post: Be patriotic by supporting corporate tax reform

Delaware Online, Mary Crowley, 7/3/2013, Secured by [Delaware Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Love of country is about more than flag pins and fireworks. Look around your community this Fourth of July holiday and spot all the ways we could demonstrate our love with adequate public investment, from better paved roads to better served seniors and kids.

We could afford those investments if huge corporations paid their fair share of taxes, instead of hiding profits and shipping jobs overseas. Many years, household names like General Electric

and Verizon use fancy accounting tricks to pay zero federal income taxes. Apple, Inc., has \$102 billion in profits stashed overseas, essentially untaxed.

Even as Congress has cut community services like Head Start and Meals on Wheels in the name of fiscal austerity, corporate America has not contributed one dime to deficit reduction. Let's support corporate tax reform legislation that would raise \$600 billion over the next decade and allow us to show how much we love our country.

FLORIDA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Orlando Sentinel, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

This week, millions of Americans will celebrate Independence Day in a burst of national pride and patriotism. At the same time, some U.S. corporations are preparing to make a move to dodge paying their fair share of taxes, which many Americans will consider deeply unpatriotic....

Op-Ed: No longer American?

The Palm Beach Post, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/19/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Palm Beach Post, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Palm Beach Post, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Offshore Loopholes Unfair to Small Businesses

Gainesville Sun, Jeff Schorr, 5/14/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

I run Craftsman House Gallery & Cafe here in St. Petersburg. As a small business owner I'm proud to support my community and my country by paying my fair share in taxes. It's distressing to me that many of our country's multinational giants don't feel the same way. Some don't pay any taxes, while others pay a fraction of them. How is it fair that the wealthiest corporations don't pay taxes while many small business owners on Main Street struggle to survive? ...

Column: Budget deal falls short

The Sarasota Herald-Tribune, Paul Tryon, Opinion Editor, 12/8/2013

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a national organization that espouses progressive taxation, told me Friday that the terms of the deal ignore the will of the people as expressed in the Hart Research Associates poll. (Hart surveys for left-leaning politicians but also some of America's largest corporations and media companies ranging from the Post to the Wall Street Journal.)

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Panama City News Herald, Frank Knapp Jr., **American Sustainable Business Council**, 8/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

GEORGIA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Atlanta Inquirer, Dennis Van Roekel, **National Education Association**, 10/19/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's Tax Plan A Bad Bargain For Small Business

Atlanta Inquirer, Frank Knapp Jr., **American Sustainable Business Council**, 8/31/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

KENTUCKY MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Harlan Daily Enterprise, **Frank Clemente**, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Floyd County Times, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Harlan Daily Enterprise, **Frank Clemente**, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Walgreens' tax cheat could make you sick

Floyd County Times, **Frank Clemente**, Americans for Tax Fairness, 6/13/2014

Op-Ed: Walgreens' tax cheat could make you sick

The Middlesboro Daily News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/13/2014,
Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Floyd County Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014

ILLINOIS MEDIA HITS

Walgreen hints at overseas move, draws criticism

The Chicago Tribune, Ameet Sachdev, 7/5/2014

Walgreen Co. is at a crossroads, but it may not be "at the corner of happy and healthy" as its advertising slogan suggests.....

....While several U.S. companies have moved to lower-tax countries since 2012, Walgreen has caught the attention of taxpayer groups and unions that have criticized the potential tax maneuver. They have blasted Walgreen for contemplating fleeing the United States even though it benefits from government insurance programs. Nearly one-quarter of Walgreen's \$72 billion in sales in its last fiscal year came from Medicaid and Medicare, according to a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win Retail Initiatives](#), a union-backed group....

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Belleville News Democrat, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Walgreens debates relocating to lower taxes

FOX 32 News Chicago, Larry Yellen, 6/17/2014

There are 608 Walgreens stores in Illinois. Florida, Texas and California have more. However, Walgreen's corporate address is in north suburban Deerfield, at least for now.

"Walgreens is an Illinois Company," exclaimed William McNary of [Citizen Action of Illinois](#), on protest video.....

Walmart Received \$104 Million Taxpayer Subsidy For Executive Pay

Progress Illinois, Ellyn Fortino, [Progress Illinois](#), 6/17/2014

....The report, co-published by the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), shows that eight top Walmart executives pulled in more than \$298 million in fully deductible performance-based pay between 2009 and 2014, which comes out to be a total tax break for the company estimated at \$104 million.

...Walmart essentially "gamed the system," said [Frank Clemente](#), executive director of [Americans for Tax Fairness](#)....

"...The irony for us, a lot of the workers at the bottom are getting subsidized by taxpayers because the big companies are not paying enough in wages and benefits, so they get some help from the government in order to get by," [Clemente](#) said. "What's ironic is everybody else, all us taxpayers, are subsidizing the high pay, the bonuses for these CEOs that are running these big companies, which are paying lousy wages to their workers....."

Groups rally against possible Walgreens move from Illinois

WBEZ Radio, 6/12/2014

Reports surfaced in recent months that Walgreen company would possibly move offshore to avoid stateside taxes. The company has denied it's leaving its Deerfield base. Tax havens are a lure for big companies, and a new report analyzes what this kind of move would mean for Illinois taxpayers. We talk with Nell Geiser from [Change to Win](#) Retail Initiatives, one of the groups behind the report, about what they found, and learn more about the rally they have scheduled for Wednesday.

Pickers protest potential Walgreens reincorporation

Red Eye Chicago, Megan Crepeau, 6/12/2014

About 20 picketers gathered Wednesday morning outside the Walgreens flagship store in the Loop to protest a potential Walgreens reincorporation in Switzerland—a move that one new report alleges will allow the company to avoid paying billions of dollars in taxes.

William McNary, co-director of [Citizen Action Illinois](#), held up his Walgreens rewards card in front of the crowd. "I didn't get this card from Switzerland. I got it right here," he said. "Walgreens is an Illinois company."

The report, a joint effort from [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win](#), accuses Walgreens of attempting to move its corporate address to Switzerland to reduce its tax rate from about 30 percent to 20 percent—which, the report claims, could save Walgreens \$4 billion over five years.....

Blog Post and Video: Tax Fairness Groups Rally Against Walgreen's Potential \$4 Billion Tax Dodge

Progress Illinois, Ellyn Fortino, [Progress Illinois](#), 6/12/2014

Tax fairness activists rallied outside of the Walgreens downtown Chicago flagship store Wednesday morning in protest of possible plans by the nation's biggest pharmacy chain to move its corporate address from Illinois to Switzerland, a "tax haven."

Toting signs reading "Walgreens, don't shortchange America," about 20 activists called on Deerfield-based Walgreen Co. to remain an Illinois company and drop a potential plan to reincorporate itself offshore through a maneuver called a "corporate tax inversion." The move

could cost U.S. taxpayers \$4 billion in lost tax revenue over a five-year period, shows a *new report* released ahead of today's protest by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win Retail Initiatives](#).....

Op-Ed: Walgreens: Europe's neighborhood drugstore?

The Rock River Times, [Dev Gowda](#), Advocate, [Illinois PIRG](#), [Nell Geiser](#), Associate Director, [Change to Win](#), and [Frank Clemente](#), Executive Director, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014

Recent reports indicate that Walgreens, our neighborhood drugstore that's been proudly based in Illinois for 113 years, may be changing its address to Europe to avoid paying its fair share of taxes.

Walgreens' impending acquisition of the Swiss pharmaceutical company Alliance Boots opens a legal loophole that would allow Walgreens to become a "foreign" company for tax purposes. Known as a "tax inversion," the maneuver has no real business purpose other than to avoid taxes.....

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Southtown Star, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/20/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Corporate Tax Disclosure – End to Legalized Bribery or Hostile Action?

The Chicago Grid, Grid Business, 9/27/2013

David Borris, who owns Hell's Kitchen Catering in Northbrook and serves on the [Main Street Alliance](#), a small-business advocacy group, doesn't want corporations participating in what he calls a race to the bottom by shifting funds out of Illinois to offshore tax havens. "If that's the business we want, we're heading to Potterville," Borris says, calling tax concessions given to individual corporations under threat of departure "practically legalized bribery." "If some businesses choose not to locate here because they want to rape the economy, maybe we don't want them here."

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's dream with fair tax, spending policies

The News Gazette, Rep. John Conyers, 9/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Blog Post: Anti-Austerity Campaign Demands Shutdown of Corporate Tax Dodging

Common Dreams, Jacob Swenson, 8/23/2013

Yesterday, I joined Chicagoans who, along with grassroots activist in 20 cities around the country, are responding to Krugman's question by taking to the streets as part of [National People Action's #CEOSummer](#) campaign.

“As we approach another budget showdown in Washington DC, the answer is not shutting down the government and cutting funds to schools, nutrition, housing, and other essential services,” said George Goehl, Executive Director of [National People’s Action](#). “The answer is shutting down corporate tax dodging....”

Blog Post: Chicagoans ‘Out’ General Electric for Dodging Taxes, Demand Sen. Durbin Close Loopholes

Progress Illinois, Ellyn Fortino, 8/22/2013

Chicagoans from across the city rallied downtown Thursday afternoon to “out” General Electric as a corporate tax dodger and to call upon U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) to take charge and make corporations pay their fair share.

Chicago is one of 10 cities taking part in the [National People’s Action](#) campaign this week meant to shine a light on various corporate tax dodgers across the county. According to the protestors, GE received \$8.4 billion in federal tax breaks between 2008 and 2010.

“Everyday people are suffering while corporate taxes are at historic lows, even though corporate profits are at an all-time high,” said Toby Chow, a leader with [IIRON](#).

GE hit on “tax dodging,” Durbin on budget cuts

News Tips, 8/21/2013

Protestors will deliver a giant “cease and desist” letter calling on GE to “stop dodging taxes while lobbying for cuts to Social Security” at GE’s Chicago headquarters, 500 W. Monroe, at 12 noon on Thursday, August 22. They will demonstrate outside Durbin’s office at 230 S. Dearborn at 12:40 p.m. It’s part of a national week of action “outing” corporate tax dodgers across the country by Chicago-based [National Peoples Action](#).

From 2002 to 2012, GE paid \$2.1 billion in federal income taxes while earning \$88 billion in profits — a tax rate of 2.4 percent, far below the official rate of 35 percent — according to [Americans for Tax Fairness](#).

Op-Ed: Obama’s tax plan bad bargain for small biz

Southwest Suburban News-Herald, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama’s tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Southwest News-Herald, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

INDIANA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: This Christmas, help the unemployed

Greensburg Daily News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/26/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

When holiday shoppers make a bad choice, the worst result may be an ugly sweater.

But Congress recently made a bad choice that will ruin the holidays for over a million families — and will spoil the coming new year for millions more.

That was the decision — imposed by conservatives — not to extend unemployment benefits for the long-term jobless, while maintaining huge tax loopholes for wealthy Wall Streeters and multinational corporations. Congress can reverse its choice in early January, but the clock is ticking.

Letter to the Editor: SBCSC has resources to deal with 'gap'

South Bend Tribune, Charles Mumaw, 11/13/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

The Stop Tax Havens Abuse Act, introduced by Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., will close tax loopholes that encourage moving jobs overseas and will make small businesses more competitive. This bill offers a way to reduce the deficit while growing our economy. Donnelly has demonstrated his willingness to represent the working class and should continue his commitment to the American people by sponsoring the Levin bill.

