



SENATE BUDGET RESOLUTION TALKING POINTS

Sept. 20, 2017

Budget Resolution/Reconciliation:

- **The Senate's proposed budget will set the stage for massive tax cuts. At least \$1.5 trillion of those tax cuts will not be paid for by closing loopholes.** Any budget that allows tax cuts not to be paid for must be rejected, as it will force deep cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, education and other critical services down the road.
- **Any tax cuts must be fully paid for by raising new revenue from closing tax loopholes** that benefit the wealthy and corporations.
- **These tax cuts will not pay for themselves through miraculous economic growth.** That trickle-down theory has been disproven by economists on the left, right, and center. If these tax cuts are unpaid for, they will force deep cuts to critical priorities later on.

Topline Tax Messaging:

- The Trump/GOP leaders plan is not "tax reform"—it's a massive tax cut for the wealthy and big corporations.
- Trump/GOP leaders want to give huge tax cuts to the wealthy and corporation that we can't afford. Those tax breaks will be paid for by cutting Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and education.
- The wealthy and big corporations must pay their fair share. They should not get one penny in tax cuts.

Debunking GOP Message:

Don't get bogged down debating impact of tax cuts on jobs/economy. Focus on tax fairness and cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education. If need to address trickle-down say:

- Corporate profits are near record highs; corporate taxes are at record lows. Many corporations pay little to nothing in taxes due to tax loopholes.
- Trickle-down has been a failure time after time. Tax cuts for the rich and corporations create few jobs compared with investing in education, healthcare and infrastructure that benefits working families.

ATF Tax Poll Highlights:

- Public wants wealthy/big corporations to pay their fair share; only 1 in 5 support reducing corporate tax rates.
- Voters have two concerns about Trump/GOP leaders tax cuts: 1) Most go to wealthy and big corporations; 2) Trump/GOP pay for tax cuts by cutting Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education.
- Just one-third of voters believe trickle-down claims that tax cuts grow the economy and create jobs.