



MEDIA HITS THROUGH NEWS STORIES AND OPINION PIECES

January 1 – July 31, 2019

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All clips are in date descending order, with the most recent ones first. For instant access to a clip in the table of contents below hit the Control key and right click at the same time.

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National	89	5	8	8	48	158
State	109	15	2	61	4	191
TOTAL	198	20	10	69	52	349

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NATIONAL MEDIA CLIPS

Bloomberg: Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law

August 5, 2019, By Laura Davison

Democrats and Republicans have criticized the tax law for not working as intended, so much so that Trump-appointed Treasury official Dana Trier was asked to resign after he publicly asked, "Do you think it's a model of sophistication?"

Where Democrats are on taxes now is likely to be different to where they were in 2015, said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They're realizing that they may have lost the 2017 tax battle, but are winning the messaging war, he said.

Accounting Today : Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law

August 2, 2019, By Laura Davison

Syndicated from Bloomberg

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Microsoft News: Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law

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San Francisco Gate: Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law

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Yahoo! News: Kamala Harris Wants to Undo Democrats' Favorite Part of the GOP Tax Law

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Jewish World Review: Kamala Harris Wants to Undo Democrats' Favorite Part of the GOP Tax Law

August 2, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg

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Common Dreams : De Blasio Proposes Major Tax Plan to Address Income Inequality, Restore Fairness

August 1, 2019, By Dennis Bailey

"Mayor de Blasio's progressive tax-reform plan is a recognition not only that the Trump-GOP tax cuts for the wealthy are unfair and aren't working, but also that raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations is good for the economy," said Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax**

Fairness Action Fund. “We have numerous critical needs, from infrastructure to education, to health care and climate change. It will cost trillions of dollars to address these needs, which will actually strengthen the economy and put more people to work. But the only way to do that is to raise substantial revenue by replacing the rigged system we have now with fair and progressive taxes.”

Clemente emphasized that ATF Action Fund does not endorse political candidates. “But it’s encouraging to see candidates like de Blasio and others move the issues of tax fairness and income inequality to the forefront of the 2020 campaign for president where it belongs,” he said.

The Hill: De Blasio releases plan to substantially raise taxes on the rich, corporations

August 1, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

Americans for Tax Fairness Action Fund, a liberal group that does not endorse candidates, cheered de Blasio's plan.

“Mayor de Blasio’s progressive tax-reform plan is a recognition not only that the Trump-GOP tax cuts for the wealthy are unfair and aren’t working, but also that raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations is good for the economy,” the group's executive director, Frank Clemente, said in a statement.

Vox: Bill de Blasio’s new plan to “tax the hell” out of rich people, explained

August 1, 2019, By Emily Stewart

De Blasio’s plan cites sources for his estimates on how much revenue each proposal would produce. And he really does seem to try to hit everything — he even proposes repealing the “pass-through” tax break, which under the Republican tax bill means that the income of pass-through entities — companies organized as sole proprietorships, partnerships, LLCs, or S corporations — is taxed at the lower 20 percent corporate rate instead of the individual income rate.

The progressive group **Americans for Tax Fairness** applauded de Blasio’s proposal and noted that some of the ideas he put forth reflect a report it put out in April. “Mayor de Blasio’s progressive tax-reform plan is a recognition not only that the Trump-GOP tax cuts for the wealthy are unfair and aren’t working, but also that raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations is good for the economy,” said Frank Clemente, executive director of the Americans for Tax Fairness Action Fund, in a statement.

The Hill: California governor signs bill requiring Trump release his tax returns to appear on ballot

July 30, 2019, By Chris Mills Rodrigo

In a statement, progressive group **Americans for Tax Fairness** praised the bill as a win for transparency and accountability.

“This bill was necessary because President Donald Trump has departed from over four decades of established political tradition, respected by both Democrats and Republicans alike, by refusing to release his income tax returns,” Executive Director Frank Clemente said in a statement. “He has denied voters the opportunity to fully evaluate his fitness for the office.”

CPA Practice Advisor Online: California Enacts Law Requiring 5 Years of Tax Returns for Presidential and Governor Candidates

July 30, 2019, By Staff

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said the bill is a step forward for transparency and openness in government, and the public’s right to know. He said he hopes other states will follow California’s lead and pass similar laws to require transparency from political candidates.

“This bill was necessary because President Donald Trump has departed from over four decades of established political tradition, respected by both Democrats and Republicans alike, by refusing to release his income tax returns,” Clemente said. “He has denied voters the opportunity to fully evaluate his fitness for the office.”

Sen. Jack Reed : Reed, Blumenthal & Doggett Renew Push to End Special Tax Exemptions for Huge Executive Bonuses

July 25, 2019, By Staff

While these were positive steps, more should have been done, such as applying section 162(m) to all employees of publicly traded corporations so that all compensation is subject to a deductibility cap of \$1 million.

Partially closing these 162(m) loopholes saved taxpayers \$9.2 billion according to the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT), but according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**: “Extending the \$1 million deductibility cap to all forms of compensation for all employees might generate about \$20 billion over 10 years. This is based on JCT’s original \$50 billion revenue estimate, discounted to \$30 billion because of the 40% corporate tax cut, and subtracting the \$9.2 billion already being raised by the TCJA’s partial reform.”

Common Dreams: What Is He Hiding? ATF Statement on Trump's Lawsuit Over His Tax Returns

July 23, 2019, By Dennis Bailey

WASHINGTON - Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, released the following statement today concerning the lawsuit filed by President Trump against the House Ways & Means Committee to prevent the release of his personal and business tax returns.

"President Trump is taking extraordinary legal measures to block Congress and the public from seeing his tax returns. Why? Why is he so afraid of the public learning the truth about his wealth and his finances? Every president for the past 40 years has voluntarily released their tax and financial information because they believed in honesty, transparency, and accountability. This president does not.

The American Prospect: Going Up in Economic Ratings? Then Lose Trickle-Down.

July 23, 2019, By Harold Meyerson

This month, CNBC came out with its annual list of America's Top States for Business, a ranking on which states don't move up or down very much from one year to the next. Which is why attention must be paid, as **Americans for Tax Fairness** has pointed out, to one massive exception to this rule. On this year's list, Kansas placed 19th—which is a full 16 places higher than it placed last year.

How to account for this Bob Beamon-esque leap? Simple: Kansas has finally rid itself of the ruinous trickle-down tax policies of its former governor, Republican Sam Brownback.

Financial Regulation News: Bill seeks to halt corporate inversions

July 23, 2019, By Douglas Clark

Under the bill's provision officials a combined foreign corporation would be treated as a domestic corporation under two circumstances – if shareholders of the former U.S. corporation own more than 50 percent of the new combined foreign corporation or if the affiliated group that includes the combined foreign corporation is managed and controlled in the United States and engages in significant domestic business activities in the United States.

The bill, which officials said is endorsed **Americans for Tax Fairness**, maintains the foreign substantial

business exception under Section 7874 by exempting the affiliated group if it has substantial business activities in the foreign country where the new combined corporation is incorporated.

Common Dreams: Presidential Candidates Update Tax Plans, Propose Tax Increases on Wealthy & Corporations

July 18, 2019, By Dennis Bailey

The ATFAF website that tracks the tax plans of 22 Democratic candidates now includes more proposals for higher individual and corporate tax rates, carbon taxes, a “war tax,” a pharmaceutical tax and more. A summary table of all candidates’ positions is here.

“It’s encouraging to not only see how candidates intend to address urgent needs facing this country but also how they intend to pay for their proposals, mostly by raising taxes on the wealthy and big corporations that benefited so greatly from the Trump-GOP tax cuts,” said Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness** Action Fund. “It shows that all the candidates are committed to a fairer, more equitable tax system that right now is rigged in favor of the rich and powerful.”

Dianne Feinstein : Feinstein, Durbin, Reed Introduce Bill to Stop Corporate Inversions

July 17, 2019, By Staff

The bill would maintain the foreign substantial business exception under Section 7874 by exempting the affiliated group if it has substantial business activities in the foreign country where the new combined corporation is incorporated. This legislation is endorsed by: **Americans for Tax Fairness**

SmartAsset (Blog): What is the “Death Tax” and How Does It Work?

July 15, 2019, By Dori Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won’t stand to ever pay an estate tax.

The Hill: 2020 Democrats push tax hike on wealthy investors

July 14, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

“I’m excited by this development,” said Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness** Action Fund. “Democratic candidates are recognizing how unfair it is that the richest Americans can pay a tax rate that’s half of what they should be paying.”

The interest from some Democratic presidential candidates in higher capital gains taxes is one of several ideas candidates have proposed to increase taxes on the wealthy. For example, several candidates have proposed increasing the estate tax, and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) has floated a wealth tax.

ZNet (Blog): Taxing the (Very) Rich

July 13, 2019, By Chuck Collins

Syndicated from Inequality.org

Veteran tax fairness organizer Frank Clemente, director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, talks about the need to make the tax system fair and raise \$10 trillion in revenue over the next ten years to build infrastructure and reduce student debt. AFT has put out a report, “Fair Taxes Now: Revenue Options for a Fair Tax System.”

Dorian Warren, executive director of Community Change, talked about power, race, and strategy to win a different tax agenda. Policy is a form of “power frozen in time.” Warren explores why in a democracy that low-income people don’t vote to redistribute tax obligations.

Resilience (Blog): Taxing the (Very) Rich: An Idea Whose Time Has Come

July 9, 2019, By Chuck Collins

Syndicated from Inequality.org

Veteran tax fairness organizer Frank Clemente, director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, talks about the need to make the tax system fair and raise \$10 trillion in revenue over the next ten years to build infrastructure and reduce student debt. AFT has put out a report, “Fair Taxes Now: Revenue Options for a Fair Tax System.”

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Inequality.org (Blog): [Taxing the \(Very\) Rich: An Idea Whose Time Has Come](#)

July 8, 2019, By Chuck Collins
Syndicated from Inequality.org

Veteran tax fairness organizer Frank Clemente, director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, talks about the need to make the tax system fair and raise \$10 trillion in revenue over the next ten years to build infrastructure and reduce student debt. AFT has put out a report, "Fair Taxes Now: Revenue Options for a Fair Tax System."

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Institute for Policy Studies (Blog): [Taxing the \(Very\) Rich: An Idea Whose Time Has Come](#)

July 8, 2019, By Chuck Collins

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Common Dreams : [Any Further Delay Is an Injustice': Given Green Light by Cuomo, Rep. Richard Neal Urged to Request Trump's New York Tax Returns Immediately](#)

July 8, 2019, By Jake Johnson

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said in a statement welcoming Cuomo's signature Monday that the American public deserves to know "if our elected officials, including the president, have financial conflicts that that in any way affects their decisions and policies."

"We need to know if they have business relationships with foreign nations that are adversely affecting their exercise of official duties," said Clemente. "And we need to know if our elected officials, especially

real estate developers like President Trump, are paying their fair share of taxes to the government they seek to lead, or using loopholes and unfair tax breaks to escape their obligations."

Common Dreams : Gov. Cuomo's Signature On Trust Act Is 'Victory for Public's Right To Know'

July 8, 2019, By **Americans for Tax Fairness**

WASHINGTON - Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, released the following statement on New York Gov. Cuomo's signing today of the TRUST ACT, which authorizes state officials to share tax return information of elected officials upon a request from Congressional Committees:

"Today's action by Gov. Cuomo is a victory for the public's right to know. We were happy to support this initiative because the TRUST ACT will strengthen the oversight responsibilities of Congress by giving it access to President Trump's state tax information. Congress and the public deserve to know the truth. We deserve to know if our elected officials, including the President, have financial conflicts that in any way affects their decisions and policies. We need to know if they have business relationships with foreign nations that are adversely affecting their exercise of official duties. And we need to know if our elected officials, especially real estate developers like President Trump, are paying their fair share of taxes to the government they seek to lead, or using loopholes and unfair tax breaks to escape their obligations."

Equities.com (Article) : Americans for Tax Fairness Issues Statement on Lawsuit for President Trump's Tax Returns

July 7, 2019, By Staff

WASHINGTON, July 2 -- **Americans for Tax Fairness** issued the following statement by Executive Director Frank Clemente on the decision by Rep. Richard Neal, chairman of House Ways and Means Committee, to file a lawsuit to ask the Treasury Department to furnish President Trump's personal and business tax returns for the last six years:

"It's unfortunate that the committee has to resort to court action to compel the president to do what every past president for 40 years has done voluntarily."

TaxProf Blog (Blog): Tax Policy In The Trump Administration

July 5, 2019, By Paul Caron

Americans for Tax Fairness, Unions, Policy Groups Urge Congress to Investigate Failed Promises of Trump-GOP Tax Cuts

Citizen Truth : House Sues Treasury Department For Trump Tax Returns

July 4, 2019, By Peter Castagno

Americans for Tax Fairness, a campaign that includes more than 425 national, state, and local organizations, claims that citizens deserve transparency on private financial interests that could compromise the public interest.