Letter to the Editor: Agreement needed in December to avert another fiasco

The Elkhart Truth, Charles Mumaw, 11/13/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Letter to the Editor: Stutzman's chance for redemption

Journal Gazette, Jeremy Schrock, 11/13/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Government shutdowns would be unnecessary if we raised the revenue we need from corporations and the wealthy. There's a bill in Congress right now, the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act, that would raise \$220 billion over the next decade by closing overseas corporate tax loopholes that encourage corporations to hide profits and ship jobs overseas.

If Stutzman wants to prove he's in touch with ordinary people in his district and around the country, he should endorse the Stop Tax Havens Abuse Act.

Op-Ed: Support small businesses by ending corporate tax dodging

Kendallville News-Sun, Gregg Hodgson, Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Centers, 11/12/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

A recent study by the [Public Interest Research Group](#) found that the top 100 tax-dodging corporations collectively shelter almost \$1.2 trillion in profit offshore. One company, Bank of America, has 316 subsidiaries in tax haven countries. Call me cynical, but I think it's unlikely that the bank has much business in the Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Mauritius, Gibraltar, the Bahamas, Switzerland, Bermuda, Curacao, Monaco and the British Virgin Islands and other well-known tax havens....

Op-Ed: Support small businesses by ending corporate tax dodging

The Evening Star, Gregg Hodgson, Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Centers, 11/12/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Op-Ed: Support small businesses by ending corporate tax dodging

Herald Republican, Gregg Hodgson, Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Centers, 11/12/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Op-Ed: Support small businesses by ending corporate tax dodging

KPCNews, Gregg Hodgson, Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Centers, 11/12/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Op-Ed: Support small businesses by ending corporate tax dodging

Greensburg Daily News, Gregg Hodgson, Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Centers, 10/31/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Letter to the Editor: Target tax loopholes, not food stamps

Journal Gazette, Rochell Benveniste, September 29, 2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Up to 6 million people will be kicked off the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps) if the proposed cut goes through. Ever since the Great Recession hit, millions of middle class families have relied on SNAP to feed their kids and stave off poverty.

Household names such as General Electric, Boeing and Verizon go years without paying any federal income tax. Despite record profits, corporate tax receipts are at their lowest relative level in 60 years. Instead of letting kids go hungry by cutting SNAP, let's snap shut the loophole on corporate taxes.

Op-Ed: Fulfill King’s Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

Greensburg Daily News, Rep. John Conyers, 9/5/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Blog Post: Tax reform Solve problems by closing corporation loophole

The Elkhart Truth, Jeremy Bernstein, [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#), 9/4/2013

Big, profitable corporations pay on average only one-third of the official tax rate — or a mere 12.6 percent — according to a recent study by the Government Accountability Office. Corporate tax receipts as a percentage of total federal revenue are at a 60-year low, according to the Office of Management and Budget.

If we closed the huge tax loophole that encourages corporations to hide profits and ship jobs overseas we could raise \$600 billion over the next decade, a Senate study found. If we limited the tax deductions of multimillionaires to the same level as middle-class families, we could raise another \$500 billion, according to the Joint Tax Committee of Congress.

Op-Ed: Let’s pledge to do better by our working families

South Bend Tribune, Tony Flora, [North Central Indiana AFL-CIO Council](#), 9/2/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

Incredibly, our tax system provides huge incentives to American companies to shift profits to offshore tax havens where they pay little or no tax. Why should companies get tax breaks to ship our jobs overseas, while the rest of us pick up the tab to make up for what companies don’t contribute? The biggest corporate tax loophole makes this possible. If we close it we can raise \$600 billion over the next decade, according to Congress’s Joint Tax Committee....

Op-Ed: Help working families rather than ship jobs overseas

Northwest Indiana Times, Tony Flora, [North Central Indiana AFL-CIO Council](#), 9/2/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Let’s pledge to do better by our working families

Tribune Star, Tony Flora, [North Central Indiana AFL-CIO Council](#), 9/2/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Help working families

The Reporter, Tony Flora, [North Central Indiana AFL-CIO Council](#), 9/2/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Help U.S workers, not the tax-dodgers

Kokomo Tribune, Tony Flora, [North Central Indiana AFL-CIO Council](#), 9/1/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Let's pledge to do better by our working families

The Star Press, Tony Flora, [North Central Indiana AFL-CIO Council](#), 9/1/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Public policy can relieve inequality, diminish poverty

The Elkhart Truth, Judith M. Davis, 8/19/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

One honest proposal for increasing revenue calls for closing tax loopholes for the huge corporations like Bank of America, Apple and Pfizer that conceal profits and ship jobs overseas. Closing those loopholes would raise nearly \$600 billion over the next 10 years. In addition, limiting tax deductions for the wealthiest 2 percent to the same level as that of the middle class would raise another \$500 billion during the next decade.....

Op-Ed: People's Forum: Sequester's impact felt fully at local level

The Elkhart Truth, Jo Ellen Bernstein, Goshen, 7/30/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

The federal deficit is here and it is real and there is no obvious answer to solve our problems. But, there are some obvious answers that begin to help our economy recover. While a teacher is struggling to give its students the quality of education they deserve, a portion of Americans are not doing anything to help. Big corporations have avoided paying their fair share and it is negatively affecting the individuals of our communities.

We must start to fix this economic problem. I don't want to see individuals hurting anymore. We need to keep corporations accountable for shipping jobs and profits overseas. We need to end corporate tax loopholes so that these corporations can invest in individuals in our community.

Op-Ed: Big picture impact of sequester doesn't tell the story

The Elkhart Truth, Jo Ellen Bernstein, 7/30/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

The federal deficit is here and it is real and there is no obvious answer to solve our problems. But, there are some obvious answers that begin to help our economy recover. While a teacher is struggling to give its students the quality of education they deserve, a portion of Americans are not doing anything to help. Big corporations have avoided paying their fair share and it is negatively affecting the individuals of our communities.

Elkhart protesters demonstrate ahead of likely debt-ceiling debate

The Elkhart Truth, Tim Vandenak, 7/30/2013

The northern Indiana chapter of [Americans for Democratic Action](#) sponsored a demonstration there to protest what the critics term tax breaks for oil companies. Their effort was directed at ExxonMobil, which has a station north of the Cassopolis-C.R. 6 crossing.

“ExxonMobil, America’s largest company, has made a killing from rising world oil prices and its investments in fracking, but it has also enjoyed massive taxpayer subsidies from corporate tax loopholes,” a press release from event organizer Jeremy Bernstein said in announcing the event....

Blog Post: Big picture impact of sequester doesn’t tell the story

The Goshen News, Jo Ellen Bernstein, 7/30/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

We must start to fix this economic problem. I don’t want to see individuals hurting anymore. We need to keep corporations accountable for shipping jobs and profits overseas. We need to end corporate tax loopholes so that these corporations can invest in individuals in our community.

Blog Post: Tax Loopholes hurt communities

The Goshen News, Jo Ellen Bernstein, 7/24/2013, Secured by [Indiana Americans for Democratic Action](#)

IOWA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: A pharmacy’s tax tricks could make you sick

The Times-Republican, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/18/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America’s Infrastructure

Iowa City Press-Citizen, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

As Congress heads home to celebrate the Fourth of July, it leaves with two critical issues unaddressed. The first is the increasing -- and troubling -- trend of big corporations essentially giving up their American citizenship and reincorporating overseas to reduce their U.S. taxes....

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Sioux County Index-Reporter, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Guthrie Center Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Central City Times-Republican, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

Op-Ed: Will Congress ever get its budget act together?

Globe Gazette, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Will Congress ever get its act together? That question is likely on the minds of many Americans, but the latest impasse should actually serve as a reminder that we need to redouble our efforts to make sure Congress focuses on the right priorities and moves the country forward. As a former educator, I do not believe in giving up on anyone, even a Congress that always seems to be at loggerheads. Here are a few key budget lessons that Congress should heed.

Op-Ed: The GOP should not cut food stamps

The Daily NonPereil, Paul McAndrew, 9/18/2013, Secured by [Iowa Americans for Democratic Action](#)

No matter what Congress decides, food stamps expenditures will be reduced in November, when a provision in the 2009 stimulus bill expires. House Republicans propose cutting an additional \$40 billion. The GOP cuts would push 4-6 million low-income people off the rolls. That includes millions of very low-income unemployed people who want to work but cannot find jobs.

The GOP proposal is an irresponsible attempt to take food from the mouths of America's poorest people.

LOUISIANA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Lake Charles American Press, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Thibodaux Daily Comet, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Houma Courier, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Loopholes should go in 2014

Lafayette Advertiser, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/26/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Taking out the trash

Daily Comet, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Take out trash to clean up tax code

Lake Charles American Press, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Taking out the trash

Houma Courier, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

MAINE MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Franklin Journal, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Small-business owners picking up the tax tab for large corporations

Portland Press Herald, Dory-Anna Richards Waxman and Cathy Walsh, [Maine Small Business Coalition](#), [Maine People's Action](#), 4/16/2014

Businesses should compete based on the quality of their products and services, not on the cleverness of their tax attorneys.

Tuesday, small-business owners like us happily paid our taxes like we're supposed to, but our tax code allows multinational giants like GE to pay nothing in federal income taxes.....

Op-Ed: Why is Maine listening to Luxembourg on corporate tax loopholes?

The Portland Press Herald, Mike Tipping, 4/12/2014

.....It's a shame that this has become a partisan issue and that the governor will likely step in to protect these accounting tricks. If there's one piece of tax policy that people of all ideological persuasions should be able to agree on, it's that large corporations operating and making profits in the United States shouldn't be able to avoid their tax responsibilities by hiding their profits overseas.

In fact, recent polls by Hart Research on behalf of [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) found that it's by far the most popular proposed change to the nation's taxation system, with the support of around 80 percent of voters.....

Op-Ed: Forcing corporations to pay tax on Maine profits stashed offshore is simple way to enforce tax law

Bangor Daily News, Melanie Collins, [Bangor Small Business Coalition](#), 3/17/2014

...One thing is crystal clear, though: When it comes to offshore tax havens, there's no reason that Maine's Legislature shouldn't take action to make sure that big corporations have to play by the same rules as everyone else. Rep. Adam Goode, D-Bangor, has sponsored a bill that will do just that.

How does a tax haven work? Many tax haven countries are small island nations (Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands, for example) with very low or nonexistent taxes. Large corporations hire high-priced lawyers and accountants to scour the tax code for loopholes — loopholes that their lobbyists helped write and their campaign contributions helped pass into law — to transfer reported earnings to tax haven countries to avoid paying taxes in the United States...

Op-Ed: Congress, start 2014 with changes

The Franklin Journal, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/31/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Letter to the Editor: Questions for our senators

Booth Bay Register, Stephen Gottlieb, Alex Jackimovicz, Joe & Lisa McSwain, and Michael Mayhew, 12/23/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

This new year Congress has a clear choice with regard to balancing the budget: make even more cuts to funding for federal agencies (cuts to vital infrastructure and necessary services) or it can close corporate tax loopholes and have the large corporations pay their own way the rest of us do.

Letter to the Editor: Do the right thing

Bangor Daily News, Lorry Fleming, 12/19/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

Instead of eliminating corporate tax exemptions of various kinds — a fairly easy source for \$20 to \$40 million — Gov. Paul LePage proposes to cut revenue sharing (from the state), which will only result in increased property taxes throughout Maine. He's already granted tax cuts to the wealthiest Mainers (unpaid for). Now he wants to help Walmart and Hannaford increase their bottom line, while raising property taxes for the rest of us. This is just not right.

