



TALKING POINTS: RICK SCOTT'S "11 POINT PLAN TO RESCUE AMERICA"

- GOP Senate Leader Mitch McConnell has tried to hide what the Republican agenda will be if they win control of Congress, [telling reporters](#): "I'll let you know when we take it back." Other members of McConnell's leadership team have been open about their real priorities.
- Senator Rick Scott (R-FL), a multimillionaire member of the Senate GOP leadership and chair of its election committee, has released his "[11 Point Plan to Rescue America](#)" that he says Republicans will pursue if they win back power. It's no surprise that it recycles many of the worst GOP ideas over the years and attacks working families while protecting corporate tax cuts and billionaire tax cheats.
- **Toplines:**
 - The Republican leadership plan shows once again that they are on the side of the wealthy and corporations, rather than here to help working families. Their plan will raise taxes on 100 million Americans, most of them of moderate means.
 - Under the GOP plan working families will pay \$100 billion **more** in federal income taxes this year alone. Those making less than about \$27,000 annually—would pay an average of nearly \$1,000 **more** in taxes in 2022. Low-income families with children would see their after tax incomes slashed by more than \$5,000 – about 20%.
 - Meanwhile, the GOP plan will not require the rich and corporations to pay a dime more in taxes. Not one tax loophole benefiting the rich and corporations will be closed. Not one billionaire will pay more in taxes. We need to create a tax system where the wealthy and corporations start paying their fair share of taxes like the rest of us do.

RAISING TAXES ON WORKING FAMILIES

- The GOP plan calls for [raising taxes on 100 million](#) low- and moderate-income Americans, while making it easier for billionaires and huge corporations to evade paying their fair share.
- **It would increase federal income taxes by more than \$100 billion this year alone.** More than 80% of the tax increase would be paid by households making about \$54,000 or less. 97% would be paid by those making less than about \$100,000. [[Tax Policy Center](#)]
- **Working families struggling to pay their bills already pay a larger share of their income in federal and state taxes compared with the wealthy.** They pay Social Security and Medicare [payroll taxes](#), [federal excise taxes](#) like the gas tax, and [state and local taxes](#). But the head of the Republican Senate campaign committee thinks they should pay even more.
- **Requiring everyone to pay some federal income taxes would mean that low-income households would no longer receive much benefit from tax credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit, which rewards work, and the Child Tax Credit, which helps lift families with children out of poverty.** These credits are fully or partially 'refundable' which means that even a family whose tax liability is zero, can still get a refund back at tax time. For example, if the credit is worth \$600 and the family's tax is \$400, they would get a \$200 check. Under the GOP plan, they would owe \$100.

- **The plan would also reduce the value of the standard deduction for millions of low- and middle-income households, requiring them to pay a lot more in taxes.** Low-income households making less than about \$27,000 a year would pay about \$1,000 more in taxes in 2022, on average. Low-income families with children would see their after tax incomes slashed by more than \$5,000 – about 20%. [[Tax Policy Center](#)]
- McConnell has [tried to deny](#) that the GOP would raise taxes on the most vulnerable half of the country if given the chance, but his record gives the American people little reason to trust him. So long as McConnell continues to hide what he'll do if he regains power, the Scott plan is the only insight we have for the whole Senate GOP.

PROTECTING WEALTHY TAX CHEATS

- The GOP plan seeks to defund the IRS, the cop on the beat trying to prevent the wealthy and corporations from evading their taxes. The nation's [richest 1% evade \\$160 billion](#) in lawfully owed taxes every year.
- Yet, the GOP plan would [slash the IRS budget in half](#). Because the [GOP slashed funding for the IRS](#), between 2010 and 2019 IRS audit rates of millionaires declined by 71% and of large corporations by 54%.

PROTECTING EXTREME WEALTH CONCENTRATION

- The Senate GOP leadership's [31-page plan](#) makes no mention of closing the gaping loopholes in the tax code that allow billionaires and huge corporations to legally dodge their taxes, or that encourage multinational corporations to move jobs and profits offshore.
- In several recent years, billionaires such as Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk, Warren Buffett and Michael Bloomberg, have [paid zero federal income taxes](#).
- In the three years since passage of the Trump-GOP tax scam in 2017, which mostly cut taxes for the rich and corporations, 39 big corporations—including FedEx and T-Mobile—[paid zero federal income taxes](#), despite over \$120 billion in collective profits.

CUTTING BENEFITS AND SERVICES

- **The GOP's reckless, radical plan appears to promote the end of federal guarantees of vital services like Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, veterans benefits, clean air and water.** Under this plan, the GOP would abandon Americans to corporations and local governments with a long history of profiteering and discrimination, and even make it easier to hide the racist impact of public programs and practices.
- **As with every other GOP plan in recent memory, this one claims to balance the budget and reduce debt—but not by catching rich tax cheats or stopping billionaires and big firms from paying little or nothing.** Instead, the GOP once again plans to cut services and benefits that working families depend on. We've seen this GOP playbook over and over again.
- **The GOP plan would make it harder for the federal government to respond to national disasters like the coronavirus, the 2008 financial crisis and climate catastrophes.** As was shown during the pandemic, robust federal action is often the only way to keep workers employed, families fed and housed, and the economy afloat in times of national emergency. Choking off federal resources would leave Americans without help when they need it most.

SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGING



Tweets:

- When @SenRickScott says “all Americans should pay some income tax” does he mean the billionaires who routinely pay nothing, or does he just mean the lowest-income Americans he considers “moochers?”

Asking for a friend.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2022/02/23/rick-scott-campaign-plan/>

- Once and for all, the 47% of Americans who have too little income to pay federal income taxes aren't “moochers.”

The billionaires and their billion-dollar corporations who pay \$0 in federal income taxes are.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/02/22/rick-scott-thrusts-gop-back-into-romney-47-percent-territory/>

- “Billionaires got \$2.1 trillion richer during the pandemic”
“Billionaires pay an effective tax rate of just 8.2%”
“Corporations see fattest profit margins since 1950”
“55 Fortune 500 companies paid \$0 federal income tax”

Republicans: *raise taxes on 100 million lower-income Americans*

<https://truthout.org/articles/republicans-response-to-taxing-the-rich-tax-the-poor/>