“The public deserves to know if the president is a serial tax dodger (as we suspect), has compromising financial relationships with public officials or business people in Russia or other foreign countries, or has any other conflicts of interest that could adversely affect the exercise of his official duties, such as legislation he wants Congress to enact into law,” said **Americans for Tax Fairness** in a statement.

Greater Diversity News Online: After Months of Delay, House Democrats Sue for Trump Tax Returns

July 4, 2019, By Jake Johnson

Syndicated from Common Dreams

In a statement on Tuesday, Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said it is “unfortunate that the committee has to resort to court action to compel the president to do what every past president for 40 years has done voluntarily.”

“The public deserves to know if the president is a serial tax dodger (as we suspect), has compromising financial relationships with public officials or business people in Russia or other foreign countries, or has any other conflicts of interest that could adversely affect the exercise of his official duties, such as legislation he wants Congress to enact into law,” Clemente said.

Politico : Lawsuit Time

July 3, 2019, By Bernie Becker

“The proposed rules squandered the potential of the program with a mountain of tax loopholes that allow investors to reap the tax benefits for investments outside the designated Opportunity Zones,” the groups, including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and the National Consumer Law Center, said in a release.

The coalition added that the proposed regulations aggravate “other structural flaws in the program.”

TELL US MORE: Taxes weren't exactly center stage in last week's Democratic presidential debates. But a lot of voters wanted to hear more about one aspect of tax policy in particular. In a new POLITICO/Morning Tax poll, 40 percent of respondents said the candidates didn't devote enough discussion to raising taxes on the wealthy. That compares to 27 percent who said the subject received the right amount of attention and 22 percent who said it got too much. The rest were undecided or offered no opinion.

Common Dreams: Finally': After Months of Delay, House Democrats Sue for Trump Tax Returns

July 2, 2019, By Jake Johnson

In a statement on Tuesday, Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said it is "unfortunate that the committee has to resort to court action to compel the president to do what every past president for 40 years has done voluntarily."

"The public deserves to know if the president is a serial tax dodger (as we suspect), has compromising financial relationships with public officials or business people in Russia or other foreign countries, or has any other conflicts of interest that could adversely affect the exercise of his official duties, such as legislation he wants Congress to enact into law," Clemente said.

Common Dreams (Article): ATF Statement on Lawsuit for Trump's Tax Returns

July 2, 2019, By Americans For Tax Fairness

WASHINGTON - Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, released the following statement today on the decision by House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal to file a lawsuit to compel the Treasury Department to furnish Donald Trump's personal and business tax returns for the last six years.

“It's unfortunate that the committee has to resort to court action to compel the president to do what every past president for 40 years has done voluntarily. As we pointed out in our report *The Case for Congress Obtaining Trump's Tax Returns*, which the Ways and Means Committee complaint cited (Pg. 25), the public deserves to know if the president is a serial tax dodger (as we suspect), has compromising financial relationships with public officials or business people in Russia or other foreign countries, or has any other conflicts of interest that could adversely affect the exercise of his official duties, such as legislation he wants Congress to enact into law.

TaxProf Blog (Blog): [New Website Tracks Tax Plans of Democratic Presidential Candidates](#)

July 2, 2019, By Paul Caron

As the first Democratic presidential debates get underway this week, **Americans for Tax Fairness** Action Fund today launched a website detailing the tax plans or proposals of each candidate. Wealth taxes, higher capital gains taxes, stronger estate taxes, higher corporate tax rates, financial transaction and carbon taxes, and EITC and Child Tax Credit expansions are among the reforms detailed on the website, broken down by candidate and type of tax.

A one-page summary of the candidates' major positions is available [here](#).

Lipstick Alley (Blog): [The Billionaires Club puts 2020 Dems on notice: Impose a wealth tax now!](#)

June 26, 2019, By Jessica Corbett

Syndicated from Common Dreams

The letter came as **Americans for Tax Fairness** Action Fund on Monday launched a website detailing the tax proposals of each Democratic presidential candidate.

"It's surprising that this early in the 2020 race tax policy is emerging as a key issue and a defining one for Democrats," the group's executive director, Frank Clemente, said in a statement. "The utter failure of the Trump-GOP tax cuts to live up to the promises of more jobs and higher wages has given the candidates an opening to propose major tax increases as part of their campaign platforms. Virtually all candidates are saying they want to repeal or significantly roll back the Trump-GOP tax cuts."

Business News Press (Blog): [The Billionaires Club puts 2020 Dems on notice: Impose a wealth tax now!](#)

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Wonkette (Blog): [Chuck Grassley Here To Unskew The Economy](#)

June 25, 2019, By Marty Kelley

So were the data, from **Americans for Tax Fairness**, incorrect or faulty? The staffers couldn't actually point to any factual problems with the numbers, so instead they went for very concerned handwaving.

Our examination of the data, using the source specified in the CRS paper, shows spreadsheets filled with broken "source" links, along with inclusion of "corporate cheapskates spreadsheets." Presumably, CRS has verified the data for accuracy from ATF data, though we are not confident that is true.

Salon: [Impose a wealth tax now!](#)

June 25, 2019, By Jessica Corbett
Syndicated from Common Dreams

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CommonDreams.org: [Billionaires to 2020 Presidential Hopefuls: 'America Has a Moral, Ethical, and Economic Responsibility to Tax Our Wealth More'](#)

June 25, 2019, By Jessica Corbett

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AlterNet Online: These billionaires are begging for the U.S. government to raise their taxes

June 25, 2019, By Jessica Corbett
Syndicated from Common Dreams

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RSN: Bosses Pocket Trump Tax Windfall as Workers See Job Promises Vanish

June 17, 2019, By Michael Sainato
Syndicated from The Guardian

"The evidence continues to mount that the Trump-GOP tax cuts were a scam, a giant bait-and-switch that promised workers big pay raises, a lot more jobs and new investments, but they largely enriched CEOs and the already wealthy," said Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

He noted only 4% of the US workforce saw any sort of pay increase or bonus from the tax cuts. Meanwhile, data collected by ATF shows corporations have cut thousands of jobs since the tax cuts were passed, while using tax windfalls to buy back \$1tn of their own stock, which primarily benefits corporate executives and wealthy investors since half of all Americans own no stock.

CleanTechnica (Blog): Remember That Big Republican Tax Cut? Turns Out Corporations Got The Gold Mine. You Got The Shaft.

June 17, 2019, By Steve Hanley

So, there you have it, folks. As Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, puts it, “The evidence continues to mount that the Trump-GOP tax cuts were a scam, a giant bait-and-switch that promised workers big pay raises, a lot more jobs and new investments, but they largely enriched CEOs and the already wealthy.”

He adds that only 4% of US workers saw any sort of pay increase or bonus from the tax cuts. Meanwhile, data collected by his organization shows corporations have cut thousands of jobs since the tax cuts were passed and used tax windfalls to buy back \$1 trillion of their own stock for the benefit of corporate executives and wealthy investors.

Marketscreener.com (Blog): AT&T : Bosses pocket Trump tax windfall as workers see job promises vanish

June 16, 2019, By Michael Sainato
Syndicated from The Guardian

“The evidence continues to mount that the Trump-GOP tax cuts were a scam, a giant bait-and-switch that promised workers big pay raises, a lot more jobs and new investments, but they largely enriched CEOs and the already wealthy,” said Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

He noted only 4% of the US workforce saw any sort of pay increase or bonus from the tax cuts. Meanwhile, data collected by ATF shows corporations have cut thousands of jobs since the tax cuts were passed, while using tax windfalls to buy back \$1tn of their own stock, which primarily benefits corporate executives and wealthy investors since half of all Americans own no stock.

Duck Soup (Blog): Tax Cut Windfall

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Syndicated from The Guardian

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Equities.com (Blog): Workers see job promises vanish as bosses pocket Trump tax windfall

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Marketscreener.com (Blog): AT&T : Workers see job promises vanish as bosses pocket Trump tax windfall

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ExecReview (Blog): Workers see job promises vanish as bosses pocket Trump tax windfall

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The Guardian: Bosses pocket Trump tax windfall as workers see job promises vanish

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New Media and Marketing (Blog): The economy is leaving a lot of consumers behind

June 16, 2019, By Richard Meyer

Syndicated from The Guardian

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Economic Policy Institute (Blog): The next recession will create an opportunity to redefine the government's role in the economy: Lessons from healthcare organizing

June 12, 2019, By Margarida Jorge

A key contributor to our success was the capacity to trumpet a “connect the dots” narrative that helped

voters understand the relationship between tax breaks for the rich and corporations and cuts to healthcare they count on. Polling from **Americans for Tax Fairness** showed that talking about taxes and healthcare together in a way that connects the dots for voters helped increase support for progressives while at the same time animating voters against Trump's tax giveaway to the rich.

The legislation narrowly passed, giving nearly \$2 trillion in tax breaks to the rich and corporations while making cuts and changes to the Affordable Care Act that will result in higher premiums and losses of healthcare coverage. Despite legislative success, the Republicans lost the political narrative. Persistent and ongoing efforts to expose the real impact of the Trump tax law have made it one of the most unpopular measures ever passed and transformed Trump's signature achievement into a moot political victory.

The Hill: Liberal group launching bus tour to push for increasing taxes on the rich

June 11, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

Several prominent Democrats, including 2020 presidential candidates, have been floating ways to increase taxes on the rich in recent months, including through wealth taxes, expanding the estate tax and rolling back the GOP tax law.

Tax March earlier this year launched a seven-figure campaign to push for raising taxes on the wealthy and corporations, partnering with other organizations including **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the Patriotic Millionaires and Public Citizen.

OpEdNews.com (Op-Ed): 15 Proposals that Could Make Our Nation and the World a Better Place

June 5, 2019, By Roger Copple

The current corporate tax rate has fallen from 35% to 21% in a flat tax system, but large corporations, especially transnational corporations, should pay a much higher percentage of taxes than smaller companies. We can implement some of the corporate tax recommendations of the organization called **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

6. Phase out the use of fossil fuels in 10 years. Implement the Ecological Sustainability goals of the Green Party, including zero waste policies to the maximum degree possible. However, some Left Greens argue that current Green New Deal proposals are not going far enough to reduce massive growth and neoliberalism.

Yahoo News: Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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 by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a coalition of national and state progressive groups, published in 2014.

"The taxpayers of this country – the working class, middle class – shouldn't have to be subsidizing the wealthiest family in this country," Sanders said.

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Fresh-news-now (Blog): Bernie Sanders says it's 'absurd' Walmart, with a founding family worth billions, won't raise minimum wage

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USA online news (Blog): Bernie Sanders says it's 'absurd' Walmart, with a founding family worth billions, won't raise minimum wage

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Daily World Online (Blog): Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family

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Hello News Online (Blog): Bernie Sanders calls Walmart minimum wage 'grotesque' and 'absurd'

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Daily Magazine: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family

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The Hill: Progressive groups, tax experts warn against 'free file' legislation

June 4, 2019, By Niv Elis

"We have long-standing, serious concerns about Free File," said the letter, which was signed by groups including The Center for American Progress, Public Citizen and **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

"We urge you to ensure that pending tax administration legislation does not lock the IRS into the existing Free File arrangement or prevent it from pursuing options that could provide low- and moderate-income taxpayers with better free tax preparation and filing services and alternatives, including return-free filing," it continued.

USA Today: Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family

June 4, 2019, By Aamer Madhani

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Verdict Medical Device: US medical device tax: should it be gone for good?

May 30, 2019, By Chloe Kent

However, **Americans for Tax Fairness** (ATF), a non-profit campaign lobbying for comprehensive, progressive tax reform, has questioned the legitimacy of these claims.

A report from the Congressional Research Service in 2015 stated that the tax is unlikely to have a significant impact on the profits of medical device companies, estimating that it reduced industry output and employment by no more than 0.2%. The report, published before the aforementioned corporate tax cuts, actually states that job loss resulting from the tax “is more likely to be in the range of negligible, or zero”.

Yahoo Finance: Your paltry savings from the Trump tax cuts

May 29, 2019, By Rick Newman

Wages have picked up in 2019, but there’s still little evidence companies are passing tax savings along to their employees. About 1,900 companies announced one-time bonuses related to the tax cuts last year, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**. In total, they committed about \$4.4 billion to bonuses for about 5.4 million workers, or about \$815 per worker. That’s real money, but not enough to change the picture nationally. When averaged across the entire U.S. workforce, the bonuses were only \$28. One-time bonuses can even work against workers if they come in lieu of annual raises, since they don’t boost base pay or compound future earnings.

SmartComment Software (Blog): The Infrastructure Impasse

May 28, 2019, By Staff

“If major tax increases are off the table, there is no way to pay for a \$2 trillion infrastructure plan, it’s that simple,” said Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness** (ATF). “Other options, such as raising the gas tax, might be part of the package, but by themselves won’t come close to reaching the \$2 trillion that’s needed.”

Financial Advisor: Do Wealthy Clients Want To Pay More Taxes?

May 28, 2019, By Jeff Stimpson

With an eye to leveling the field, **Americans for Tax Fairness** has suggested taxing income from investments similarly to how work income is taxed and capping deductions at 28 percent for the wealthiest Americans.