This isn't just a Maine problem; Congress has a responsibility to close these offshore loopholes, too. In the budget compromise in Washington, members approved a deal that terminated unemployment benefits to the long-term unemployed while giving corporations a pass on offshore tax havens. We need our elected officials at the federal level to support legislation like Levin's bill on offshore tax havens, which would take a big step in the direction of making sure multinational companies pay their fair share in taxes.

Letter to the Editor: Bipartisanship is good, not so the budget deal

Portland Press Herald, Philemon Dushimire, 12/26/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

For too long, all of our budget talks have focused on cuts, but there is not much left to cut that does not have huge impacts on our friends and neighbors. We need to start talking about raising revenue. Otherwise, we will never get out of this crisis cycle.

This budget deal reduced some really scary cuts, but it will cut pensions and unemployment benefits to do so. A budget that trades cuts for more cuts isn't a fair budget, and it isn't a budget that works in the long term.

In two years, Congress will be back at it again, and the only way we can have a budget that invests in the things that Mainers need and that works for everyone is if we raise revenue by making sure corporations are paying their fair share....

Letter to the Editor: Questions for our senators

Boothbay Register, Stephen Gottlieb, Alex Jackimoviez, Joe & Lisa McSwain, & Michael Mayhew, 12/23/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

This new year Congress has a clear choice with regard to balancing the budget: make even more cuts to funding for federal agencies (cuts to vital infrastructure and necessary services) or it can close corporate tax loopholes and have the large corporations pay their own way the rest of us do.

Volunteers Sending Cards to Senator Angus King

WFVX-TV Bangor News, Jaclyn Cangro, 12/12/2013

Some Mainers are sending independent senator Angus King Christmas cards, but they aren't full of holiday greetings.

Instead, the cards ask Senator King to close corporate tax loopholes, in an attempt to offset spending cuts within congress' budget agreement.

Activists with the [Maine People's Alliance](#) braved the cold in downtown Bangor and Portland collecting signatures.

"It's a cold day. We're a hearty group of Mainers, and we're pleasantly surprised by how many people are stopping and signing the card," says Phil Bailey.

The [Maine People's Alliance](#) says closing tax loopholes will benefit students and the unemployed.

Christmas Card to Sen. King Focuses on National Budget

WAVI-TV, Catherine Pegram, 12/12/2013

The [Maine People's Alliance](#) wants Senator Angus King to reconsider some of his support for a new two-year budget deal for the country.

So they're sending him a Christmas card.

Members stood on a corner in downtown Bangor Thursday, gathering signatures for the card.

It's asking King to close corporate loopholes to help raise some of the \$85 billion in projected savings in the budget and avoid spending cuts.

Op-Ed: Cleaning up the tax code starts with taking out the trash

The Franklin Journal, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 11/19/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Editorial: Federal budget deal must tackle tax reform

Portland Press Herald, Editorial Board, 10/19/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

The tax code is overly complex, and there are too many loopholes and carve-outs that are available only to the very rich. American companies are rewarded with tax breaks when they move operations and jobs offshore. If Washington is serious about doing something about long-term deficits, these issues will have to be addressed.

The tea party demand that deficit reduction means cuts and only cuts should go the way of the tea party demand that the Affordable Care Act be defunded as a price for keeping the government open. Closing tax loopholes is the most rational way of accomplishing deficit reduction.

Op-Ed: Effects of shutdown, Acadia's closure run deep in Bar Harbor

Bangor Daily News, Linda Parker, 10/15/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

As visitors begin to cancel their plans to visit Acadia because of the park's shutdown, the impact is felt in every hotel, restaurant, and retail space on the island and throughout our region. We are a seasonal destination, and most of these businesses have a small window of time to make their money. They make plans around that window, purchase inventory based on that timing, and hire employees to meet the demand of tourists who come to the park for the fall.

Letter to the Editor: Senate bill would help middle class

Lewiston Sun-Journal, Laurent Gilbert Sr., 10/14/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

The "Stop Tax Haven Abuse" Act would raise \$220 billion over the next decade to eliminate incentives to ship jobs overseas, reverse destructive budget cuts like the "sequester" and level the playing field for small businesses trying to compete with the big guys.

Letter to the Editor: Time for Congress to Get Priorities Straight

Maine Free Press, Linda Sprague, 9/26/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

....I applaud Rep. Michaud and Rep. Pingree for their continued support of this important program and for standing up against the far-off priorities of the Republican leadership. These reckless cuts are just the latest in a series of attempts to eliminate assistance to struggling Americans while ignoring the fact that large corporations are NOT paying their fair share into our system. Instead of the projected SNAP cuts of \$40 billion over 10 years, why don't we look at the \$50 billion over 10 years that could be regained if we, for example, close the corporate loophole that lets large corporations get a tax deduction when they give their CEOs "performance-based" bonuses?

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

The Franklin Journal, Rep. John Conyers, 9/24/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

House bill's \$40 billion in food stamp cuts would hit Mainers

Portland Press Herald, Kevin Miller, 9/20/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

Matt Westerlund, of Sanford, said his family of four began receiving food assistance about three years ago, after his youngest son was born with serious congenital heart defects and Westerlund's work hours were reduced. His son has since undergone three heart surgeries.

Westerlund has followed the debate over food stamp funding in part as a member of the [Maine People's Alliance](#), a progressive grass-roots group that opposes the cuts approved by the House. He said he doesn't believe some politicians' rhetoric claiming widespread fraud and waste in the system.

House bill's \$40 billion in food stamp cuts would hit Mainers

The Kennebec Journal, Kevin Miller, 9/20/2013, Secured by the [Maine People's Alliance](#)

Who deserves credit for decline of Maine's poverty rate

The Bangor Daily News, Christopher Cousins, 9/19/2013

Meanwhile, Democratic-leaning groups such as the [Maine People's Alliance](#) continue to tout social service programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, which provides food vouchers to needy families, as a key component of the fight against poverty.

Op-Ed: Proposed SNAP cuts worry Maine recipients

Maine Public Broadcasting Network, Susan Sharon, 9/19/2013

Op-Ed: Effort in Congress at Tax Reform this Fall

Maine Public Broadcasting Network, Mal Leary, 9/3/2013

Maine People's Alliance Wants Tax Fairness

Fox Bangor 22 News, Kristin Hosfelt, 8/26/2013

Maine Peoples Alliance calling for tax fairness

WCSH 6 News, 8/24/2013

Members of the [Maine People's Alliance](#) were in Bangor's Pickering Square Saturday afternoon, to try to call attention to corporate tax dodging.

The alliance has around 32,000 members statewide, some of which were in Bangor Saturday with free food on hand and tax fairness-themed games.

The point of those being to try to educate the public on what they say are ways corporations avoid paying their fair share of taxes.

Maine Peoples Alliance Brining Tax Concerns to Bangor

WABI News, 8/24/2013

MARYLAND MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: A pharmacy's tax tricks could make you sick

The Star Democrat, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/19/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Baltimore Sun, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

This week, millions of Americans will celebrate Independence Day in a burst of national pride and patriotism. At the same time, some U.S. corporations are preparing to make a move to dodge paying their fair share of taxes, which many Americans will consider deeply unpatriotic....

Editorial: Budget deal: Better than nothing

The Baltimore Sun, Editors, 12/11/2013

In my 30 years working at the Social Security Administration, I never once encountered a retired or disabled recipient living a life of luxury. And yet, some politicians want to solve our budget problems by cutting Social Security and Medicare, instead of demanding a little more in taxes from the folks who are really doing well: big corporations and wealthy individuals.

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Dorchester Banner, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/21/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: President's plan doesn't help small business

Hagerstown Herald-Mail, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/15/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Column: The limits of corporate citizenship

The Baltimore Sun, Robert Reich, July 16, 2014

MASSACHUSETTS MEDIA HITS

Op-ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Boston Banner, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Taunton Daily Gazette, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Metro West Daily News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Lynn Item, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

Boston Banner, Rep. John Conyers, 9/12/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

MICHIGAN MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Battle Creek Enquirer, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Detroit News, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

As Congress heads home to celebrate the Fourth of July, it leaves with two critical issues unaddressed. The first is the increasing -- and troubling -- trend of big corporations essentially giving up their American citizenship and reincorporating overseas to reduce their U.S. taxes....

Op-Ed: Walgreens' tax cheat could make you sick

The Detroit News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/13/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Detroit News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Create jobs, but ensure the tax system is fair

Grand Traverse Insider, Mary McGee-Cullen, 12/29/2013, Secured by [Michigan Citizen Action](#)

...Our recurring budget dramas are caused in large part because large corporations and wealthy households use loopholes and special breaks to avoid paying their fair share of taxes. While middle-class families in Detroit and around the State of Michigan try to figure out how to buy groceries and still afford medication, the wealthy and big business are devising accounting gimmicks that allow them to dodge their taxes.

Op-Ed: Loopholes should go in 2014

Battle Creek Enquirer, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/27/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Tax code hurts American businesses

The Detroit News, Bruce McFee, Saylor-Beall Manufacturing Co., 12/16/2013, Secured by [American Sustainable Business Council](#)

I'm proud to manufacture in America. It's too bad the tax code rewards my competitors for taking their jobs, investment and profits overseas.

For the past 30 years, my family has been in the business of producing high-quality industrial air compressors. Our group provides good jobs to 260 employees working in four plants in Michigan and Indiana. Our products are sold globally and we compete against some of the world's largest corporations.

We're not afraid to compete, but we need a level playing field. The current tax structure gives a substantial tax advantage to multinational corporations that blend U.S. and foreign operations together. But the tax structure is unfair to companies like ours that have only U.S. operations. This tax inequity is also bad for the public, our economy and the middle class.

Op-Ed: Don't repeal medical-device tax

Monroe Evening News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/13/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Hillsdale Daily News, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning up the tax code starts with taking out trash

Hillsdale Daily News, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 10/5/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Blog Post: Food stamp cuts would starve people — and the economic recovery

Electa Blog; Progressive News and Commentary, Amy Lynn Smith, 9/18/2013

In Michigan, advocates for SNAP — [Michigan Citizen Action](#), the Michigan League for Public Policy, Mothering Justice and MOSES — have joined forces to call on Congress to vote NO on cuts to SNAP, which will hurt vulnerable families, children, senior citizens and local communities. Instead, they'll call on legislators to close corporate tax loopholes and make large corporations pay their fair share of federal taxes.

Op-Ed: Everyone needs more economic rights

Battle Creek Enquirer, Rep. John Conyers, 9/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Boost middle class by asking for fair share from corporations

Michigan Live, Sean McCann, 8/30/2013, Secured by [Michigan Citizen Action](#)

When these taxes shift from corporations to individuals, we wind up paying more for less, while they just pay less. What's happening in Michigan is a perfect example: to pay for a \$1.7 billion corporate tax cut, the state government instituted a pension tax on retirees and reduced the tax credits for working families, while at the same time drastically cutting education aid.

Citizen group pushes for closing tax loopholes

The Mining Journal, Jackie Stark, 8/26/2013

The executive director for **Michigan Citizen Action** is calling on area residents to contact their legislators in an effort to "end corporate tax breaks."

"The Congress faces a choice - continue trudging down the austerity road of budget cuts and sluggish growth or turn to prosperity built on investing in our people and everyone paying their fair share of taxes," said Linda Teeter during a Wednesday press conference in Marquette. "That choice is what the budget battles in Washington, D.C., will be this fall..."

U.P leaders discussing closing corporate tax loopholes

ABC 10, Rick Tarsitano, 8/22/2013

Michigan Citizen Action is one of 325 organizations that make up the national coalition of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. The citizen watchdog group met with Michigan State Representative John Kivela and the Michigan Education Association at Marquette City Hall to discuss the local impact of their most recent report, which found close to \$1.2 trillion in tax cuts and credits for America's largest corporations.

"We're specifically looking at the corporate tax loopholes that allow corporations to off shore jobs. Those that take jobs from America and go to another country where they can write off all of that expense. When they bring the dollars back to this country, they don't have to pay taxes. We believe that it would be \$600 billion in new revenue to the federal budget, if that one loophole was closed," said Linda Teeter, the Executive Director of **Michigan Citizen Action**.

Op-Ed: Reform Michigan's tax code, invest more in education

The Detroit News, John Austin, 8/14/2013, Secured by **Michigan Citizen Action**

We could eliminate much of our fiscal mess by simply eliminating tax loopholes that allow corporations like GE and Apple to avoid paying taxes.

Thankfully, there's other proposed federal legislation that would actually end the incentives to use accounting tricks to stash profits offshore, encouraging companies to keep jobs stateside while raising \$600 billion over the next decade to improve education, higher education access and other needed investments like infrastructure.

Op-Ed: Bargain Bad for Small Business

Battle Creek Enquirer, Frank Knapp Jr., **American Sustainable Business Council**, 8/13/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

MINNESOTA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Spring Grove Herald, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

St. Cloud Times, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

New Ulm Journal, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Grant County Herald, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

As Congress heads home to celebrate the Fourth of July, it leaves with two critical issues unaddressed. The first is the increasing -- and troubling -- trend of big corporations essentially giving up their American citizenship and reincorporating overseas to reduce their U.S. taxes....

Op-Ed: Congress, start 2014 with changes

St. Cloud Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/31/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Congress, This Christmas help the unemployed instead of Wall Street

Crookston Daily Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/26/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Sequester is hurting children

The Annandale Advocate, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 12/4/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Medical Device Tax giveaway would deny Americans health care

Grant County Herald, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Device tax is fair

The Annandale Advocate, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Crookston Daily Times, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Crookston Daily Times, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/13/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

MISSISSIPPI MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Frank Clemente: No tax loophole for industry

Clarion-Ledger, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Macomb Enterprise Journal, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014

MISSOURI MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Overseas Tax Loopholes Hurt Local Business

Grant City Times-Tribune, Pam Hausner, 3/14/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Where could the money come from? As it turns out, there's lots of money being handed to U.S. multinational companies in overseas tax subsidies and loopholes. Conservative estimates put the total loss at \$100 billion per year. Kansas City's regional share of that would be a substantial annual boost to STEM education in the area. It could also be invested in infrastructure improvements that all businesses rely on and which are a continual source of concern here.

Most small business owners agree with me. According to polling by the [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 90 percent of small business owners see hiding profits offshore to avoid paying their fair share is a serious problem. This is no surprise. Many of us started our businesses from scratch, working long hours to win customers and grow. There were no short cuts for us.

Op-Ed: Tax reform needed to support services

News-Ledger, Jeanette Oxford, Missouri Association for Social Welfare, 11/8/2013, Secured by [Missouri Grass Roots Organizing](#)

We face an ethical choice: Do we allow corporations to keep their tax loopholes, or do we restore the services that strengthen working Americans?

Achieving real tax reform isn't easy. I should know. When I served in the Missouri legislature, I worked hard to reform a state system that was outdated, unfair and inadequate. I continue that effort now. But the case for restoring federal tax fairness is clear.

Letter to the Editor: Tax Havens: Bill would make companies pay

Springfield News-Leader, Robin Acree, [Missouri Grass Roots Organizing](#), 11/7/2013

Balancing budgets is easier when you work with both sides of the ledger and everyone pitches in. Unfortunately, for far too long, huge corporations have been using loopholes and other special breaks to avoid paying their fair share. Big companies like Apple and Microsoft hide cash in offshore tax havens, and in some years profitable corporations like General Electric and Verizon pay no federal incomes taxes at all.

There is a bill in Congress, the Stop Tax Havens Abuse Act, which would end some of the worst offshore corporate tax dodging and raise \$220 billion over the next decade.

Passing this bill would make the work of budget leaders like Sens. Blunt and McCaskill a little less difficult. Asking large corporations to pay their fair share should be something we can all agree on.

Op-Ed: Medical device tax giveaway would deny Americans health care

Casville Democrat, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/30/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Medical device tax giveaway would deny Americans health care

The Monett Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/25/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Gasconade County Republican, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning up the tax code starts with taking out trash

The Monett Times, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 10/4/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Mid-Missourians Weigh Potential effects of Food Stamp cuts

KOMU 8 News Report, Alex Mallin, 9/19/2013, Secured by [Grass Roots Organizing](#)

"I'm supporting a family of three on a low wage job and we can't afford the food we need without food stamps," said Columbia resident Jack Bhutod. "Hunger is not a game for us. We need to eat."

But Bhutod said the real reform needed isn't within the country's welfare system.

"Why are you cutting our food stamps when there are billionaires who aren't paying their fair share in taxes?" Bhutod said. "I'd say the real abuse is within the tax system and the fat-cat Wall Street elite."

Group Calls for End to Political 'Hunger Games' Over Farm Bill

Ozarks First News, Lindsay Clein, 9/18/2013, Secured by [Grass Roots Organizing](#)

[Missouri ProVote](#) opposes a plan to make deep cuts to the supplemental nutrition assistance program -- or SNAP.

[Missouri ProVote](#) says Republican leaders refuse to end tax loop holes that corporate giants like Apple, General Electric, and Verizon use to avoid paying any federal income taxes or dramatically reduce what they pay, despite making billions in profits.

Letter to the Editor: Tax reform will boost workers, revenue

Columbia Daily Tribune, Jeanette Mott Oxford & Don Love, 9/17/2013, Secured by [Grass Roots Organizing](#)

Our taxes pay for the common good, including the necessary infrastructure of any decent society. It doesn't make sense to heavily tax low-paid workers for the infrastructure. We are asking quite enough for them to be willing to work for less than a living wage. The individuals who profit from the infrastructure need to pay a fair share of its cost and even take pride in accepting that responsibility. Taxes can be thought of as our dues for living in a healthy society.

We recommend instead the "Tax Justice for a Healthy Missouri" (TJHMO) reform plan. After all, the share of state and local taxes paid by the poorest 80 percent of Missourians is nearly twice that of the wealthiest 20 percent, when computed as a percentage of their incomes....

Head Start program budget slashed by sequestration cuts

Connect Mid-Missouri, Jessica Quick, 8/20/2013

President Obama announced Monday that 57,000 children across the U.S. will be cut from the Head Start program this school year, out of nearly a million children served.

Mid-Missouri advocates for the program are saying corporate tax dodgers could make up for the \$400 million that the program is losing nationwide.

"Invest in U.S." was the theme of a rally held by [Grass Roots Organizing](#) this morning outside Park Ave. Head Start in Columbia.

About 30 to 40 people spoke about the importance of education in the state of Missouri.

"You can't have it both ways, you can't continue to give tax cuts.. tax breaks..to the richest and continue to cut programs that we all count on in the community," said [Robin Acree](#), the director of [GRO](#).

Letter to the Editor: Reform should target corporate loopholes

Columbia Daily Tribune, Bethany Wesselmann, 8/8/2013, Secured by [Grass Roots Organizing](#)

U.S. companies avoid paying taxes on overseas profits by deferring their income in controlled foreign accounts. The solution to end offshore tax loopholes by U.S. corporations is to put a stop to the deferral of controlled foreign corporations' active income and create a tax reform that would raise significant revenue from the top 2 percent.

Op-Ed: Fair taxes better for economy than cuts

Columbia Daily Tribune, Gretchen Maune, 7/11/2013, Secured by [Grass Roots Organizing](#)

Major profitable corporations must be pressed to do their part and to pay their fair share. If the big corporations would pay their fair share of taxes, then our government would have more than enough money to pay for critical, lifesaving programs. The Fix the Debt campaign, an industry front group that is led by millionaire CEOs, seeks to "fix" our economy by widening corporate tax loopholes and shrinking the budgets of people living on Social Security. They want to create a debt crisis when there is not one.

We must close the corporate loopholes so that we have more revenue to work with. Then we could actually strengthen our vital programs, not make unnecessary, shameful cuts to services.

MONTANA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Western News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

You pay your fair share of taxes. Small businesses do too. It's the price we pay to educate our kids, protect our communities and have some security in retirement. Why shouldn't some of Americas largest corporations pay their fair share too?...

Op-Ed: Working poor get three lumps of coal

Montana Standard, Evan Barrett, 12/31/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

They believe that folks are poor because they want to be poor or are too lazy to work. Common sense Montanans know better. Almost all of them are following the American Dream of seeking not only a job, but better job that could lift them and their family out of poverty.

Bottom line - if the Tea Party Congressional Conservatives were Santa Claus, they would be delivering three lumps of coal to those striving to struggle out of poverty in America, starting with the minimum wage increase denial.

Letter to the Editor: Corporations: remember working poor this shopping season

Missoulian, C. LeRoy Anderson, 12/19/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

Spending deal a good start, groups say

The Billings Gazette, Mike Ferguson, 12/12/2013

Sheena Rice, economic justice organizer with the [Montana Organizing Project](#), said legislators from both parties are working to restrict the use of tax havens. The bills would raise up to \$220 billion over 10 years — enough to fully replace the automatic spending cuts scheduled over the next 30 months, according to Rice.

Those proposals, she said, would “level the playing field” between large and small businesses by not allowing multinational firms tax subsidies for exporting jobs.

Letter to the Editor: Farm bill is necessary for food producers

The Billings Gazette, Marvin Quinlan, 12/1/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

As your editorial puts it: "Only on Capitol Hill is there demand to save money by letting needy Americans go hungry." And only on Capitol Hill would food aid be cut while doing nothing to stop huge corporations from dodging hundreds of billions of dollars in taxes. Sen. Max Baucus has already spoken out in defense of hungry families — he should add that we can pay for that aid by closing corporate tax loopholes.

Letter to the Editor: Law Would End Corporate Tax Dodging

The Billings Gazette, Darrell Johnson, 11/24/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

Lee Hamilton is right that getting down to the nitty gritty of tax reform takes guts ("Tax reform won't happen till Congress talks specifics," Nov. 10). But one vital part of the process he didn't mention was corporate tax reform. If our political leaders could develop the courage needed to challenge all the special preferences and breaks enjoyed by U.S. multinational corporations, we'd be well on our way to finally solving our ongoing budget dilemma without doing so on the backs of America's working families.

Unlike our economy, corporate tax dodging is hitting on all cylinders. Big names like General Electric, Apple, Verizon, Microsoft and Boeing use a combination of domestic and offshore tax loopholes to avoid billions of dollars of taxes every year.

There's a bill in Congress right now, the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act, that would clamp down on the worst overseas abuses, raising \$220 billion and keeping American jobs home in the process! It deserves everyone's support.