“Most HNW people understand the political realities of what I call the ‘Warren Buffett Conundrum,’ where investment earnings are regularly taxed at substantially lower rates than earned income. Even Warren Buffett, however, doesn’t appear to be a taxpaying volunteer. Easy to promote a concept of fairness and more difficult to practice. Even my most wealthy customers desire to harvest the most of what they make,” Morris said.

Nasty Jack Progressive Political Digest (Blog): Corporate income tax dodgers

May 24, 2019, By Staff

Here's a fact: "Corporations are paying a smaller share of federal tax revenue than they did in the 1950s, dropping from one-third then to only one-tenth of the total today." Here's more from **Americans for Tax Fairness**... "Yet, an army of lobbyists is pushing hard to convince Congress to cut the corporate income tax rate by nearly one-third — from the current 35% to 25%. This issue is at the epicenter of the coming battle over tax reform."

MSN.com: More Americans believe it’s OK to cheat on your taxes, according to IRS poll

May 22, 2019, By Andrew Keshner

Syndicated from MarketWatch

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a campaign made up of more than 400 organizations advocating progressive tax reform, said the three point shift was noteworthy.

The IRS report arrives as many Americans are just getting past a turbulent tax season under a seriously revamped tax code, and as President Donald Trump is embroiled in his own battle with Congressional Democrats who want him to release copies of his tax returns from 2013 to 2018.

Global Financial Market Review: TaxWatch: More Americans Believe Its OK To Cheat On Your Taxes, According To IRS Poll

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MarketWatch: More Americans Think It's OK to Cheat on Their Taxes, the IRS Says

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Common Dreams: To 'Circumvent' White House Obstruction, New York Passes Bill to Give Congress Access to Trump Tax Returns

May 22, 2019, By Jake Johnson

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, applauded New York state lawmakers for doing "the right thing by strengthening the oversight responsibilities of Congress and standing up for the public's right to know."

"The TRUST Act is aimed at a president who is not open or transparent with voters, who continues to flout the law, and broke 40 years of precedent by becoming the only president to keep his tax information secret," Clemente said in a statement. "Congress and the public deserve to know if their elected officials, including the president, have financial conflicts that that in any way affects their decisions and policies."

Solo News (Blog): NY passes bill to let Congress see Trump's state tax returns

May 22, 2019, By Loredana Fabrizio

Syndicated from USA Today

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, applauded NY state lawmakers for doing "the right thing by strengthening the oversight responsibilities of Congress and standing up for the public's right to know".

Democratic Rep. Lloyd Doggett of Texas said Tuesday that Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig should be jailed or fined for resisting congressional subpoenas for President Trump's tax returns.

Common Dreams: [ATF Hails Passage of TRUST Act by New York Assembly](#)

May 22, 2019, By Staff

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, released the following statement on passage today by the New York Assembly of the TRUST Act, which authorizes state officials to share tax return information of elected officials upon a request from Congressional Committees:

MarketWatch: [Get infrastructure money from corporations, columnist says | Officers object to Trump plan to pardon troops accused of war crimes](#)

May 22, 2019, By Victor Reklaitis

Get infrastructure money from corporations, columnist says: The wealthy and big corporations, which received hefty tax breaks in 2017 and are prime beneficiaries of a strong infrastructure system, need to contribute significantly to the potential infrastructure overhaul, says Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, in a USA Today op-ed.

Raising the federal gas tax could help with funding, but it's a diminishing resource because of the growing use of electric vehicles, writes Clemente, who represents a coalition of left-leaning groups. His organization backs approaches such as a tax on Wall Street trades and a surtax on super high incomes.

MorningStar: [Get infrastructure money from corporations, columnist says | Officers object to Trump plan to pardon troops accused of war crimes](#)

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Law360: Sen. Sanders Proposes Transaction Tax On Wall Street Trades

May 22, 2019, By Dylan Moroses

Lawmakers were joined by labor unions like the Communications Workers of America and progressive think tanks in their support for the bill. Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said in a statement that the bill would “make wealthy investors pay a fairer share of taxes.”

“It would raise up to \$2 trillion, which is desperately needed to protect Medicare and Medicaid and invest in education, housing, infrastructure and a green energy economy,” Clemente said.

Nation of Change (Op-Ed): Trump's infrastructure plan not possible without major tax increases

May 21, 2019, By Americans For Tax Fairness

A \$2 trillion plan to rebuild the nation's crumbling infrastructure and create millions of good-paying jobs cannot be funded without a major increase in taxes, according to Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

As Congressional Democrats prepare to meet with Trump on Wednesday to hear details of his proposal to pay for the \$2 trillion infrastructure outlay they agreed to earlier this month, Clemente said any plan that does not include the revenue needed to pay for it will be meaningless and doomed to failure.

MorningStar: More Americans believe it's OK to cheat on your taxes, according to IRS poll

May 21, 2019, By Andrew Keshner

Syndicated from MarketWatch

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Tech2.org (Blog): More Americans believe it's OK to cheat on your taxes, according to IRS poll

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Good to SEO (Op-Ed): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from USA Today

In a city polarized by political differences, there is amazing unanimity in Washington over the sad state of the nation's infrastructure and the urgent need to address it. The question is how to pay for it.

The American Society of Civil Engineers gives U.S. infrastructure a barely passing grade of D+. The group estimates it will take \$2 trillion on top of current levels of spending to bring it all up to snuff.

USA Today (Op-Ed): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich

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Cheddar (Blog): New York Closing in on Trump's State Tax Returns

May 21, 2019, By Spencer Feingold

The bill also enjoys support from a coalition of progressive groups — including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Citizen Action of New York — which sent a letter to the state assembly speaker urging the passage of the bill.

The TRUST Act will "not only allow Congress to investigate President Trump and his various financial entanglements, but would also allow the American people to hold him accountable for his deeply troubling conflicts of interests," the group's letter read.

In Saner Thoughts (Blog): It's Infrastructure Stupid

May 21, 2019, By Staff

With President Donald Trump and Democratic leaders set to meet Wednesday to discuss a possible \$2 trillion infrastructure package, a progressive advocacy group on Monday warned that any proposal that doesn't include significant tax hikes on the rich and corporations "will be meaningless and doomed to failure."

"If major tax increases are off the table, there is no way to pay for a \$2 trillion infrastructure plan, it's that simple," Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness** (ATF), said in a statement. "Other options, such as raising the gas tax, might be part of the package, but by themselves won't come close to reaching the \$2 trillion that's needed."

Common Dreams: Without Tax Hikes on Corporations and the Rich, Critics Warn, \$2 Trillion Infrastructure Plan 'Another Empty Promise' From Trump

May 20, 2019, By Jake Johnson

"If major tax increases are off the table, there is no way to pay for a \$2 trillion infrastructure plan, it's that simple," Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness** (ATF), said in a statement. "Other options, such as raising the gas tax, might be part of the package, but by themselves won't come close to reaching the \$2 trillion that's needed."

During his scheduled meeting with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), Trump is expected to unveil a plan to fund an infrastructure package.

Accounting Today: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others

May 20, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg News

"This bill is a critical piece of legislation that would not only allow Congress to investigate President Trump and his various financial entanglements, but would also allow the American people to hold him accountable for his deeply troubling conflicts of interests," a series of progressive groups, including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Stand Up America, said in a letter to New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie.

The fight over Trump's tax returns is an unusual case since for four decades, presidential candidates have released their tax returns. But now that Trump hasn't, the need to use these provisions to disclose presidential candidates tax information involuntarily could become more prevalent.

Bloomberg News: New York Bill May Give Access to Trump's Tax Returns—and Open the Door to Target Others

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Common Dreams: Trump's Infrastructure Plan Not Possible Without Major Tax Increases

May 20, 2019, By Staff

"None of these objections were raised by Republicans when they passed their tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations that weren't paid for and added nearly \$2 trillion to the debt," Clemente said. "They continue to insist that the tax cuts will pay for themselves, but that won't happen."

Clemente said that if Congress doesn't want to roll back or repeal the TCJA, there are numerous other ways to close loopholes and end special tax breaks for the wealthy and corporations that pre-date the TCJA. A recent report by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Fair Taxes Now identified around 40 options that would raise trillions of dollars and include:

Accounting Today: The Tech Take Intuit grows more defensive

May 17, 2019, By Ranica Arrowsmith

Over the years, a version of tax simplification has been endorsed by tax scholars and a bipartisan set of policymakers. The bill is endorsed by the National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients), the Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Economic Security Project Action, the Hispanic Federation, Americans for Financial Reform, and Public Citizen.

"Millions of Americans each year who are eligible for cash refunds like the Earned Income Tax Credit don't claim them — either because tax filing is too complicated, or they don't know they're eligible," said Adam Ruben, director of Economic Security Project Action, in a statement. "This creates a system where only the wealthiest Americans can afford to take advantage of the tax breaks and deductions available to them. Senator Warren's Tax Filing Simplification Act is a commonsense improvement that would make tax filing easier and more fair, and mean millions more hardworking Americans will get the refunds like the EITC they're entitled to."

Common Dreams: 15 Progressive Groups Send Letter to NYS Assembly Speaker Heastie Urging Passage of TRUST Act to Get Trump's Tax Returns

May 16, 2019, By Staff

Co-Signed By The Following Organizations: 32BJ SEIU **Americans for Tax Fairness** Citizen Action of New York Common Cause New York CREDO Empire State Indivisible Equal Justice Society Persist NY Public Citizen Rise and Resist Rockland United Strong Economy for All Coalition Tax March Working Families Party.

The Hill: Progressive groups urge New York assembly to pass bill concerning Trump's state tax returns

May 16, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

Groups that signed the letter include Stand Up America, **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Public Citizen.

Under the legislation, known as the TRUST Act, the chairmen of Congress's tax committees would be able to request anyone's state tax returns from the New York commissioner of taxation and finance, so long as the request has a legitimate legislative purpose and the Congress is requesting related federal tax returns from the Treasury Department.

Bloomberg News: New York Is Offering Trump's Taxes But Democrats May Not Bite

May 14, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg News

“The game here is complicated,” Frank Clemente, the executive director for the progressive **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said. “The chairman is smart to stay the steady course with his narrowly tailored purpose.”

Neal’s refusal to engage with New York on the state returns would also set up a debate between Neal and progressives who are already frustrated with him for waiting several months after Democrats won control of the House to make his first request for the tax documents. Neal’s reluctance to access the New York returns will open him up to even more criticism.

CNN: How the GOP dossier chase may help Democrats get Trump's tax records

May 13, 2019, By Katelyn Polantz

In the end, Congress will almost certainly get President Donald Trump's financial records -- and Republican efforts to investigate the Christopher Steele dossier could be one reason why.

Trump has asked the courts to stop the records from getting to the Democratic-held House of Representatives. Yet one past court case that could hurt his arguments was, ironically, the case that hurt the Democrats in the last two years.

Bloomberg News: Tax the Rich and More: A Guide to Potential Democratic Plans

May 10, 2019, By Laura Davison

Democratic presidential hopefuls are talking a big game about taxing the rich to pay for social programs.

Some ideas they’ve proposed so far—such as Senator Bernie Sanders’s plan to expand the estate tax, Senator Elizabeth Warren’s idea to impose an annual wealth tax on millionaires, or Senator Kamala Harris’s intention to repeal the Republican tax cuts—would raise some new tax revenue that Democrats would need to expand the social safety net. But Democrats will need trillions more to pay for key portions of some of the favored policy promises, including universal health care or free college tuition.

Newsweek: Donald Trump Says Gaming Tax System Was ‘sport’ While He Admonishes Poor Americans For Using Welfare

May 8, 2019, By Nicole Goodkind

But the president's \$1.5 trillion tax plan gave the top 1 percent of Americans about 21 percent of the tax cuts. By 2027, over 80 percent of tax cuts will flow to the top 1 percent.

The tax plan also cut corporate rates from 35 percent to 21 percent. In the plan's first year, the number of U.S. companies paying no taxes at all doubled. Yet corporations received 11 times as much in tax cuts as they gave to their employees in one-time bonuses and wage hikes, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

The Hill: Liberal group urges passage of New York bill allowing Congress access to Trump's state tax returns

May 7, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

Other organizations are also partnering with Stand Up America on the effort, including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Public Citizen.

Under the bill, known as the TRUST Act, the chairmen of Congress's tax-writing committees would be able to request New York state tax returns from the state's department of taxation and finance, so long as the request has a legitimate legislative purpose and lawmakers have requested related federal tax returns from the U.S. Treasury Department.

Raw Story: Conservative Ben Stein gets lunch eaten by Barney Frank for calling Trump's economy ‘magic’

May 5, 2019, By Sarah Burriss

Trump inherited a booming economy with all trends heading upward. Trump has managed to stay the course and hasn't messed things up because he hasn't been able to pass any meaningful legislation except the GOP tax cut. That gave a huge jolt to companies and the stock markets, but not to Americans. Workers were given a two cent raise on average after the GOP tax cut bill, 2018 data revealed.