Groups press lawmakers to reform taxes, protect Social Security, Medicare

The Billings Gazette, Tom Lutey, 11/6/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

Worried about cuts to Social Security and Medicare, advocates on Wednesday pressed Montana's congressional delegation to close corporate tax loopholes instead.

"The weight of the deficit should not be burdened by the middle- and lower-income classes," said Gy Moody of the [Montana Small Business Alliance](#). "We should end tax breaks for companies that ship jobs and profits offshore. And, we should level the playing field for small businesses that create jobs in America."

Moody was joined by representatives from Angela's Piazza, the [Montana Organizing Project](#), a retired refinery worker and disabled veteran. The group submitted petitions bearing several hundred signatures, which called for overhauling the tax code and investing in infrastructure and an educated workforce.

Op-Ed: Cut corporate tax loopholes, not our kids' future

The Billings Gazette, Elrae Potts, [Indian People's Action](#), 11/1/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

As a longtime advocate for children in the Native American communities of Montana, I can confidently report that Indian child services are not the place to look for budgetary fat. Yet federal deficit-reduction "sequester" is cutting programs like Head Start and foster care support instead of raising revenue from the folks who have it: huge multinational corporations and unimaginably wealthy households. Until we create a fairer tax system, we'll never dig our way out of debt or get our economy back in gear.....

Op-Ed: A number of issues Daines could focus on

The Billings Gazette, Kenneth Crouch, Billings City Council, 10/31/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

Tax reform: And that means fairness. In a recent three-year period, 30 corporations made \$160.7 billion, paid \$10.6 billion in taxes and paid lobbyists \$475.7 million to receive \$67.9 billion in tax subsidies of which \$265 million was put in tax havens. (From [Citizens for Tax Justice](#) and Corporate Taxpayers and Corporate Tax Dodgers, 2008-2010.) Daines should work with Sen. Max Baucus, who is making this a focus.

Letter to the Editor: Follow Max's Lead

Great Falls Tribune, Marsha Schumacher, 10/24/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

The senator's plan to bring our federal budget closer to balance — "close loopholes and raise revenue" — is one I think most Montanans would support. That's especially true when you consider the alternative being pushed by other members of Congress, including cutting earned benefit systems like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Protesters call for end to government shutdown

The Billings Gazette, Ed Kemmick, 10/14/2013

A group of protesters gathered at the Billings office of U.S. Rep. Steve Daines on Monday, urging him to “shut down the shutdown.”

The protest was called by the **Montana Organizing Project**, which advertises itself as a coalition of groups working “for economic, racial and social justice in Montana.”

Lita Pepion, with **Indian Peoples Action**, told Flint that with so many Indian Country programs relying at least in part on federal funding, “everything is hurting.”

Letter to the Editor: Corporate Welfare

The Great Falls Tribune, Frank Clemente, Americans for Tax Fairness, 10/7/2013

The Tribune’s Sept. 28 editorial, “Federal tax reform a laudable goal,” cited my organization’s opposition to corporate tax cuts as too expensive, costing \$1.3 trillion over the next decade. But Americans for Tax Fairness has concerns with cutting the top corporate rate from 35 to 25 percent for other reasons. U.S. corporate profits are at 60-year highs while corporate taxes are near 60-year lows. Effective corporate income tax rates — what corporations actually pay — are about 27 percent and fully competitive with those of other advanced nations, according to a study by the Economic Policy Institute....

Op-Ed: What big-business apologists won’t mention about Boeing

The Helena Vigilante, Shane Castle, 10/3/2013, Secured by the **Montana Organizing Project**

The main reason is the **Citizens for Tax Justice** study accounted for loopholes—in this case, tax deferrals on foreign profits. That can make a huge difference since multinational corporations are allowed to indefinitely defer paying U.S. taxes on foreign profits—even if they deduct the very expenses used to generate them. The CTJ report showed Boeing saved about \$1.86 billion through such tax deferrals in 2011.

Obviously, not everyone agrees with CTJ’s methodology, much less its findings. But many do. A recent poll from the **Main Street Business Alliance** found that four out of five small business owners think companies shouldn’t be able to defer taxes on foreign profits. U.S. Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich) and several cosponsors recently introduced a bill that would eliminate such deferrals and loopholes.

Letter to the Editor: Let's make sure Boeing tax breaks pay dividends

Billings Gazette, Mary Dunwal, 9/29/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

Lewis and Clark County and the city of Helena are granting property tax abatements to Boeing totaling nearly \$1 million over 10 years — \$812,000 from the county and \$172,000 from the city. That's \$100,000 a year — not ballpark peanuts. It's pay to play. Anytime a company gets a tax break, other taxpayers absorb the cost. Main Street businesses and residential property owners in East Helena, Helena and the rest of the county make up the difference.

House GOP, Daines approve \$39 billion food stamp cut

Billings Gazette, Tom Lutely, 9/19/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

The number of single mothers looking for food assistance at the Catholic charity Angela's Piazza in Billings has increased since the recession. Associate Director Amy Aguirre expects the need for food will only go up if food stamps are cut.

In a typical month, Aguirre might round up 700 pounds of food for women who turn to Angela's Piazza for help with addiction or domestic violence. Aguirre said 85 percent of the women Piazza helps are single mothers. A cut in food stamps will only make it more difficult for those women to cover utilities and pay for rent as more of their money must be spent on food.

Op-Ed: Still much to address from Rev. King's 'I have a dream' speech

The Western News, Rep. John Conyers, 9/10/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning up tax code starts with taking out trash

Missoulian, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

A poll this year commissioned by the [Main Street Alliance](#) and the [American Sustainable Business Council](#) found 85 percent of small business owners oppose the "territorial" tax system pushed by offshore tax dodgers. By a margin of more than two to one, small business owners prefer closing corporate tax loopholes over cuts to education, infrastructure or Social Security and Medicare.

It's time to end offshore tax dodging and close tax loopholes that benefit large corporations and wealthy special interests. Use the revenue to invest in strengthening the economy and creating jobs....

Editorial: Federal tax reform a laudable goal

The Great Falls Tribune, Editorial Board, 9/28/2013

Trying to lure some business back to America's shores is a worthy goal through a lowering of the corporate tax rate, although the overall question is hardly a simple one. The advocacy group [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), for instance, warns that cutting the corporate tax rate from 35 to 25 percent could cost the federal treasury at least \$1.3 trillion over the next decade, according to one estimate from the Congressional Research Service.

Baucus Summit: Huge Lovefest for the Rich and the Powerful

The Helena Vigilante, Shane Castle, 9/17/2013

Or what about Fred Smith, CEO and founder of FedEx, who treated summit attendees to a folksy platitude about not drinking beer when you need to fix the lawnmower? According to the [Citizens for Tax Justice](#) study cited above, FedEx enjoyed an effective tax rate of less than one percent on more than \$4 billion in profits between 2008 and 2010...

Op-Ed: Time to stop tax loopholes for big biz

The Montana Standard, Melody Rice, [Montana Organizing Project](#), 9/17/2013

A few weeks ago a contingent of Montanans journeyed to Washington, D.C. to experience first-hand the ability to have our voices heard. I traveled with the group as a mental health professional and small business owner. The trip was educational, eye-opening and encouraging.

During our visit with Sen. Baucus we talked about tax reform — specifically closing tax loopholes that allow corporations to offshore their profits and avoid paying taxes. The Senator agreed that corporate tax loopholes need to end.

The current tax code needs to change and we need to encourage Sens. Baucus and Tester as they work to change the dramatic imbalance. Hard-working Americans, including small business owners, are paying their fair share and supporting our local communities while corporations are allowed to pay next to nothing! On average corporations pay just 12 percent in taxes while small business owners like myself, pay three times that of wealthy corporations and CEOs.

Letter to the Editor: Close tax loopholes for coporations

Billings Gazette, Lita Pepion, 8/28/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

Small businesses and individuals pay their fair share, yet big corporations pay a fraction of what we pay in taxes — and some actually receive tax refunds. Wells Fargo, for example, had a \$681 million return in 2012!

Congress must immediately close tax loopholes by ending off-shore tax dodging, opposing further job-killing budget cuts, opposing "revenue-neutral" corporate tax reform and the push for a "territorial" tax system. Haven't the "haves" lived off the blood, sweat and tears of the "have-nots" long enough?

Letter to the Editor

Butte Weekly, George Waring, 8/28/2013

Montana panel offers Baucus tax reform ideas

Billings Gazette, Associated Press, 8/22/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

A panel advising U.S. Sen. Max Baucus on his plan to rewrite the nation's tax code told him Thursday that the government should maintain deductions that benefit the poor, small businesses, education, retirement savings and innovation....

"We're of the belief that as you tear this down and build it back up you need to put these two provisions back in for families," said Al Ekblad, with the [Montana State AFL-CIO](#). "These are important and we would encourage you to keep."

Rally in Helena urges tax reform to benefit education

MTN News, Marnee Banks, 8/22/2013,

The Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT) and the [Montana Organizing Project](#) are urging Congress to close what they say are tax loopholes for large corporations, so that local schools can have the funding they need.

Op-Ed: Restore economic opportunity with corporate tax reform

Billings Gazette, Ken Crouch, Billings City Council, 8/19/2013, Secured by the Montana Organizing Project

Ironically, FedEx provides another good example. Between 2008 and 2010, the company earned more than \$4 billion, yet paid federal taxes of less than 1 percent, according to a report by the research organization [Citizens for Tax Justice](#)....

...Meanwhile, Montana's families and small businesses are making up the difference for the tax avoidance of huge corporations. They pay an extra \$900 per family each year, \$2,100 per business — almost half a billion dollars statewide, according to a study by the [U.S. Public Interest Research Group](#)....

Letter to the Editor: Congress: Create Farm Bill that serves people, not corporations

Montana Standard, Charlotte Trolinger, 7/7/2013, Secured by the [Montana Organizing Project](#)

Both chambers of Congress need to start over and create a Farm Bill to serve the people and all farmers, not just the biggest. The Farm Bill should be about food and the people, not Congress's corporate sponsors.

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Tobacco Valley News, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

NEBRASKA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Lincoln Journal Star, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

NEW JERSEY MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Cherry Hill Courier-Post, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Vineland Daily Journal, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Medical Device Tax giveaway would deny Americans Health Care

New Jersey Today, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/10/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning Up The Tax Code Starts With Taking Out The Trash

New Jersey Today, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Asbury Park Press, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014

NEW MEXICO MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

New Ulm Journal, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Desire to drop device tax not universal

Albuquerque Business Journal, Dennis Domrzalski, 10/16/2013

Not everyone wants Congress to repeal the medical device tax that is supposed to help fund the Affordable Care Act.

More than 100 organizations, including [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), [Families USA](#) and labor unions have sent a letter to Congress urging its members to oppose legislation seeking to repeal the tax...

Stop abuse of offshore tax havens

The Albuquerque Journal, Sean Foran, 10/11/2013

The Treasury Department has repeatedly warned Congress that America must raise its limit on borrowing. Yet, amongst all of the heated debates concerning the budget deadline and now the government shutdown, one aspect on the debt ceiling remains unaddressed: offshore tax haven abuse costs us an estimated \$150 billion in annual federal revenue. ...