The most recent data revealed far worse numbers. Out of all Fortune 500 companies, only 4.3 percent of workers received or will receive a one-time bonus or wage increase as a result of the GOP's tax cuts. Most businesses spent their GOP tax cuts on stock buybacks, **Americans for Tax Fairness** said in an analysis.

Common Dreams (Op-Ed): Where the Money Is

May 1, 2019, By Jim Hightower
Syndicated from Creators

According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, hundreds of TCJA’s corporate backers are already making a killing. In just the first three quarters of 2018, big business quietly pocketed stunning tax savings they would have – and should have – paid to support America’s public needs:

Creative (Op-Ed): Where the Money Is

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Newswire: Biden, Beto Join Call To Reverse Trump-Gop Tax Cuts For Wealthy, Corporations

May 1, 2019, By Dennis Bailey

Americans for Tax Fairness issued the following news release:

In statements Monday, Democratic presidential candidates Joe Biden and Beto O'Rourke separately urged rejection of the Trump-GOP tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations, a position that helped spur Democratic victories in the mid-term elections for the House of Representatives.

The Hightower Lowdown (Op-Ed): Tax Dodgers Incorporated

April 25, 2019, By Jim Hightower

“FACT SHEET: CORPORATE TAX RATES,” **Americans for Tax Fairness**

TaxProf Blog (Blog): Revenue Options For A Fair Tax System

April 17, 2019, By Paul Caron

Americans for Tax Fairness today released a 70-page report detailing about 40 progressive tax reform and revenue options that would make the tax system much fairer and could raise trillions of dollars for critical needs like protecting and strengthening Medicare and Medicaid, investing in education, expanding affordable housing, rebuilding roads and bridges, protecting the environment and more.

The report, *Fair Taxes Now: Revenue Options for a Fair Tax System*, identifies for the first time the tax breaks for the wealthy and corporations included in the Trump-GOP 2017 tax law that should be amended or repealed. It also offers answers to the question being asked of Democratic presidential candidates and members of Congress proposing bold new policy initiatives: how to pay for them?

PoliticusUSA: 96% of Workers Didn't Get A Pay Raise From Trump's Tax Cuts

April 17, 2019, By Jason Easley

The problem is that there are 157 million workers in the workforce. The White House's own numbers mean that less than four percent of US workers saw a pay raise from the tax cuts.

"Either President Trump and his people don't understand math, or they don't think anyone else does," said Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. "He's bragging that just 4% of workers got a pay raise from his tax cuts after promising corporations would give a \$4,000 raise to every American family. Maybe he thought no one would notice, but polling shows the American people certainly notice that his tax cuts for the wealthy and big corporations left them out."

AlterNet: 'No evidence' Trump tax cuts are trickling down to workers

April 16, 2019, By Jake Johnson
Syndicated from Common Dreams

"Trump promised that corporations would use their tax cuts to give working families a \$4,000 pay raise. It's Tax Day 2019... Did you get that \$4,000?"

—**Americans for Tax Fairness**

Raw Story: 'No evidence' Trump tax cuts are trickling down to workers

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“Trump promised that corporations would use their tax cuts to give working families a \$4,000 pay raise. It’s Tax Day 2019... Did you get that \$4,000?”

—**Americans for Tax Fairness**

Politico: [Mark your calendars](#)

April 16, 2019, By Brian Faler

Rep. Pramila Jayapal has some ideas on how to raise taxes on the rich. So does **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

Washington Examiner: [Trump bill benefits ‘most US taxpayers,’ CNN host says](#)

April 15, 2019, By John Gage

Greg Sargent, an opinion writer for the Washington Post, called the bill a “giveaway to the rich” just days before it became law.

Frank Clemente, the executive director for **Americans for Tax Fairness**, called the plan a “desperate” and “skewed-to-the-rich.”

Truth Out (Op-Ed): [Who Really Got a Tax Cut This Year? Corporations and the Wealthy.](#)

April 15, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What’s in your return?

According to a new poll, only 17 percent of Americans say they’re paying less in taxes this year, despite the GOP’s promises that the huge tax cuts they passed were for the middle class. Tax returns due April 15 are the first to be filed under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which passed Congress and was signed by President Trump about 16 months ago.

It was their signature achievement, a tax cut package costing nearly \$2 trillion that was supposed to rev up the economy, produce jobs and investment, and give every family a \$4,000 raise.

Common Dreams: On Tax Day, Still 'No Evidence' Trump Tax Cuts Are Trickling Down to Workers

April 15, 2019, By Jake Johnson

Wall Street banks, pharmaceutical companies, and corporate CEOs have a lot to celebrate on Tax Day thanks to President Donald Trump and the Republican Party.

The vast majority of workers, not so much.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, most U.S. workers have seen little to no benefit from the GOP's \$1.5 trillion Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA).

truthdig (Op-Ed): The Tax System Works Against Us All

April 14, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from OtherWords

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Associated Press (Op-Ed): Tax Day 2019 finds a tax system skewed to the rich and powerful

April 13, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Tax Day, when we settle our personal accounts with Uncle Sam, is also a good day to take account of our tax system overall. That's especially true this year, when the first tax returns prepared under the new rules of the Trump-GOP tax law are due. We should be asking whether our system is fair, whether it raises the revenue we need, whether it promotes economic growth and equality.

The answer to all three questions is, unfortunately, no. The tax code, already full of loopholes for the wealthy and corporations, was laden with even more by the new tax law. That law will also add nearly \$2 trillion to the national debt, endangering services like Medicare, Medicaid and education, as well as vital new initiatives like lowering healthcare costs and improving road and bridges.

PoliticusUSA: Americans Will Take To The Streets With Rally Demanding Trump's Tax Returns On Tax Day

April 12, 2019, By Jason Easley

Americans for Tax Fairness, Tax March, Patriotic Millionaires, Public Citizen, People for the American Way and the Center for American Progress Action Fund will join with other groups at the rally to demand that the IRS comply with federal law and provide six years of Trump's tax returns as requested by House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal.

Under 26 U.S. Code § 6103(f), the committee chair has the authority to request the tax returns of any taxpayer. The law states that, upon receipt of such a request, the Treasury Secretary "shall furnish" the returns to the committee. The IRS has always complied with a tax return request from Congress. Mnuchin announced on Wednesday that he would not meet the April 10 deadline to comply with Neal's request.

CounterPunch (Op-Ed): So Who Really Gets a Tax Cut This Year?

April 12, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from Otherwords

Tax Day is here. What's in your return?

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Inequality.org (Op-Ed): So Who Really Got a Tax Cut This Year?

April 11, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What's in your return?

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Axis of Logic (Blog): Tax the Rich. It's Just That Simple!

April 10, 2019, By Jake Johnson
Syndicated from Common Dreams

"This important poll provides a detailed look at how voters feel about taxes and the overwhelming message is that they want the wealthy and corporations to pay their fair share," Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said in a statement.

"If we are ever going to address our important national priorities, including healthcare, infrastructure, education, and climate change, we must raise trillions of new tax dollars from the well off and implement a tax system that works for everyone," Clemente added. "That starts by repealing the Trump-GOP tax cuts for the rich and corporations."

OtherWords (Op-Ed): So Who Really Got A Tax Cut This Year?

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Common Dreams (Op-Ed): Tax Day 2019 Finds A Tax System Skewed to the Rich and Powerful

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Common Dreams: Tax the Rich. It's Just That Simple': US Campaign Aims to Make Wealthy Pay Their Fair Share

April 3, 2019, By Jake Johnson

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Common Dreams: Tax March Launches New Seven-Figure "Tax the Rich" Campaign

April 3, 2019, By Ryan Thomas

"This important poll provides a detailed look at how voters feel about taxes and the overwhelming message is that they want the wealthy and corporations to pay their fair share," said Frank Clemente, Executive Director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, on the poll released today. "If we are ever going to address our important national priorities, including health care, infrastructure, education, and climate change, we must raise trillions of new tax dollars from the well off and implement a tax system that works for everyone. That starts by repealing the Trump-GOP tax cuts for the rich and corporations."

“Political corruption has led to tax giveaways for big corporations and the top 1 percent for decades, instead of investing in the increasingly urgent needs of the American people. It’s resulted in an economy where working people and families get left behind, while the gains go to corporate profits and Wall Street,” said Seth Hanlon, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress. “The first step in correcting this so we can leave the next generation better off is to tax the richest Americans at a fair rate and close the loopholes that leave so many massive corporations paying nothing—the American people already know it, Washington just needs to start listening.”

The Hill: Liberal group launches seven-figure ad campaign to push for tax hike on the rich

April 3, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

As part of the launch of its campaign, Tax March released polling data that found that about 75 percent of likely 2020 voters support raising taxes on the rich, including 60 percent of Republicans. The poll, which surveyed 1,000 likely voters online from March 15 to March 20, was conducted by ALG Research for Tax March and **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

“This important poll provides a detailed look at how voters feel about taxes and the overwhelming message is that they want the wealthy and corporations to pay their fair share,” **Americans for Tax Fairness** Executive Director Frank Clemente said.

Politico: Teeing up legislation

April 3, 2019, By Bernie Becker

For whatever it’s worth: Tax March and **Americans for Tax Fairness** are out with new polling that finds that around three in four likely voters support higher taxes on the rich.

Center for American Progress: President Trump Cannot Hide His Tax Returns From Congress

April 1, 2019, By Seth Hanlon

William Rice, “The Case for Congress Obtaining Trump’s Tax Returns” (Washington: **Americans for Tax Fairness**, 2018), pp. 7–10

TaxProf Blog (Blog): Tax Policy In The Trump Administration

March 22, 2019, By Paul Caron

Americans For Tax Fairness, “Small-Business” Tax Break in Trump-GOP Tax Law Found to Mostly Benefit Wealthy

NBC: Factory workers at GM see layoffs, not benefits, after tax cuts

March 22, 2019, By Kathryn Kranhold

Cheryl Jonesco had a plum job installing backup cameras in the Chevrolet Cruze compact car at the storied General Motors plant here. Her work on the assembly line for the last decade provided the financial means to buy a home while raising her now-teenage daughter.

But now, at 40, Jonesco’s life has been upended. On the Monday after Thanksgiving, GM announced it was ending current production at the plant here and at four others in the United States and Canada, largely because of changing customer tastes, which now favor SUVs over compacts. GM idled the plant March 8. Meanwhile Jonesco and hundreds of co-workers have essentially been forced to move south to fill GM openings in Spring Hill, Tennessee — leaving behind their families and homes. For Jonesco, that meant saying good-bye to her daughter, Marisa, who stayed behind with her grandparents to finish high school.

Urban Milwaukee (Blog): Senator Baldwin and Representative Pascrell Reintroduce Tax Reform to Close Tax Loophole for Millionaires and Billionaires on Wall Street

March 13, 2019, By Tammy Baldwin

“The carried interest loophole is a big wet kiss for Wall Street fat cats but a slap in the face to the rest of us. The bill by Senator Baldwin and Congressman Pascrell eliminates this outrageous sweetheart deal and restores a measure of fairness to our rigged tax system. The \$14 billion that will be raised by closing this egregious tax loophole could hire more than 230,000 teachers for a year,” said Frank Clemente, Executive Director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

WSPolitics: U.S. Sen. Baldwin: Joins U.S. Rep. Pascrell to reintroduce tax reform to close tax loophole for millionaires and billionaires on Wall Street

March 13, 2019, By Tammy Baldwin

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Insider NJ: Pascrell, Baldwin Introduce ‘Carried Interest Fairness Act’ to Close Tax Loophole

March 13, 2019, By Tammy Baldwin

The Pascrell-Baldwin Carried Fairness Act is supported by AFL-CIO, The Agenda Project, American Family Voices, American Federation of Government Employees, American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, American Federation of Teachers, American Postal Workers Union, Americans for Financial Reform, Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good, Center for Popular Democracy Action, Communications Workers of America, Consumer Action, Courage Campaign, Credo, Democracy for America, Economic Policy Institute, Franciscan Action Network, Friends of the Earth, Hedge Clippers, Institute for Policy Studies, Media Voices for Children, MoveOn.org, National Education Association, NETWORK, The Other 98%, Patriotic Millionaires, People’s Action Institute, Presente.org, Public Citizen, Service Employees International Union, Strong Economy for All Coalition, The Rootstrikers at Demand Progress, UNITE-HERE, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, United Auto Workers, Working America, the Working Families Party and **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

Pharmacy Choice: Americans for Tax Fairness Issues Statement on Proposed Fiscal 2020 Budget

March 12, 2019, By Staff

This is a syndication of an ATF Press Release

The Hill (Op-Ed): Cohen's charges make getting Trump's taxes even more important

March 8, 2019, By Bill Pascrell

[ATF provided the initial draft for this oped]

Michael Cohen’s recent public congressional testimony was a startling moment in recent history. His allegations that Donald Trump routinely evaded taxes and committed other financial fraud should result in an immediate request to the Treasury to turn over President Trump’s business and personal tax returns.

According to Cohen, Trump falsely inflated his assets to get bank loans, then deflated them to evade taxes. Cohen noted that Trump abused his charitable trust, reimbursing a straw purchaser of a Trump portrait costing \$60,000 and accepting a \$150,000 payment for a speech, which may have been done to avoid taxes. And Cohen testified that Trump may have even written off hush payments to his former mistresses.