NEW YORK MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Albany Times-Union, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Marchers protest GE tax payments, or the lack of them

PostStar, Michael Goot, 4/16/2014

Fifteen people celebrated income tax day Tuesday by criticizing General Electric Co. for how little the company pays in corporate taxes.

About 15 people braved a steady rain, spending half an hour marching around in an oval on the sidewalk in front of GE's Broadway property, shouting "We don't need corporate greed! Good-paying jobs is what we need!"

The protest was organized by the [Capital District Area Labor Federation](#), (in coordination with [Citizen Action of NY](#)) as part of the Strong Communities Work initiative, which is a campaign against state policies that undermine people, services and communities and widen the state's income inequality gap.

General Electric has paid no corporate income taxes for several years because of tax breaks and loopholes. In a column for *The Detroit News*, [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) Executive Director [Frank Clemente](#) said GE earned \$27.5 billion in profits between 2008 and 2012, but received \$3 billion in tax refunds. That resulted in a federal income tax rate of negative 11 percent, he said.....

Tax Day Protests Fight Corporate Loopholes

Binghamton.com, 4/15/2014

[Citizen Action \(an affiliate of US Action\)](#) and the Greater Binghamton Labor-Religion Coalition say corporate tax loopholes allow the majority of the top 100 publicly traded companies to shield assets and transfer them offshore so they don't have to pay their fair share of taxes.

They say that amounts to tens of billions of dollars over a decade, which results in cuts to other programs for the less fortunate.

"Every dollar in taxes that profitable companies avoid is balanced by cuts to public programs, higher taxes for the rest of us and more debt," said Judy Arnold.....

Local activists call for corporate tax reform

WBNG News, Matt Porter, 4/15/2014

Citizen Action (an affiliate of US Action) held a meeting to call for Congress to end corporate tax loopholes.

The activists called attention to what they say is more than \$180 billion in uncollected corporate taxes due to loopholes in the tax law.

"As hardworking people all around the country file their tax returns today, many Americans will be shocked that an invisible tax burden has been placed on them this year by some of the largest most profitable corporations," said Judy Arnold from the Greater Binghamton Labor Relations Coalition.....

Citizen Action: Congress must end 'Tax Day giveaway' for corporations

Time Warner Cable News, Website Staff, 4/15/2014

Members of **Citizen Action (an affiliate of US Action)** spent their Tax Day sending a message to Congress about what they call the "Tax Day giveaway."

They argue that companies like GE and Microsoft are given unfair tax breaks because they operate offshore in "tax havens."

Citizen Action says many of these companies avoid paying their fair share of taxes and demand the loophole in the tax system be closed.....

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Buffalo News, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

As Congress heads home to celebrate the Fourth of July, it leaves with two critical issues unaddressed. The first is the increasing -- and troubling -- trend of big corporations essentially giving up their American citizenship and reincorporating overseas to reduce their U.S. taxes....

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Caribbean Life, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn its budget lessons?

Caribbean Life, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/17/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

The Sunday Post-Journal, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/13/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

The Jamestown Post-Journal, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/13/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Take the trash out of the tax code, close corporate loopholes

Caribbean Life, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/26/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's Dream with fair tax and spending policies

Caribbean Life, Rep. John Conyers, 9/12/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Big corporations pay their fair share

Caribbean Life, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/22/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

NEVADA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Reno Gazette-Journal, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Las Vegas Sun, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Column: The limits of corporate citizenship

Nevada Daily, Robert Reich, July 16, 2014

NORTH CAROLINA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Raleigh News & Observer, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

This week, millions of Americans will celebrate Independence Day in a burst of national pride and patriotism. At the same time, some U.S. corporations are preparing to make a move to dodge paying their fair share of taxes, which many Americans will consider deeply unpatriotic....

Editorial: Corporations get tax pass while citizens face cuts

Tideland News, The Editorial Board, 6/18/2014

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....

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Tideland News, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America’s Infrastructure

Tideland News, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Letter to the Editor: Help military families: Stop the sequester

Raleigh News and Observer, Susan Reynolds, 12/18/2013, Secured by [North Carolina Budget and Justice Center](#)

Right now, there is a bill called the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act (S. 1533) that would stop corporate tax dodging. This bill would make it harder for companies to hide their profits overseas. If military families are going to lose a vital tax credit that only goes to people who work, corporations shouldn't get tax benefits by taking their money out of America.

Making sure profitable corporations pay their fair share is a good start, one easy fix that would get us on the right budget track. I'd like to see our federal delegation support efforts to ensure corporations pay their fair share. There's one more thing we can do. We have to stop pretending that we can keep slashing the budget without harming the future. Yes, we all have to pull together in these economic times. We also have to face that investing in the future – our kids' education, and families like yours and mine – pays off. To make those investments, we need new revenue.

Op-Ed: Clean up the tax code and take out trash

Oxford Public Ledger, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 11/7/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Medical device tax giveaway denies health care

Casville Democrat, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/24/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Spring Hope Enterprise, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/10/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Daily Southerner, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Lawmakers need to move to center for nation's good

News & Observer, Allan Freyer, [North Carolina Budget & Tax Center](#), 9/22/2013

The overarching question is a simple one: Will lawmakers stick to the failed approach of the last three years by imposing additional harsh and historically unprecedented spending cuts or will they move back toward the center and adopt a balanced approach – one that includes cuts and new revenues and does not increase poverty and economic hardship for working Americans?

Op-Ed: Obama’s tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Greensboro Business Journal, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/29/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Bad Bargain for Small Biz

The Business Journal, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Spring Hope Enterprise, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

OHIO MEDIA HITS

Do you pay your taxes?

Knox County Citizen, Virginia Wasserman, 6/19/2014

[Americans for Tax Fairness](#) reports that corporate taxes are near a 60 year low. Why? Bank of America has 300 offshore tax havens where they hid \$17.2 billion in offshore profits in 2012. They would owe \$4.3 billion in U.S. taxes if funds were brought home.....

Op-Ed: A pharmacy’s tax tricks could make you sick

The Englewood Independent, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/13/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

....Walgreens pharmacy is in every way an American company..... Yet Walgreens’ management is considering a plan to renounce its status as an American corporation. The reason for this unpatriotic maneuver? By moving its official corporate address to a foreign country – in this case Switzerland, a tax haven – it may dodge \$4 billion in federal taxes over five years, according to equities research firm estimates described in a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#). The rest of us will be stuck with the tab...

Big hopes for Small Business Saturday

Akron Beacon Journal, Katie Byard, 11/28/2013

This year, the day also has a tinge of politics. National advocacy group [Main Street Alliance](#) sponsored a news conference Tuesday to “denounce the hypocrisy” of American Express championing small businesses while charging “the credit card industry’s highest ‘swipe fees’ ”

The group encouraged consumers to support small businesses this holiday season by shopping locally and paying for their purchases with cash.

Op-Ed: Fulfill King’s Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

Cleveland Call and Post, Rep. John Conyers, 9/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Cleveland Call and Post, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

OREGON MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: 'Tax extenders' cost the U.S. billions

The Oregonian, Deb Field, 5/30/2014

.....Too many big companies avoid taxes by lobbying Congress to riddle the law with loopholes. Some lawmakers aid their efforts – then complain that the law has holes like Swiss cheese. How big are those loopholes? Large enough that 26 large, profitable U.S. corporations paid absolutely nothing in federal income taxes from 2008 to 2012, according to the watchdog organization [Citizens for Tax Justice](#). Verizon, Boeing and General Electric combined paid less in federal income taxes over five years than your family or my small business paid in taxes in one year. There is something deeply wrong with that....

...One of the expired tax loopholes, known as the "active financing exception," enables banks and other companies with financing operations to make it appear that U.S. profits were earned in offshore tax havens. General Electric depends on this loophole to lower its tax bill, and so has put four dozen lobbyists working to keep it alive, according to a recent study by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Public Campaign](#).....

Op-Ed: Revive Small Business, Not Corporate Tax Breaks

The Oregonian, Deborah Field, 4/15/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Fifteen years as an accountant in corporate America taught me that big multinational companies think they can play by their own rules. That's especially true when it comes to taxes: some corporations take pride in paying close to nothing in federal income taxes. Now that I run my own small printing and stationery businesses, I'm paying my fair share along with the rest of the middle class....

Letter to the Editor: Ron Wyden and tax reform

The Oregonian, Mark S. Kellenbeck, 3/5/2014

I hope the "principled bipartisanship" on tax reform that Sen. Ron Wyden is seeking ("The consensus chairman," Editorial, March 2) is expressed in his response to a large grab bag of tax breaks that some members of Congress want to pass this spring.

These so-called "tax extenders" include some good ideas, but are dominated by expensive giveaways that benefit only a small handful of big corporations at the expense of the people who will pick up the tab — small businesses and American taxpayers.

The first point of agreement should be to kill the corporate tax breaks in the package that encourage corporations to hide profits offshore and ship jobs overseas. The second should be

to pay for the good provisions in the package by closing corporate tax loopholes, rather than tacking the cost onto our national debt.

These would be good first steps toward bipartisan tax reform.

Letter to the Editor: More customers, not lower taxes, needed to create jobs

The Oregonian, Jim Houser & Mark Kellenbeck, [Main Street Alliance](#), 10/19/2014

What creates more jobs is more customers, not lower taxes. So rather than cutting taxes for the wealthiest businesses, we should be investing in our future, and making sure that we can create the best and brightest workforce here in Oregon. A better-educated workforce means higher-paying jobs. Higher-paying jobs mean more money in pockets of Oregonians, our customers, and more money being circulated in our communities — and that's good for everyone.

PENNSYLVANIA MEDIA HITS

Walgreen hints at overseas move, draws criticism

The Philadelphia Inquirer, Ameet Sachdev, 7/5/2014

Walgreen Co. is at a crossroads, but it may not be "at the corner of happy and healthy" as its advertising slogan suggests.....

...While several U.S. companies have moved to lower-tax countries since 2012, Walgreen has caught the attention of taxpayer groups and unions that have criticized the potential tax maneuver. They have blasted Walgreen for contemplating fleeing the United States even though it benefits from government insurance programs. Nearly one-quarter of Walgreen's \$72 billion in sales in its last fiscal year came from Medicaid and Medicare, according to a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win Retail Initiatives](#), a union-backed group....

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Augusta Free Press, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Bucks County Courier Times, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

St. Mary's Daily Press, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Lock Haven Express, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Ridgway Record, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Phoenix Reporter & Item, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Phoenix Reporter & Item, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Pike County Dispatch, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

St. Mary's The Daily Press, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Ridgway Record, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

El Hispano, Rep. John Conyers, 9/18/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning Up The Tax Code Starts With Taking Out The Trash

The Kane Republican, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning Up The Tax Code Starts With Taking Out The Trash

Ridgway Record, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning Up The Tax Code Starts With Taking Out The Trash

The Bucks County Courier Times, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Ridgway Record, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

Op-Ed: Walgreens' tax cheat could make you sick

The Phoenix Reporter, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 6/13/2014

RHODE ISLAND MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Westerly Sun, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's Tax Plan a Bad Bargain for Small Business

The Kent County Daily Times, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Kent County Daily Times, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

Westerly Sun, Rep. John Conyers, 9/7/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

SOUTH CAROLINA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Myrtle Beach Sun News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Hilton Head Island Park, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Orangeburg Times and Democrat, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Tax Plan Bad for Small Business

Lake Wyle Pilot, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/13/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

TENNESSEE MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Myrtle Beach Sun News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Congress: Loopholes should go in 2014

The Tennessean, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/26/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Columbia Daily Herald, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning up the tax code starts with taking out trash

Nashville Pride, Gy Moody, Main Street Alliance, 9/20/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King's 'dream' with fair tax policies

La Follette Press, Rep. John Conyers, 9/12/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporate tax breaks are unfair to communities

The Tennessean, MaryAnne Howland, [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 9/9/2013

There are dozens of corporate loopholes in the tax code. Many of them have no positive value for our country. Among the most egregious are accounting loopholes that allow American corporations to shift their profits earned in the U.S. to nations that impose little or no taxes on that income. This tax loophole costs the U.S. Treasury an estimated \$90 billion a year. That's nearly \$247 million every day of the year.