PoliticsUSA.com: Democrats Just Passed A Bill Requiring Trump To Release His Business Tax Returns

March 8, 2019, By Jason Easley
Syndicated from The Hill

Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness** said in a statement provided to PoliticusUSA, ““For 40 years, candidates for president from both parties routinely released their tax returns to assure voters that they pay their fair share of taxes, and that they intend to act in the best interests of the country, not their own (or another country’s) economic interests. President Trump’s break with this tradition, and his murky business entanglements in the U.S. and other countries, raises disturbing questions and makes the provision in H.R. 1 requiring candidates to release both their personal and business tax returns absolutely essential. We can’t allow future candidates to follow Trump’s bad example and slam the door on this vital information from being shared with Congress and voters.”

PBS: Why 2020 Democratic candidates are pushing more progressive tax proposals

February 19, 2019, By Gretchen Frazee

But others argued that drilling down on the details will matter, especially explaining to voters how the tax hikes will be paid for — and what programs the tax revenue would fund.

“If [presidential candidates] are going to put out these ambitious spending proposals and investment plans then they have to say how they are going to pay for it,” said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

Freedoms Phoenix (Blog): The Great GOP Tax Cut Heist a Year Later

February 12, 2019, By Stephen Lendman

According to **Americans for Tax Fairness (ATF)**, the fruits of last year's great GOP tax cut heist were as follows: 4.3% of workers got wage hikes or bonuses - 6.7 million out of 155 million. Only a handful of employers provided them so far - 407 out of 5.9 million.

Center for Public Integrity: Big businesses promised wage hikes from Trump's tax cuts. What actually happened?

February 12, 2019, By Kathryn Kranhold

Some claim the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was indeed a windfall for employees in 2018. The conservative Americans for Tax Reform group kept a running tally of corporate announcements through last October and listed as many as 750 examples of “pay raises, charitable donations, special bonuses, 401(k) match hikes, business expansions, benefit increases, and utility rate reductions attributed to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.”

But shareholders have fared far better than employees under the tax law. Companies spent \$929 billion on stock buybacks compared to \$7.1 billion on wage increases and bonuses, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a left-leaning nonprofit group that tracked announcements by Fortune 1000 companies.

CNBC: Big businesses promised wage hikes from Trump's tax cuts. What actually happened?

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Bloomberg Tax: Tax Increases Go From Taboo to Trendy, Even for Some Republicans

February 8, 2019, By Staff

The increased focus on taxes is driven by a lack of fairness in the tax code, Frank Clemente, executive director of left-leaning **Americans for Tax Fairness**, told Bloomberg Tax.

“The whole theme, the whole narrative, the whole framing that the public has right now is that the system is not working for average people and it is working for the rich and for corporations,” he said.

Washington Post: Happy Hour Roundup

February 7, 2019, By Paul Waldman

Frank Clemente and William Rice break down what we would actually learn from Donald Trump's tax returns.

ShareBlue: Congress takes first step to find out what Trump's hiding in his taxes

February 7, 2019, By Dan Desai Martin

The Washington Post describes the hearing as a “crucial first step” toward the goal of obtaining Trump's taxes. Proponents of the provisions say the law is necessary for Congress to conduct proper oversight, as required by the constitution.

The leaders of the organization **Americans for Tax Fairness** argue that Trump's tax returns could show anything from Trump's using fraud to cheat on his taxes, to undue foreign influence from Russia.

USA Today (Op-Ed): Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws

February 7, 2019, By Frank Clemente and William Rice

This power has for good reason been exercised sparingly. It helped Congress unravel the Watergate scandal of the 1970s and was used as recently as 2014 by Republican lawmakers.

Congress should act with urgency because it's likely Trump will resist its efforts. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who would ultimately decide on whether to honor a request for Trump's taxes, has been noncommittal, saying only that he “will review any request with the Treasury general counsel for legality.” That could set up a legal challenge that might last months if not years, perhaps even past the 2020 election.

Yahoo News (Op-Ed): Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws

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Buzz in US (Blog): Companies Spent 140 Times More on Stock Buybacks than Wage Increases in 2018 and Americans Should be 'Outraged' Say Bernie Sanders, Chuck Schumer

February 5, 2019, By Nicole Goodkind

Syndicated from NewsWeek

Trump's former chief economic adviser Gary Cohn also tried to explain how the money would trickle down. "We create wage inflation, which means the workers get paid more; the workers have more disposable income, the workers spend more. And we see the whole trickle-down through the economy, and that's good for the economy," he said on CNBC in November 2018.

But companies largely spent their savings on stock buybacks, benefiting shareholders instead of boosting wages. In 2018, U.S. companies spent a record \$1 trillion buying back their own stock; that's about 140 times more than the \$7.1 billion corporations gave their workers in bonuses or pay increases that year, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**. Between November 2017 and November 2018, the wages for all workers rose less than 1 percent and did not keep up with inflation.

NewsWeek: Companies Spent 140 Times More on Stock Buybacks than Wage Increases in 2018 and Americans Should be 'Outraged' Say Bernie Sanders, Chuck Schumer

February 4, 2019, By Nicole Goodkind

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Axis of Logic (Blog): McConnell Estate Tax Repeal Would Hand Tens of Billions to Walton and Koch Families

January 30, 2019, By Jake Johnson
Syndicated from Common Dreams

"Greed has no limit for the GOP," declared Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. "We need to reverse direction—not allow the GOP to hand the rich even more tax cuts."

The deeply unpopular Republican tax law already significantly weakened the estate tax by doubling the exemption, allowing couples with up to \$22 million to pass on their fortunes tax-free.

Raw Story: Greed Has No Limit for GOP': McConnell Estate Tax Repeal Would Hand Tens of Billions to Walton and Koch Families

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The Intellectualist (Blog): GOP Senators Make Repealing The Inheritance Tax A Legislative Priority

January 29, 2019, By Jake Thomas

According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, repealing the federal estate tax would deal a \$225 billion blow to the federal budget over ten years.

The estate tax is paid by billionaires and millionaires — it is not a tax on the middle class. An estate needs to be worth more than \$5 million before a dime of it gets taxed. Only 1 estate out of every 700 deaths pays any estate tax.

Common Dreams: A Year After 'One of the Greatest Heists in US History,' Survey Confirms Corporate Tax Cuts Didn't Lead to Hiring and Raises for Workers

January 28, 2019, By Julia Conley

"The corporate tax reform has not caused their firms to change hiring or investment plans," NABE president Kevin Swift said simply of the corporate leaders the group surveyed.

The news came as no surprise to think tanks and advocacy groups like the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP) and **Americans for Tax Fairness**—with some critics pointing to the survey as the

latest evidence that "Trickle-down economics doesn't work!"

Brinkwire: Warren stakes out 2020 ground with wealth-tax proposal

January 27, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

Syndicated from The Hill

Frank Clemente, executive director at **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said policymakers now “can have a mature conversation on tax policy and not be hemmed in by falsehoods espoused by conservatives on what’s possible on tax reform.”

Some Democratic tax experts say Warren’s proposed wealth tax is a smart way to address the fact that there are many high net worth people who use legal loopholes to significantly lower their tax burden.

F3News (Blog): Warren stakes out 2020 ground with wealth-tax proposal

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Tech2.Org (Blog): Warren Bets for 2020 with a Wealth Tax Proposal

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The Hill: Warren stakes out 2020 ground with wealth-tax proposal

January 27, 2019, By Naomi Jagoda

Frank Clemente, executive director at **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said policymakers now “can have a mature conversation on tax policy and not be hemmed in by falsehoods espoused by conservatives on what’s possible on tax reform.”

Some Democratic tax experts say Warren’s proposed wealth tax is a smart way to address the fact that there are many high net worth people who use legal loopholes to significantly lower their tax burden.

Common Dreams (Op-Ed): The GOP Tax Cut Is Just as Bad As We Feared it Would Be

January 11, 2019, By Frank Clemente

A little more than a year after President Donald Trump and his fellow Republicans enacted their tax cut costing \$1.9 trillion, all of the bad outcomes critics predicted from the law are coming true: Benefits are flowing disproportionately to the wealthy and big corporations while working families are paying the price. But as we unhappily mark the law's first anniversary, a further, unanticipated consequence has emerged that threatens the health care of tens of millions of Americans.

Just as we warned, the so-called Tax Cut and Jobs Act has exploded the deficit, giving the GOP an excuse to slash crucial services like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid to pay for it. Corporations are using their tax-cut windfall to splurge on stock buybacks that only further enrich their CEOs and wealthy shareholders instead of giving their workers a raise or investing in new plants and equipment. And multinational corporations like General Motors and Harley Davidson are responding to the law's perverse incentives by outsourcing jobs.

BioSpace (Blog): M&A May Be the Legacy of the Trump Tax Cuts for Pharma

January 8, 2019, By Alex Keown

Federal corporate tax cuts that were framed as a way to give a boost to employment across the United States have been more beneficial to companies and shareholders than the average worker or consumer, a new report issued by the advocacy group **Americans for Tax Fairness** shows.

The 2017 cut lowered the corporate tax rate from 25 percent to 21 percent. When the cut was floated by Donald Trump and Republican officials, many pharma executives were decidedly in favor of the plan. Chief executive officers from more than 16 manufacturing companies, including the heads of several pharma companies such as Celgene, Merck & Company and Eli Lilly and Company, penned a letter to Congressional leaders in support of the plan. Dubbing themselves the American Made Coalition, the industry leaders said reforming the nation's "outdated tax code" will spur economic growth. The CEOs decried the tax plan that was in place at the time. The business leaders said that higher rate penalized American workers who make products sold abroad, while favoring international competitors.

NBC News: Get Trump's tax returns, progressive group tells House Dems

January 3, 2019, By Ken Dilanian

House Democrats should make it their top priority to obtain Donald Trump's tax returns and release them to the public, a progressive tax group argues in a new report obtained by NBC News.

Americans for Tax Fairness, a left-leaning organization backed by organized labor, says in a 21-page white paper that securing Trump's tax returns "is an important public policy objective and a legitimate exercise of Congress's oversight authority."

AlterNet: Republicans succeeded in making 2018 yet another year the rich got richer

January 2, 2019, By Andrea Germanos
Syndicated from Common Dreams

With year two of Republicans' Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) now underway and the party touting the \$1.5 trillion tax plan's supposed successes, critics of the unpopular law are spotlighting the party's broken promises and saying the so-called tax scam merely helped to make 2018 another year of bloated corporate profits and enriching the already wealthy. In fact, the wealthy were "celebrating like it was Christmas all year, which it basically was for them," wrote Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness** (ATF).

Common Dreams: Like It Was Christmas All Year: GOP Succeeded in Making 2018 Yet Another Year the Rich Got Richer

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NATIONAL BROADCAST CLIPS

[AmericasDemocrats.org \(podcast\) Building an economy that works for everyone, and how to pay for it](#)
July 10, 2019

President Trump's tax cut plan is proving to be a huge give away for corporations and the wealthy. Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, offers a progressive plan for tax reform that can bring fairness to the American economy.

[Fox Business - Should the rich and big business pay for infrastructure fix?](#)
May 21, 2019

Americans for Tax Fairness executive director Frank Clemente appears on “Bulls & Bears” to discuss why big business and rich Americans should pay to fix the country’s infrastructure.

[Free Speech TV - Democrats Finally Demand Trump’s Tax Returns](#)

April 5, 2019

Host Sonali Kolhatkar speaks with Frank Clemente, executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**, to unpack the legal precedent for the request and whether or not it will result in Trump's tax returns being made public.

[C-SPAN - Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request](#)

March 14, 2019

Rep. Gwen Moore, D-Wisconsin, enters into the record an overview of media stories about the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act compiled by **Americans for Tax Fairness**.

[America’s Workforce Radio: In Depth Look at a Progressive Tax Reform on America’s Work Force](#)

Feb 5, 2019

Dennis Bailey, Director of Communications with **Americans for Tax Fairness** discussed a progressive tax reform proposal. Bailey spoke about Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY 14th district) tax reform proposal that would essentially be a 70 percent marginal tax rate for an income of 10 million dollars and above. Bailey feels that the current tax system is rigged and unfair against the poor and is designed to help out the rich.

STATE MEDIA CLIPS

Alaska

[KTVA TV Online \(Blog\): What is the “Death Tax” and How Does It Work?](#)

July 15, 2019, By Dori Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

"High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won’t stand to ever pay an estate tax."

Arizona

[azcentral \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from USA Today

In a city polarized by political differences, there is amazing unanimity in Washington over the sad state of the nation's infrastructure and the urgent need to address it. The question is how to pay for it.

The American Society of Civil Engineers gives U.S. infrastructure a barely passing grade of D+. The group estimates it will take \$2 trillion on top of current levels of spending to bring it all up to snuff.

[Desert Sun \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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[Arizona Mirror: Wage hikes promised by McSally, GOP, haven't materialized, but stock buybacks have boomed](#)

April 2, 2019, By Dan Neumann and Jim Small

The total amount of announced buybacks since the tax law went into effect officially crossed the \$1 trillion threshold last week, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, which advocates for progressive tax reform. In 2018, announced stock buybacks reached \$910 billion, a huge increase over the previous record of \$589 billion in 2007.

Stock buybacks are when a corporation purchases its own stock to inflate the value of each share, buoying the portfolio of investors. Half of U.S. households do not own any stock at all, and some economists say stock buybacks contribute to wage stagnation.

Arkansas

[Baxter Bulletin Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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California

[Bakersfield-Californian Online: Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

August 3, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg

Democrats and Republicans have criticized the tax law for not working as intended, so much so that Trump-appointed Treasury official Dana Trier was asked to resign after he publicly asked, "Do you think it's a model of sophistication?"

Where Democrats are on taxes now is likely to be different to where they were in 2015, said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They're realizing that they may have lost the 2017 tax battle, but are winning the messaging war, he said.

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The fight over Trump's tax returns is an unusual case since for four decades, presidential candidates have released their tax returns. But now that Trump hasn't, the need to use these provisions to disclose presidential candidates tax information involuntarily could become more prevalent.

Chico News Review (Op-Ed): [Tax system skewed to the rich, powerful](#)

April 18, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from Associated Press

This year, we should be asking whether our tax system is fair, whether it raises the revenue we need, and whether it promotes economic growth and equality.

The answer to all three questions is, unfortunately, no. The tax code, already full of loopholes for the wealthy and corporations, was laden with even more by the new tax law. That law also will add nearly \$2 trillion to the national debt, endangering services like Medicare, Medicaid and education, as well as vital new initiatives like lowering health care costs and improving roads and bridges.

CityWatch LA (Op-Ed): [So, Who Really Got a Tax Cut This Year?](#)

April 15, 2019, By Frank Clemente

According to a new poll, only 17 percent of Americans say they're paying less in taxes this year, despite the GOP's promises that the huge tax cuts they passed were for the middle class. Tax returns due April

15 are the first to be filed under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which passed Congress and was signed by President Trump about 16 months ago.

It was their signature achievement, a tax cut package costing nearly \$2 trillion that was supposed to rev up the economy, produce jobs and investment, and give every family a \$4,000 raise.

[Herald News \(Op-Ed\): Tax Day 2019 finds a tax system skewed to the rich and powerful](#)

April 15, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Tax Day (April 15), when we settle our personal accounts with Uncle Sam, is also a good day to take account of our tax system overall.

That's especially true this year, when the first tax returns prepared under the new rules of the Trump-GOP tax law are due.

We should be asking whether our system is fair, whether it raises the revenue we need, whether it promotes economic growth and equality.

[Yubanet.com \(Op-Ed\): Frank Clemente: So Who Really Got a Tax Cut This Year?](#)

April 11, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What's in your return?

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[Visalia Times Delta \(Op-Ed\): Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws](#)

February 7, 2019, By Frank Clemente and William Rice

Syndicated from USA Today

This power has for good reason been exercised sparingly. It helped Congress unravel the Watergate scandal of the 1970s and was used as recently as 2014 by Republican lawmakers.

Congress should act with urgency because it's likely Trump will resist its efforts. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who would ultimately decide on whether to honor a request for Trump's taxes, has been noncommittal, saying only that he "will review any request with the Treasury general counsel for legality." That could set up a legal challenge that might last months if not years, perhaps even past the 2020 election.

[LA Watts Times: Rep. Maxine Waters \(D-CA\) Statement at Hearing on National Debt](#)

January 3, 2019, By Staff

The shameless GOP tax scam contains massive giveaways for the nation's largest banks. According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the country's six largest Wall Street banks will collectively save an estimated \$14 billion in 2018 alone.

And it's not just banks - the tax scam includes a 20 percent deduction for pass-through businesses, which is a huge giveaway to hedge funds and other Wall Street firms.

[SF Examiner \(Op-Ed\): Wealthy celebrate tax law anniversary while workers pick up the tab](#)

January 2, 2019, By Frank Clemente

But that's not happening: So far only 4 percent of employees have gotten any kind of pay bump tied to the tax law, according an **Americans for Tax Fairness** study. Nationwide, real hourly wages are up less than 1% over the past year.

Those tax-cut-boosted corporate profits are instead going in a more familiar direction: into the pockets of wealthy shareholders and powerful CEOs. Since the day their taxes were slashed by the GOP, corporations have announced more than \$1 trillion in stock buybacks. Buybacks are a Wall Street strategy that inflates share prices, further enriching the already rich.

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Valley Courier (Op-Ed): [Movin' On with Nellie: 'Only the Lonely' know the way I feel](#)

March 17, 2019, By Nelda Curtiss

The abandonment and subsequent depression felt by seniors is then compounded by abusive policies

that allowed revenue imbalances to explode so that only the top 1 percent of the nation's people own MOST of the wealth. The other 99 percent of the people are struggling with buying bread, broccoli, beef and basin supplies versus utility bills or medicine. Recently, **Americans for Tax Fairness** published: "In the 1950s and 1960s, when the economy was booming, the wealthiest Americans paid a top income tax rate of 91 percent. Today, the top rate is 43.4 percent." (americansfortaxfairness.org)

Nothing about this situation mirrors democracy or Christianity as it neither is guided by the wishes of the citizens or by the morals claimed by Christianity (or other religions), i.e. love one another, honor your parents. John 13:34-35 says "A new command I give you: . . .As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

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Connecticut

Connecticut Post: [Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

August 2, 2019, By Laura Davison
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Where Democrats are on taxes now is likely to be different to where they were in 2015, said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They're realizing that they may have

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[Florida Today Online \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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[Jacksonville.com \(Op-Ed\): Where the Money Is](#)

May 10, 2019, By Jim Hightower
Syndicated from Creators

According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, hundreds of TCJA's corporate backers are already making a killing. In just the first three quarters of 2018, big business quietly pocketed stunning tax savings they would have – and should have – paid to support America's public needs:

[NC News Chief \(Op-Ed\): Where the Money Is](#)

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May 20, 2019, By Laura Davison
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The fight over Trump's tax returns is an unusual case since for four decades, presidential candidates have released their tax returns. But now that Trump hasn't, the need to use these provisions to disclose presidential candidates tax information involuntarily could become more prevalent.

Naples Daily News (Op-Ed): [Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws](#)

February 7, 2019, By Frank Clemente and William Rice
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This power has for good reason been exercised sparingly. It helped Congress unravel the Watergate scandal of the 1970s and was used as recently as 2014 by Republican lawmakers.

Congress should act with urgency because it's likely Trump will resist its efforts. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who would ultimately decide on whether to honor a request for Trump's taxes, has been noncommittal, saying only that he "will review any request with the Treasury general counsel for legality." That could set up a legal challenge that might last months if not years, perhaps even past the 2020 election.

Georgia

Rome News-Tribune: [Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

August 3, 2019, By Laura Davison

Syndicated from Bloomberg

Democrats and Republicans have criticized the tax law for not working as intended, so much so that Trump-appointed Treasury official Dana Trier was asked to resign after he publicly asked, "Do you think it's a model of sophistication?"

Where Democrats are on taxes now is likely to be different to where they were in 2015, said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They're realizing that they may have lost the 2017 tax battle, but are winning the messaging war, he said.

Guam

KUAM TV Online (Blog): [What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

July 16, 2019, By Dori Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

"High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won't stand to ever pay an estate tax."

Hawaii

Thegardenisland.com (Op-Ed): [So, tax cuts didn't happen for too many](#)

April 13, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What's in your return?

According to a new poll, only 17 percent of Americans say they're paying less in taxes this year, despite the GOP's promises that the huge tax cuts they passed were for the middle class. Tax returns due April 15 are the first to be filed under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which passed Congress and was signed by President Donald Trump about 16 months ago.

Idaho

Idaho Statesman: [Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

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Illinois

The Telegraph: [Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

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[Evansville Courier & Press Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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[Springfield News-Leader Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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Marion Star Online: [Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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Democrat and Chronicle (Op-Ed): [What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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[Joliet Times Weekly \(Op-Ed\): So who really got a tax cut this year](#)

April 15, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What's in your return?

According to a new poll, only 17 percent of Americans say they're paying less in taxes this year, despite the GOP's promises that the huge tax cuts they passed were for the middle class. Tax returns due April 15 were the first to be filed under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which passed Congress and was signed by President Trump about 16 months ago.

[RiverBender.com: Duckworth Helps Re-Introduce Legislation to Make Tax Preparation and Filing Simpler, More Affordable](#)

April 15, 2019, By Staff

The bill is endorsed by the National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients), the Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Economic Security Project Action, the Hispanic Federation, Americans for Financial Reform, and Public Citizen.

[Jacksonville Journal-Courier \(Op-Ed\): Commentary: Workers left picking up tax tab](#)

January 1, 2019, By Frank Clemente

But that's not happening: So far only 4 percent of employees have gotten any kind of pay bump tied to the tax law, according to an **Americans for Tax Fairness** study. Nationwide, real hourly wages are up less than 1% over the past year.

Those tax-cut-boosted corporate profits are instead going in a more familiar direction: into the pockets of wealthy shareholders and powerful CEOs. Since the day their taxes were slashed by the GOP, corporations have announced more than \$1 trillion in stock buybacks. Buybacks are a Wall Street strategy that inflates share prices, further enriching the already rich.

Indiana

[Indianapolis Star Online, The: **Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family**](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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[Journal & Courier Online: **Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family**](#)

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Iowa

[Iowa City Press-Citizen Online: **Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family**](#)

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[Des Moines Register Online: Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
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[Des Moines Register \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 22, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from USA Today

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[Iowa City Press-Citizen \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from USA Today

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Newton Daily News (Op-Ed): [So Who Really Gets a Tax Cut This Year?](#)

April 11, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What's in your return?

According to a new poll, only 17 percent of Americans say they're paying less in taxes this year, despite the GOP's promises that the huge tax cuts they passed were for the middle class. Tax returns due April 15 are the first to be filed under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which passed Congress and was signed by President Trump about 16 months ago.

It was their signature achievement, a tax cut package costing nearly \$2 trillion that was supposed to rev up the economy, produce jobs and investment, and give every family a \$4,000 raise.

Kansas

KAKE TV Online (Blog): [What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

July 15, 2019, By Dori Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won't stand to ever pay an estate tax.

Kentucky

Messenger-Inquirer: [Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

August 2, 2019, By Laura Davison

Syndicated from Bloomberg

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The Courier-Journal Online: [Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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Louisiana

[American Press \(Op-Ed\): If Kansas can do it, Louisiana can, too](#)

July 28, 2019, By Staff

CNBC recently named Kansas No. 19 on its list of America’s Top States for Business, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**. The rating came as a surprise because Kansas, like Louisiana, seven years ago cut taxes for the wealthy and suffered nine rounds of budget cuts, three credit downgrades and missed state payments.

Kansas also tapped into state reserves set aside for future spending, postponed construction projects and pension contributions and cut Medicaid, the federal-state health care program for low-income Americans.

[Shreveport Times Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Amer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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[Town Talk \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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[Houmatoday.com \(Op-Ed\): Opinion: Wealthy celebrate tax law anniversary](#)

January 2, 2019, By Frank Clemente

But that's not happening: So far only 4 percent of employees have gotten any kind of pay bump tied to the tax law, according to an **Americans for Tax Fairness** study. Nationwide, real hourly wages are up less than 1% over the past year.

Those tax-cut-boosted corporate profits are instead going in a more familiar direction: into the pockets of wealthy shareholders and powerful CEOs. Since the day their taxes were slashed by the GOP, corporations have announced more than \$1 trillion in stock buybacks. Buybacks are a Wall Street strategy that inflates share prices, further enriching the already rich.

Maine

[Ellsworth American \(Op-Ed\): Walmart's blueprint for success: Big stores, low taxes](#)

April 26, 2019, By Jill Goldthwait

Syndicated from Mount Desert Islander

Americans for Tax Fairness says the company receives an estimated "\$7.8 billion per year in federal subsidies and tax breaks," including \$70 million annually in "economic development subsidies" from state and local governments.

A "subsidy tracker" from goodjobsfirst.org puts Maine in the top five states for subsidies to Walmart. The Washington Post, reviewing Capital IQ data, said in 2013 that Walmart's taxes as a percent of its income dropped over 24 percent between 1971 and 2012.

[Mount Desert Islander \(Op-Ed\): State of Maine: Walmart's blueprint for success: Big stores, low taxes](#)

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income dropped over 24 percent between 1971 and 2012.

Maine Beacon: [Collins promised wage hikes after tax vote, stock buybacks soared instead](#)

March 26, 2019, By Dan Neumann

Rather than invest in their workforce through new hiring and raising wages, a new report shows that U.S. corporations have bought back a record \$1 trillion of their own stock in the 15 months since Senator Susan Collins cast a decisive vote for the GOP's tax plan.

The total amount of announced buybacks since the tax law went into effect officially crossed the \$1 trillion threshold last week, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**. In 2018, announced stock buybacks reached \$910 billion, a huge increase over the previous record of \$589 billion in 2007.