Many other small-business owners agree with my concerns. Ninety-one percent of small-business owners said that it is a problem when big businesses use accounting gimmicks to avoid paying taxes, according to a national 2012 scientific poll sponsored by the [American Sustainable Business Council](#). A majority of the poll respondents were Republicans.....

Op-Ed: Most of us want corporate loopholes shut

The Commercial Appeal, Matt Gardner, [Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy](#), 9/7/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

...FedEx's founder and CEO, Frederick W. Smith, holds a view of our corporate tax code that many CEOs share, and has said we should "reduce our corporate tax rate to a worldwide competitive level of 25 percent and we have to go to what's called a territorial tax system."

What Smith does not mention, though, is that FedEx, like many corporations that are household names, has paid hardly anything in federal corporate income taxes in recent years. Yes, the statutory corporate income tax rate is 35 percent. But the effective corporate income tax rate -- the percentage of profits corporations actually pay in income taxes after accounting for various breaks and loopholes -- is much lower for companies like FedEx.

Op-Ed: Clean Up The Tax Code; Take Out The Trash

The Morning Daily News, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/6/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

TEXAS MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Executive pay loophole is an outrage

The Austin American-Statesman, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/18/2014,

There is an outrage in our tax code and it's costing you money.

Federal law currently gives publicly-held corporations a special tax deduction when they pay their executives huge "performance-based" bonuses. The deduction can be worth millions of dollars. The more they shower their executives with such pay, the less publicly-held corporations pay in federal taxes.....

.....Walmart is a good example of how this tax loophole has contributed to out-of-whack executive pay. Between 2009 and 2014, eight top executives were paid a total of \$334 million, of which nearly \$300 million—or 90 percent—was supposedly "performance" pay, according to a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and the [Institute for Policy Studies](#). The taxpayer subsidy for Walmart's bonuses: more than \$100 million.....

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Corpus Christi Caller Times, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

North Texas e-News, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Your Houston News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Best Southwest Focus on the News, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Deer Park Broadcaster, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Waxahachie Daily Light, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Midlothian Mirror, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes — Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Wilson County News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/14/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Medical device tax giveaway would deny Americans health care

The Waxahachie Daily Light, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/18/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Focus Daily News, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/13/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Congress gets a failing grade for its education funding

The Houston Chronicle, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/12/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King’s Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

Best Southwest Focus on the News, Rep. John Conyers, 10/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama’s tax plan no bargain for small business

Huntsville Item, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Houston Chronicle, [Frank Clemente](#), Americans for Tax Fairness, 4/16/2014

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy’s Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

The Houston Chronicle, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

UTAH MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: No longer American?

The Sun Advocate, [Frank Clemente](#), 6/19/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

VERMONT MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: No tax loophole for industry

Burlington Free Press, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Springfield Reporter, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Fulfill King’s Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies

Springfield Reporter, Rep. John Conyers, 9/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

VIRGINIA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America’s Infrastructure

Augusta Free Press, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: This Christmas, help the unemployed, not Wall Street

Augusta Free Press, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 12/24/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Letter to the Editor: Budget deal shows more work needed to protect individuals

ProgressIndex.com, Sandra A. Cook, [Virginia Organizing](#), 12/17/2013

[Virginia Organizing](#) is thankful for the hard work of members of Congress to reach a budget compromise that will be voted on at the end of the week. Virginia's own U.S. Sens. Mark Warner and Tim Kaine were both a part of the conference committee that created the budget deal and we applaud their work.

[Virginia Organizing](#) was pleasantly surprised that cuts to Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare were left out of this deal, and thrilled that the budget deal means that deeper spending cuts from the sequester will no longer take effect in the new year. However, Congress missed an opportunity to close corporate tax loopholes that benefit only the wealthiest and most privileged Americans and instead chose to create a budget that penalizes people who are looking for jobs by ending long-term unemployment benefits.

Op-Ed: Tax fairness would Allow Americans to invest again

Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, Maria Fornella, 11/17/2013, Secured by [Virginia Organizing](#)

If only American corporations were as patriotic. Despite complaints that corporate taxes are too high, corporations on average pay only a third of the official federal income tax rate, according to a recent study by the Government Accountability Office.

As a result, the slice of total federal revenue coming from the corporate income tax is at its lowest level since the 1950s, the Office of Management and Budget found.

How do huge corporations manage to dodge so much of their tax responsibility? Unlike Main Street businesses and domestic manufacturers, multinational firms can play an international shell game with their profits, sheltering cash in dummy corporations they establish in foreign tax havens.

Op-Ed: Tax fairness would Allow Americans to invest again

The Augusta Free Press, Maria Fornella, 10/29/2013, Secured by [Virginia Organizing](#)

Op-Ed: Will Congress learn budget lessons?

Richmond Voice, Dennis Van Roekel, [National Education Association](#), 10/15/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Medical Device Tax giveaway would deny Americans healthcare

Augusta Free Press, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/14/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Tax fairness would Allow Americans to invest again

Tidewater News, Maria Fornella, 11/13/2013, Secured by [Virginia Organizing](#)

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How do huge corporations manage to dodge so much of their tax responsibility? Unlike Main Street businesses and domestic manufacturers, multinational firms can play an international shell game with their profits, sheltering cash in dummy corporations they establish in foreign tax havens.

Letter to the Editor

Virginian Pilot, 10/18/2013, Secured by [Virginia Organizing](#)

Letter to the Editor

Virginian Pilot, 10/15/2013, Secured by [Virginia Organizing](#)

Editorial: Education Cuts Unfair

GoDan River, Editorial Board, 9/9/2013, Secured by [Virginia Organizing](#)

The cuts toward educational programs seem very unfair to the children that are in them. The programs are losing money every year. Many have already been cut in the United States and thus cannot start back up. My solution is to get more funding from the government through corporations that aren't paying taxes.

Op-Ed: Cleaning Up The Tax Code Starts With Taking Out The Trash

Augusta Free Press, Gy Moody, Main Street Alliance, 9/8/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Letter to the Editor

Staunton News, Connie Burch, 9/6/2013

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan is not a bargain for small business

Colonial Voice, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/23/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad bargain for small business

Hampton Roads Voice, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/21/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's Tax Plan a Bad Bargain for Small Business

Petersburg Progress-Index, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/16/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's Tax Plan a Bad Bargain for Small Business

Fauquier Times-Democrat, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Letter to the Editor: Education cuts unfair

News Advance, Marvin Holliness, 7/20/2013, Secured by [Virginia Organizing](#)

The cuts toward educational programs seem very unfair to the children that are in them. The programs are losing money every year. Many have already been cut in the United States and thus cannot start back up. My solution is to get more funding from the government through corporations that aren't paying taxes. The cuts toward educational programs seem very unfair to the children that are in them. The programs are losing money every year. Many have already been cut in the United States and thus cannot start back up. My solution is to get more funding from the government through corporations that aren't paying taxes.

WASHINGTON MEDIA HITS

Walgreen hints at overseas move, draws criticism

The Spokesman-Review, Ameet Sachdev, 7/5/2014

Walgreen Co. is at a crossroads, but it may not be "at the corner of happy and healthy" as its advertising slogan suggests.....

....While several U.S. companies have moved to lower-tax countries since 2012, Walgreen has caught the attention of taxpayer groups and unions that have criticized the potential tax maneuver. They have blasted Walgreen for contemplating fleeing the United States even though it benefits from government insurance programs. Nearly one-quarter of Walgreen's \$72 billion in sales in its last fiscal year came from Medicaid and Medicare, according to a report by [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) and [Change to Win Retail Initiatives](#), a union-backed group....

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Sunnyside Daily Sun News, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Grand Coulee Star, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: 'Tax Extenders' Bill Mixes Good with Bad

Spokane Spokesman-Review, Tim Foster, 5/17/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Washington) for ATF

Large corporations have huge advantages over small businesses. Unfortunately, Congress is about to make things worse....

Letter to the Editor: End worst abuses of offshore tax havens

The Tacoma News Tribune, Jack Johnson, 10/31/2013, Secured by the [Washington Community Action Network](#)

When the two sides go back to the bargaining table, let's hope they have their thinking caps on. So far all the talk has been about slashing spending – the automatic, across-the-board cuts known as the “sequester,” or even cuts to Medicare and Social Security. But while lawmakers are futilely trying to cut their way to prosperity, America's largest corporations are hiding trillions of dollars in profits in offshore tax havens.

Column: Talk of Tax Reform spurs hiring, sort of

The Seattle Times, Lance Dickie, 9/27/2013

My column is about legislation introduced by Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich, who wants to go after U.S. corporations and individuals that stash stupendous amounts of money overseas to avoid paying federal taxes.

Other members of Congress want to revisit federal tax rates and simplification of the tax code.

The result has been a hiring boom for tax lobbyists and tax lawyers, and a substantial bump in lobbying expenses for companies that like things just the way they are.

Letter to the Editor: Sen. Patty Murray will fight for sustainable budget

The Seattle Times, Joelle Craft, [Washington Community Action Network](#), 9/26/2013

Sen. Patty Murray is brave to be taking on the task of trying to negotiate with Republicans to find a solution to our pending budget crisis.

From shutting down Mount Rainier National Park to threatening benefits of veterans and families of the fallen, the recent closing of our government made the middle class the victim of right-wing Republican ideology.

I hope she will fight for a sustainable solution that focuses on growing our economy through responsible revenue options, rather than cutting Americans' earned benefits like Social Security, or taking food from hungry children. Big corporations like Microsoft and GE continue to make record profits while avoiding taxes. Many corporations still get a tax break for sending good American jobs overseas. Closing these corporate-tax loopholes is a more responsible approach toward balancing the budget.

Column: Legislation to curb foreign tax havens would bolster budget

The Seattle Times, Lance Dickie, 9/26/2013

Americans for Tax Fairness cites a Congressional Research Report that American companies report earning 43 percent of overseas profits in five countries: Bermuda, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland — tax havens where the companies have scant employment or foreign investments.

Coalition of small businesses urge Microsoft to end its offshore tax dodging

The Seattle Times, Janet I. Tu, 9/25/2013

Hundreds of small business owners are urging Microsoft to end its practice of avoiding certain U.S. taxes by keeping much of its cash hoard overseas.

About a half-dozen members of **Main Street Alliance**, a network of state-based small-business coalitions, went to Microsoft headquarters in Redmond today to deliver an open letter signed by more than 200 local small business owners.

The letter urged Microsoft to “reverse course and join us in calling for an end [to] offshore tax dodging in order to make economy-boosting investments in the U.S.

People who feed the hungry decry proposed \$40 billion in cuts to programs

Auburn Reporter, Robert Whale, 9/18/2013, Secured by the **Washington Community Action Network**

Among those speaking out were Auburn Food Bank Director Debbie Christian, Kent City Councilwoman Elizabeth Albertson, members of the **Washington Community Action Network**, members of SNAP, and the Rev. Jimmie James, director of Holistic Opportunities for Personal Empowerment and a member of the Kent Black Action Commission.

Op-ed: Main Street vs. Wall Street

Cross Cut, Joe Copeland, John Strang & Bill Lucia, 9/17/2013

In an online survey of 210 Washington small business owners by [Main Street of Alliance of Washington](#) a whopping 92 percent of the respondents, from 42 cities across the state, agreed that large corporations are not paying their fair share of federal taxes. . Some 77 percent of respondents supported a small tax — a fraction of 1 percent — on Wall Street transactions such as stocks, bonds, derivatives and other items. The Alliance conducted the survey to provide feedback to Congress as it readies for another debate on raising the federal debt ceiling, said Tiffany Turner, Alliance member and owner of the Adrift Hotel in Long Beach, WA. The Alliance has roughly 2,500 members; most employ less than 50 people.

Op-Ed: Cleaning Up The Tax Code Starts With Taking Out The Trash

Grand Coulee Star, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/11/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

Winlock Town Crier, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Corporate tax evasion costs us dearly

Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane, Carroll W. McInroe, 9/3/2013, Secured by the [Washington Community Action Network](#)

Now the mega-rich want your Social Security and Medicare too. They cleverly call their new plan the “Grand Bargain,” or “Chained CPI.” Aided and abetted by a corrupt Congress, a weakened President, corporate news, and a silent American public, their first steps are to raise the retirement age to 70, and cut the Social Security Cost of Living Allowance (COLA).

Who are these 100 or so rich men (yes, all men) who want you to “Fix the Debt,” while they refuse to pay their fair share? CEO Randall Stephenson of AT&T makes \$20 million a year, with a retirement package of \$158 million. Rupert Murdoch, owner of influential Fox News, is worth over \$8 billion. These two are fairly typical of today’s American corporate leaders – aristocratic, arrogant, and immensely powerful.

Op-Ed: Remake the U.S. tax code without hurting health care

The Seattle Times, Deana Knutsen, 8/6/2013, Secured by the [Washington Community Action Network](#)

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., and his Republican counterpart, Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, recently proposed a “blank slate” approach to overhaul the tax code. Senators have essentially been told to assume the existing tax code is scrapped and to make the case for adding back any tax breaks and loopholes.

I hope senators used this opportunity to recommend changes that would restore equity and balance to a tax system that currently favors highly profitable corporations at the expense of everyday people and families.

The pattern we've seen over the past few decades has been to lower federal taxes on wealthy households and profitable corporations, leaving working families in Washington and across our nation three equally bad options: pay higher taxes, lose vital services or watch our nation go deeper in debt.

WEST VIRGINIA MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Holiday cheer offset by inequality

West Virginia Gazette, John David, 12/22/2013, Secured by the [West Virginia Citizen Action Group](#)

No matter how data is sliced, it is obvious that the employment and worker pay issues are creating instability in our society. According to the [Economic Policy Institute](#), the top 1 percent in the country had their annual earnings increase 156 percent over the last several decades. For the very super rich, the growth was 362 percent. During the same period, worker pay increased only 5.7 percent. Last year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, real wages even fell 2 percent while corporate profits were at an all-time high, largely due to offshore tax avoidance.

It is no secret that workers are in a very weak bargaining position. Businesses are able to squeeze more out of every worker by box-store efficiencies, competition with cheap overseas labor or taking advantage of the vast reservoir of unemployed people who are forced to work for less in order to survive. Tax loopholes are many, such as the one that permits firms to deduct the cost of performance-based executive pay increases. In addition, as noted by the [National Employment Law Project](#), many do not realize that low wages cost taxpayers \$3.8 billion annually in various subsidy payments -- an amount that is in essence shifted from the employers to society as a whole.

Op-Ed: Cutting tax loopholes will save jobs

West Virginia Gazette, Joshua Sword, 12/10/2013, Secured by the [West Virginia Citizen Action Group](#)

Offshore tax dodging has gotten completely out of hand, and the rest of us are picking up the tab. Because huge companies like American Express, Microsoft and Nike avoid their fair share of taxes, the average West Virginian pays \$621 more each April 15, according to an independent study. The average West Virginia small business pays almost \$2,300 more in taxes.

Letter to the Editor: Corporations need to pay their fair share

West Virginia Gazette, Gary Zuckett, [West Virginia Citizens Action Group](#), 12/4/2013

There is a bill in Congress -- the Stop Tax Haven Abuse Act -- that is a positive step in the right direction. It will help ensure that the well doesn't run dry before our economy recovers. Sen. Joe Manchin should consider supporting this legislation, because it supports West Virginia.

Editorial: U.S. budget: End loopholes, abuses

The Charleston Gazette, Editorial Board, 11/15/2013, Secured by the [West Virginia Citizen Action Group](#)

Instead of cutting important government functions that actually nurture future prosperity, the country should tackle its deficit with new revenue. And some of that revenue could come from closing tax law loopholes that are now used and abused. For example:

- Change the law that encourages companies to shift jobs to other shores, said Steve Wamhoff, legislative director of [Citizens for Tax Justice](#). American companies are allowed a foreign tax credit -- a credit for taxes they must pay in other countries. More problematic is allowing companies to defer paying taxes on offshore profits for years.....

Letter to the Editor: Republicans are a bunch of sore losers

West Virginia Gazette, Gary Zuckett, [West Virginia Citizens Action Group](#), 10/1/2013

Because the radical tea party wing of the Republicans fueled by their billionaire bankrollers have decided it's time to withhold life-giving medical coverage to over a hundred thousand West Virginians and millions of Americans or shut down the government trying

Instead they should eliminate corporate tax-breaks for shipping our jobs overseas and quit letting them get away with not paying taxes on billions stashed in Bermuda. This country needs to rebuild its infrastructure and everyone should pitch in.

Op-Ed: Taking food from the hungry

Parkersburg News & Sentinel, Jerry Payne, 9/22/2013, Secured by the [West Virginia Citizen Action Group](#)

Cuts to S.N.A.P. would cost 55,000 jobs in the first year alone. This huge cut to food assistance is cruel and unnecessary. Instead of reducing food assistance to American families, Congress should be closing tax loopholes for corporations and the wealthy that cost us tens of billions of dollars every year. It's outrageous that corporate giants like General Electric, Wells Fargo and Verizon go years without paying federal income taxes, despite billions in profits. Congress has already cut over a trillion dollars from programs that serve and protect working Americans - but corporations haven't contributed a single dime to deficit reduction.

Op-Ed: Hunger Games in Congress

West Virginia Gazette, Gary Zuckett, [West Virginia Citizens Action Group](#), 9/16/2013

According to the [West Virginia Center on Budget & Policy](#), SNAP helps put food on the table for one in five West Virginians. Nearly two-fifths of them are children. About one-fifth have

disabilities or are seniors. A quarter of adults getting Food Stamps are raising children. How many will go hungry from this proposed "elimination"?

Head Start Cuts – “Budget Mess Means Wealthy Get Tax Breaks While WV Kids Suffer”

Public News Service, Don Heyman, 9/9/2013

Sequestration - automatic cuts triggered by Congress's failure to find a budget compromise - have meant cuts to Head Start, with more on the way. Nationally, Head Start is serving 57,000 fewer children this year than last, 500 of them in West Virginia. According to [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), the cuts to Head Start are about the same size as a tax break for corporate jets, and just one-tenth the size of a big loophole used by hedge-fund traders.

Offshore tax havens hurt U.S., W.Va., group says

West Virginia Gazette, Paul J. Nyden, 8/1/2013

By transferring profits to subsidiaries in offshore tax havens, large corporations save about \$90 billion in federal taxes a year, according to a new study just released by [U.S. PIRG](#), a coalition of [Public Interest Research Groups](#) around the country.

"This is not just a federal problem that affects the federal budget," said Gary Zuckett, executive director of the [West Virginia Citizens Action Group](#), the West Virginia affiliate of [U.S. PIRG](#).

"Those companies cost over \$100 million to the West Virginia budget. That would go a long way to help us keep our budget balanced," Zuckett said. "It is not just a federal problem."

Op-Ed: Prosperity Agenda Should Replace Austerity Measures

The Charleston Gazette, Gary Zuckett, [West Virginia Citizens Action Group](#), 7/22/2013

"Across the nation, Head Start programs have ended their school years early, canceled summer programs, cut staff pay and benefits, and have begun to announce reductions in the number of children who will be served in the fall."

Thus begins a letter sent to Congress this week by 146 national social, faith and labor groups, including the [Coalition on Human Needs](#) and [USAction.org](#). Five West Virginia groups, in addition to [WV Citizen Action](#) have also signed on.

WISCONSIN MEDIA HITS

Op-Ed: Walmart’s Top-to-Bottom Taxpayer Subsidies

The LaCrosse Tribune, [Frank Clemente](#) and Sarah Anderson, June 4, 2014

We're all footing the bill for bonuses the company's executives pocket and food stamps its underpaid workers obtain for survival.

Low-income families weren't the only ones hurt by cuts to food stamps last fall. Top Walmart executives also took a hit.....

A [new report we co-authored](#) for the [Institute for Policy Studies](#) and [Americans for Tax Fairness](#) calculates just how much this bonus loophole benefits Walmart. For example, we found that Mike Duke, the big box retailer's recently retired CEO, pocketed nearly \$116 million in exercised stock options and other "performance pay" between 2009 and 2014. That translates into a taxpayer subsidy for Walmart of more than \$40 million....

Op-Ed: Corporations Will Dodge Billions in Taxes

Kenosha News, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/30/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Tricks to avoid taxes are sickening

The Courier-Life, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/27/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Ending the Taxpayer Subsidy for Exorbitant Executive Bonuses

Wisconsin Dells Events, Rep. Lloyd Doggett, 6/12/2014, Syndicated by American Forum (Texas) for ATF

Op-Ed: Taxpayers pay dearly for Wal-Mart executive bonuses

Vernon County Broadcaster, [Frank Clemente](#) and Sarah Anderson, Americans for Tax Fairness and Institute for Policy Studies, 6/11/2014

Op-Ed: A Pharmacy's Tax Tricks Could Make You Sick

Madison Capital Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 6/11/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Editorial: Corporations win, little guys lose -- again

The Capital Times, Dave Zweigel, 5/21/2014

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Capital Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: How a Fairer Tax Code Can Improve America's Infrastructure

Madison Capital Times, Rep. Chris Van Hollen & Rep. Sander Levin, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Medical device tax giveaway would deny Americans health care

The Cap Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 10/21/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Taking out the tax code's trash

Waupaca County Post West, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/12/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Cleaning Up The Tax Code Starts With Taking Out The Trash

The Kane Republican, Gy Moody, [Main Street Alliance](#), 9/9/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan bad for small business

Wisconsin Dells Events, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/28/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: Obama's tax plan a bad deal for small business

Waupaca County Post West, Frank Knapp Jr., [American Sustainable Business Council](#), 8/15/2013, Syndicated by American Forum for ATF

Op-Ed: You Pay Taxes -- Why Doesn't General Electric?

The Madison Capital Times, [Frank Clemente](#), [Americans for Tax Fairness](#), 4/16/2014