Maryland

WBOC TV Online (Blog): [What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

July 15, 2019, By Dori Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won't stand to ever pay an estate tax.

Delmarva Now: [Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Kent County News \(Op-Ed\): Who really got a tax break this year?](#)

April 14, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What's in your return?

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[Herald Mail \(Op-Ed\): Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws](#)

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Massachusetts

[Daily Hampshire Gazette \(Column\): Columnist Clare Higgins: In wake of tax cuts, elections offer a chance we shouldn't blow](#)

February 23, 2019, By Clare Higgins

Bezos is not the only one; the list includes people like Mark Zuckerberg and the Koch Brothers. Facebook likes the stock-based compensation route to lower its US taxes (\$4.152 billion in 2017). The Koch brothers spent \$20 million to convince voters that the Trump tax bill was a good thing and it was - for the Koch brothers. **Americans for Tax Fairness** estimate that "Charles Koch and David Koch and/or Koch Industries could save between \$1 billion and \$1.4 billion combined in income taxes each year from the Trump tax law."

[Bay State Banner \(Op-Ed\): Wealthy celebrate tax law anniversary while workers pick up the tab](#)

January 3, 2019, By Frank Clemente

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Michigan

[Detroit Free Press Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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Minnesota

St. Cloud Times Online: [Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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St Cloud Times (Op-Ed): [What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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[Brainerd Dispatch: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

May 20, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg News

"This bill is a critical piece of legislation that would not only allow Congress to investigate President Trump and his various financial entanglements, but would also allow the American people to hold him accountable for his deeply troubling conflicts of interests," a series of progressive groups, including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Stand Up America, said in a letter to New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie.

The fight over Trump's tax returns is an unusual case since for four decades, presidential candidates have released their tax returns. But now that Trump hasn't, the need to use these provisions to disclose presidential candidates tax information involuntarily could become more prevalent.

[Duluth News Tribune: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

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St Cloud Times (Op-Ed): [Tax Day 2019 finds a tax system skewed to the rich and powerful](#)

April 12, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from Associated Press

Tax Day, when we settle our personal accounts with Uncle Sam, is also a good day to take account of our tax system overall. That's especially true this year, when the first tax returns prepared under the new rules of the Trump-GOP tax law are due. We should be asking whether our system is fair, whether it

raises the revenue we need, whether it promotes economic growth and equality.

The answer to all three questions is, unfortunately, no. The tax code, already full of loopholes for the wealthy and corporations, was laden with even more by the new tax law. That law will also add nearly \$2 trillion to the national debt, endangering services like Medicare, Medicaid and education, as well as vital new initiatives like lowering healthcare costs and improving road and bridges.

Mississippi

[Sun Herald : Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

August 4, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg

Democrats and Republicans have criticized the tax law for not working as intended, so much so that Trump-appointed Treasury official Dana Trier was asked to resign after he publicly asked, “Do you think it’s a model of sophistication?”

Where Democrats are on taxes now is likely to be different to where they were in 2015, said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They’re realizing that they may have lost the 2017 tax battle, but are winning the messaging war, he said.

[The Clarion-Ledger Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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[Clarion Ledger \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from USA Today

In a city polarized by political differences, there is amazing unanimity in Washington over the sad state of the nation's infrastructure and the urgent need to address it. The question is how to pay for it.

The American Society of Civil Engineers gives U.S. infrastructure a barely passing grade of D+. The group estimates it will take \$2 trillion on top of current levels of spending to bring it all up to snuff.

[Wayne County News \(Op-Ed\): Tax Day 2019 finds a tax system skewed to the rich and powerful](#)

April 17, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from Associated Press

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Missouri

[Springfield News-Leader \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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[The Telegraph: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

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The fight over Trump's tax returns is an unusual case since for four decades, presidential candidates have released their tax returns. But now that Trump hasn't, the need to use these provisions to disclose presidential candidates tax information involuntarily could become more prevalent.

[The Telegraph \(Op-Ed\): Commentary: Workers left picking up tax tab](#)

January 1, 2019, By Frank Clemente

But that's not happening: So far only 4 percent of employees have gotten any kind of pay bump tied to the tax law, according an **Americans for Tax Fairness** study. Nationwide, real hourly wages are up less than 1% over the past year.

Those tax-cut-boosted corporate profits are instead going in a more familiar direction: into the pockets of wealthy shareholders and powerful CEOs. Since the day their taxes were slashed by the GOP, corporations have announced more than \$1 trillion in stock buybacks. Buybacks are a Wall Street strategy that inflates share prices, further enriching the already rich.

Montana

[Great Falls Tribune Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 4, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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food stamps, Medicaid and subsidized housing, according to a report by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a coalition of national and state progressive groups, published in 2014.

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Great Falls Tribune (Op-Ed): [What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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Nebraska

KLKN TV Online (Blog): [What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

July 15, 2019, By Dori Zinn
Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

"High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won't stand to ever pay an estate tax."

Grant County News: [Marking Tax Day, Udall Reintroduces Legislation to Simplify and Decrease the Costs of Tax Preparation](#)

April 15, 2019, By Staff

Originally introduced in 2016 and reintroduced in 2017, this legislation has been endorsed by over 50 tax law professors and economists and a bipartisan set of policymakers, along with the National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients), the Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Economic Security Project Action, the Hispanic Federation,

Americans for Financial Reform, and Public Citizen.

The bill was led by Warren and in addition to Udall, was cosponsored by U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), and Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.).

Nevada

[KTVN TV Online \(Blog\): What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

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[Reno Gazette-Journal Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Las Vegas Sun \(LTE\): US has become a plutocracy](#)

March 17, 2019, By Dave Starr

The average salary for the middle class went up 2.9 percent last year. The corporate tax cut was 40

percent.

Corporations are picking the pockets of their workers. **Americans for Tax Fairness** quoted the tax savings for some corporations in billions of dollars — Apple, \$6 billion; AT&T \$2.9 billion, Bank of America \$3.2 billion, Verizon \$2.4 billion and Walmart \$2.1 billion.

New Hampshire

[New Hampshire Union Leader: Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

August 3, 2019, By Laura Davison

Syndicated from Bloomberg

Democrats and Republicans have criticized the tax law for not working as intended, so much so that Trump-appointed Treasury official Dana Trier was asked to resign after he publicly asked, “Do you think it’s a model of sophistication?”

Where Democrats are on taxes now is likely to be different to where they were in 2015, said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They’re realizing that they may have lost the 2017 tax battle, but are winning the messaging war, he said.

[WNTK News Talk 99.7: Shaheen Introduces Legislation to Simplify and Decrease the Costs of Tax Preparation and Filing](#)

April 16, 2019, By Staff

First introduced in 2016 and reintroduced in 2017, this approach to tax filing has been endorsed by tax scholars and a bipartisan set of policymakers. The bill is endorsed by the National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients), the Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Economic Security Project Action, the Hispanic Federation, Americans for Financial Reform, and Public Citizen.

Senator Shaheen has supported measures to simplify the current tax system and ease the tax burden on working middle class families. Last week, she introduced the Working Families Tax Relief Act, which would expand the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) – two of the most effective tools we have to put money back in the pockets of working people and help pull children out of poverty.

New Jersey

[Press of Atlantic City: Kamala Harris wants to undo Democrats' favorite part of the GOP tax law](#)

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[Asbury Park Press Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Home News Tribune Online/MyCentralJersey.com: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 4, 2019, By Aamer Madhani

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[Asbury Park Press \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from USA Today

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[My Central Jersey \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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Patch (Blog): [McCormick's Social Security rescue plan gains support](#)

May 21, 2019, By Ed Watchdog

Reich is the Chancellor's Professor of Public Policy at the Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley. McCormick discussed her Social Security proposal with Reich during a telephone conversation on April 11 and in an exchange of email messages.

McCormick's plan to fix Social Security has also been emulated or embraced the Economic Opportunity Institute, Social Security Works, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, the United Steelworkers, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Patriotic Millionaires, Senator Bernie Sanders, Senator Elizabeth Warren, and others.

NjToday.Net: [McCormick's Social Security rescue plan gains support](#)

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The Asbury Park Press (Op-Ed): [Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws](#)

February 7, 2019, By Frank Clemente and William Rice
Syndicated from USA Today

This power has for good reason been exercised sparingly. It helped Congress unravel the Watergate scandal of the 1970s and was used as recently as 2014 by Republican lawmakers.

Congress should act with urgency because it's likely Trump will resist its efforts. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who would ultimately decide on whether to honor a request for Trump's taxes, has been noncommittal, saying only that he "will review any request with the Treasury general counsel for

legality.” That could set up a legal challenge that might last months if not years, perhaps even past the 2020 election.

New Mexico

[Alamogordo Daily News Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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[Daily Post Los Alamos: Marking Tax Day, Udall, Warren Reintroduce Bill To Simplify, Decrease Costs Of Tax Preparation And Filing](#)

April 15, 2019, By Carol A. Clark

U.S. Sen. Tom Udall (D-N.M) joined U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) in reintroducing the Tax Filing Simplification Act to simplify and decrease the costs of the tax filing process for millions of American taxpayers.

Last tax season, taxpayers spent an average of 11 hours and around \$200 preparing their tax returns – a cost equal to almost 10 percent of the average federal tax refund in New Mexico.

[Yonside \(Op-Ed\): Who Really Gets a Tax Cut This Year?](#)

April 11, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from OtherWords

Tax Day is here. What’s in your return?

According to a new poll, only 17 percent of Americans say they’re paying less in taxes this year, despite

the GOP's promises that the huge tax cuts they passed were for the middle class. Tax returns due April 15 are the first to be filed under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which passed Congress and was signed by President Trump about 16 months ago.

It was their signature achievement, a tax cut package costing nearly \$2 trillion that was supposed to rev up the economy, produce jobs and investment, and give every family a \$4,000 raise.

New York

[Adirondack Daily Enterprise Online \(Op-Ed\): 2017 tax cut promises were pie in the sky](#)

June 5, 2019, By Alan Beideck

Corporations could use their tax windfalls in a variety of ways. As noted in the CRS report, those uses include "investment, paying down debt, increasing wages, paying wage bonuses, paying dividends, or repurchasing shares." A very small share of the corporate tax cuts appears to have been spent on increasing wages or paying worker bonuses. The CRS report says, "one organization (**Americans for Tax Fairness**) that tracks these bonuses has reported a total of \$4.4 billion. With U.S. employment of 157 million, this amount is \$28 per worker." The **Americans for Tax Fairness** also tracks the value of stock buybacks since the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was enacted. To date, they estimate the value of stock buybacks at more than \$1.1 trillion. As posted on their "Stock Buybacks" web page, "buybacks mostly enrich the already wealthy, including CEOs, because rich people own most corporate stock: the wealthiest 10% of American households own 84% of all shares, the top 1% own 40%. About one-half of households own no stock."

[Journal News Online, The: Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani

Syndicated from USA Today

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[Star-Gazette Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Ithaca Journal \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente

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[The Journal: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

May 20, 2019, By Laura Davison

Syndicated from Bloomberg News

"This bill is a critical piece of legislation that would not only allow Congress to investigate President Trump and his various financial entanglements, but would also allow the American people to hold him accountable for his deeply troubling conflicts of interests," a series of progressive groups, including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Stand Up America, said in a letter to New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie.

The fight over Trump's tax returns is an unusual case since for four decades, presidential candidates have released their tax returns. But now that Trump hasn't, the need to use these provisions to disclose presidential candidates tax information involuntarily could become more prevalent.

[Watertown Daily Times: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

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[Crain's New York Business: New York Is Offering Trump's Taxes But Democrats May Not Bite](#)

May 14, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg News

"The game here is complicated," Frank Clemente, the executive director for the progressive **Americans for Tax Fairness**, said. "The chairman is smart to stay the steady course with his narrowly tailored purpose."

Neal's refusal to engage with New York on the state returns would also set up a debate between Neal and progressives who are already frustrated with him for waiting several months after Democrats won control of the House to make his first request for the tax documents. Neal's reluctance to access the New York returns will open him up to even more criticism.

[Times Union \(Op-Ed\): Commentary: The GOP tax cut is just as bad as we feared it would be](#)

January 9, 2019, By Frank Clemente

A little more than a year after President Donald Trump and his fellow Republicans enacted their tax cut costing \$1.9 trillion, all of the bad outcomes critics predicted from the law are coming true: Benefits are flowing disproportionately to the wealthy and big corporations while working families are paying the price. But as we unhappily mark the law's first anniversary, a further, unanticipated consequence has emerged that threatens the health care of tens of millions of Americans.

Just as we warned, the so-called Tax Cut and Jobs Act has exploded the deficit, giving the GOP an excuse to slash crucial services like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid to pay for it. Corporations are using their tax-cut windfall to splurge on stock buybacks that only further enrich their CEOs and wealthy shareholders instead of giving their workers a raise or investing in new plants and equipment. And multinational corporations like General Motors and Harley Davidson are responding to the law's perverse incentives by outsourcing jobs.

North Dakota

[Jamestown Sun: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

May 20, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg News

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[Grand Forks Herald: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

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Ohio

[WFMJ TV Online \(Blog\): What is the “Death Tax” and How Does It Work?](#)

July 15, 2019, By Dori Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

"High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

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Lancaster Eagle Gazette (Op-Ed): [What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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The Vindicator (Op-Ed): [So who really got a tax cut?](#)

April 12, 2019, By Frank Clemente
Syndicated from OtherWords

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Oklahoma

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Stillwater News Press (Op-Ed): [Where the Money Is](#)

May 3, 2019, By Jim Hightower

Syndicated from Creators

According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, hundreds of TCJA's corporate backers are already making a killing. In just the first three quarters of 2018, big business quietly pocketed stunning tax savings they would have – and should have – paid to support America's public needs:

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Democrats and Republicans have criticized the tax law for not working as intended, so much so that Trump-appointed Treasury official Dana Trier was asked to resign after he publicly asked, “Do you think it’s a model of sophistication?”

Where Democrats are on taxes now is likely to be different to where they were in 2015, said Frank Clemente, the executive director of **Americans for Tax Fairness**. They’re realizing that they may have lost the 2017 tax battle, but are winning the messaging war, he said.

[Statesman Journal Online: Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 4, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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 by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a coalition of national and state progressive groups, published in 2014.

“The taxpayers of this country – the working class, middle class – shouldn’t have to be subsidizing the wealthiest family in this country,” Sanders said.

[Oregon Business Report: DeFazio: New .1% Wall Street Tax Plan](#)

March 18, 2019, By Peter DeFazio

The Wall Street Tax Act is supported by a number of organizations, including the Action Center on Race and the Economy, AFL-CIO, American Family Voices, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), American Federation of Teachers (AFT), Americans for Democratic

Action (ADA), Americans for Financial Reform, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Asset Building Strategies, Campaign for America's Future, Center for Popular Democracy Action, Coalition on Human Needs, Communications Workers of America, Consumer Action, CREDO, Demos, Economic Policy Center, Friends of the Earth U.S., Grassroots Collaborative, Hedge Clippers, HOPE Fair Housing Center, Indivisible, Institute for Policy Studies, Global Economy Project, International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers (IFPTE, AFL-CIO), International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW, Main Street Alliance, Media Voices for Children, National Education Association (NEA), NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice, Oxfam, Public Citizen, Public Justice Center, RootsAction.org, SAFER, Strong Economy for All Coalition, Take on Wall Street, The Child Labor Coalition, Tax March, UNITE HERE, and Working America.

Pennsylvania

Erie News Now (Blog): [What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

July 15, 2019, By Dori Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won't stand to ever pay an estate tax.

Daily American (Op-Ed): [What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from USA Today

In a city polarized by political differences, there is amazing unanimity in Washington over the sad state of the nation's infrastructure and the urgent need to address it. The question is how to pay for it.

The American Society of Civil Engineers gives U.S. infrastructure a barely passing grade of D+. The group estimates it will take \$2 trillion on top of current levels of spending to bring it all up to snuff.

Daily American (Op-Ed): [Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws](#)

February 7, 2019, By Frank Clemente and William Rice
Syndicated from USA Today

This power has for good reason been exercised sparingly. It helped Congress unravel the Watergate scandal of the 1970s and was used as recently as 2014 by Republican lawmakers.

Congress should act with urgency because it's likely Trump will resist its efforts. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who would ultimately decide on whether to honor a request for Trump's taxes, has been noncommittal, saying only that he "will review any request with the Treasury general counsel for legality." That could set up a legal challenge that might last months if not years, perhaps even past the 2020 election.

Philadelphia Inquirer (Editorial): [Pennsylvania lawmakers should calculate the high cost of low wages](#)

January 27, 2019, By The Inquirer Editorial Board

That echoes a larger and more shocking calculation that made news a few years ago, when the group **Americans for Tax Fairness** claimed that Walmart's low wages cost taxpayers \$6.2 billion in social service costs, such food stamps, housing support, and health care that its low paid workers needed to survive. While some criticized the report because those figures were based on a single state's experience, the point is that the minimum wage doesn't just impact individual families -- but all of us.

Maybe Pennsylvanians, struggling with poverty wages, can pin their hopes on the outcome of a meeting this week of Raise the Wage PA, a coalition of advocates from labor, religious, women's, and public policy groups, who will be developing a strategy to raise the wage. But the advocates, governor, and minority party legislators can't do this alone. Pennsylvanians should ramp up the pressure on Harrisburg representatives to recognize the high cost of low wages.

Rhode Island

WLNE TV Online (Blog): [What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

July 16, 2019, By Dori Zinn
Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

"High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

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South Dakota

[Argus Leader Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani

Syndicated from USA Today

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Tennessee

[Commercial Appeal Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani
Syndicated from USA Today

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[Tennessean: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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Texas

[KTEN TV Online \(Blog\): What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

July 15, 2019, By Doris Zinn

Syndicated from SmartAsset Blog

High earnings: According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, the federal estate tax will bring in \$225 billion over the course of a decade.

Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won't stand to ever pay an estate tax.

[El Paso Times Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Amer Madhani

Syndicated from USA Today

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[Corpus Christi Caller-Times Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Houston Chronicle: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others](#)

May 20, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg News

"This bill is a critical piece of legislation that would not only allow Congress to investigate President Trump and his various financial entanglements, but would also allow the American people to hold him accountable for his deeply troubling conflicts of interests," a series of progressive groups, including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Stand Up America, said in a letter to New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie.

The fight over Trump's tax returns is an unusual case since for four decades, presidential candidates have released their tax returns. But now that Trump hasn't, the need to use these provisions to disclose presidential candidates tax information involuntarily could become more prevalent.

[The Huntsville Item \(Op-Ed\): Where the Money Is](#)

May 2, 2019, By Jim Hightower

Syndicated from Creators

According to **Americans for Tax Fairness**, hundreds of TCJA's corporate backers are already making a killing. In just the first three quarters of 2018, big business quietly pocketed stunning tax savings they would have – and should have – paid to support America's public needs:

Chron.com (Op-Ed): [Tax Day 2019 finds a tax system skewed to the rich and powerful](#)

April 13, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from Associated Press

Tax Day, when we settle our personal accounts with Uncle Sam, is also a good day to take account of our tax system overall. That's especially true this year, when the first tax returns prepared under the new rules of the Trump-GOP tax law are due. We should be asking whether our system is fair, whether it raises the revenue we need, whether it promotes economic growth and equality.

The answer to all three questions is, unfortunately, no. The tax code, already full of loopholes for the wealthy and corporations, was laden with even more by the new tax law. That law will also add nearly \$2 trillion to the national debt, endangering services like Medicare, Medicaid and education, as well as vital new initiatives like lowering healthcare costs and improving road and bridges.

Houston Chronicle (Op-Ed): [Tax Day 2019 finds a tax system skewed to the rich and powerful](#)

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[The Comanche Chief: Blockbuster Merger, Stock Buybacks: How Big Pharma Is Using Its Trump-Gop Tax Cuts](#)

January 8, 2019, By Americans For Tax Fairness

The recently announced \$74 billion merger between drug industry giants Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) and Celgene highlights how pharmaceutical companies are using their massive Trump-GOP tax cuts: to further enrich their shareholders and CEOs, rather than generally boost industry wages or lower sky-high drug prices for consumers.

Bristol-Myers Squibb, the manufacturer of the blood thinner Coumadin, said last Thursday it plans to buy Celgene, the maker of a leading cancer treatment Revlimid, for \$74 billion, combining two of the leading manufacturers of oncology drugs. The two companies could save a combined \$7 billion in U.S. taxes on a combined \$39 billion in accumulated offshore profits, thanks to the so-called Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) passed a year ago, according to estimates by American for Tax Fairness.

Utah

[Southern Utah News \(Op-Ed\): Wealthy celebrate tax law anniversary, while workers pick up the tab](#)

January 3, 2019, By Frank Clemente

But that's not happening: So far only 4 percent of employees have gotten any kind of pay bump tied to the tax law, according an **Americans for Tax Fairness** study. Nationwide, real hourly wages are up less than 1% over the past year.

Those tax-cut-boosted corporate profits are instead going in a more familiar direction: into the pockets of wealthy shareholders and powerful CEOs. Since the day their taxes were slashed by the GOP, corporations have announced more than \$1 trillion in stock buybacks. Buybacks are a Wall Street strategy that inflates share prices, further enriching the already rich.

Vermont

[Burlington Free Press Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

June 5, 2019, By Aamer Madhani

Syndicated from USA Today

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 by **Americans for Tax Fairness**, a coalition of national and state progressive groups, published in 2014.

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Virginia

[WVIR TV Online \(Blog\): What is the "Death Tax" and How Does It Work?](#)

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Small target: The death tax is only hitting the wealthiest Americans. The vast majority of us more than 99% won't stand to ever pay an estate tax."

Washington

[Inlander: How Democrats stopped worrying and learned to love taxing the rich](#)

April 11, 2019, By Daniel Walters

Left-leaning groups were outgunned by anti-tax activists like Grover Norquist, who demanded that Republicans and moderate Democrats sign pledges never to raise taxes.

"It put the fear of God in them," says Dennis Bailey, spokesman for **Americans for Tax Fairness**. "There was a lot of pressure on Congress to capitulate."

West Virginia

[Herald Mail Media \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

May 21, 2019, By Frank Clemente

Syndicated from USA Today

In a city polarized by political differences, there is amazing unanimity in Washington over the sad state of the nation's infrastructure and the urgent need to address it. The question is how to pay for it.

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Wisconsin

[Stevens Point Journal Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Sheboygan Press Online: Bernie Sanders: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Post-Crescent Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[Green Bay Press-Gazette Online: Walmart resistance to raising minimum wage is 'grotesque,' slams Walton family](#)

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[FDL Reporter \(Op-Ed\): What Democrats must tell Trump: Get infrastructure money from corporations and the rich](#)

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[WISPolitics.com: U.S. Sen. Baldwin: Helps reintroduce legislation to simplify and decrease the costs of tax preparation and filing](#)

April 12, 2019, By Staff

First introduced in 2016 and reintroduced in 2017, this approach to tax filing has been endorsed by tax scholars and a bipartisan set of policymakers. The bill is endorsed by the National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients), the Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy, **Americans for Tax Fairness**, Economic Security Project Action, the Hispanic Federation, Americans for Financial Reform, and Public Citizen.

Senators Baldwin and Warren are joined by Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Cory Booker (D-NJ), Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Ed Markey (D-MA), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Tom Udall (D-NM), and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) in reintroducing this legislation.

[Wisconsin State Farmer \(Op-Ed\): Donald Trump's tax returns would answer 4 serious questions about his fitness and our laws](#)

February 7, 2019, By Frank Clemente and William Rice
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This power has for good reason been exercised sparingly. It helped Congress unravel the Watergate scandal of the 1970s and was used as recently as 2014 by Republican lawmakers.

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[Urban Milwaukee \(Blog\): 10 Reasons To Obtain Trump's Tax Returns](#)

January 4, 2019, By **Americans for Tax Fairness**

It's not a witch-hunt or a partisan attack by Democrats against an unpopular Republican president. Obtaining Donald Trump's tax returns is an important public policy objective and a legitimate exercise of Congress's oversight authority.

That's a key finding of a comprehensive report by **Americans for Tax Fairness** entitled The Case for

Congress Obtaining Trump's Tax Returns. The 21-page report examines the issue from a historical perspective and explains in great detail why Trump's tax records could answer a number of important policy questions vital to our democracy.

INTERNATIONAL

Yahoo Singapore: Your paltry savings from the Trump tax cuts

May 29, 2019, By Rick Newman
Syndicated from Yahoo Finance

Wages have picked up in 2019, but there's still little evidence companies are passing tax savings along to their employees. About 1,900 companies announced one-time bonuses related to the tax cuts last year, according to **Americans for Tax Fairness**. In total, they committed about \$4.4 billion to bonuses for about 5.4 million workers, or about \$815 per worker. That's real money, but not enough to change the picture nationally. When averaged across the entire U.S. workforce, the bonuses were only \$28. One-time bonuses can even work against workers if they come in lieu of annual raises, since they don't boost base pay or compound future earnings.

Toronto Star: New York bill may give access to Trump's tax returns and open door to target others

May 20, 2019, By Laura Davison
Syndicated from Bloomberg News

"This bill is a critical piece of legislation that would not only allow Congress to investigate President Trump and his various financial entanglements, but would also allow the American people to hold him accountable for his deeply troubling conflicts of interests," a series of progressive groups, including **Americans for Tax Fairness** and Stand Up America, said in a letter to New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie.

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World News Network: Tax organization calls for new Congress to give priority to Trump tax filings

January 4, 2019, By Yan Ruru

The tax organization "**Americans for Tax Fairness**" issued a statement stating that the new Democratic Party members of the new Congress should make the announcement of President Trump's tax filings a priority and disclose Trump tax documents to the world. .

The National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) reported that "the American people fight for equal taxation" wrote in a 21-page policy white paper that for the new Congress, obtaining Trump's tax filings is a very important public policy goal and a legitimate exercise of supervision by Congress. Permissions.