Wisconsin Corporations Get a Failing Grade for Not Sharing Their Tax Cuts With Workers

President Trump and GOP lawmakers promised that their corporate tax cuts would spur employers to boost wages by at least $4,000 a year, dramatically increase investment and create a lot of new jobs. But six months after its passage, an analysis by Americans for Tax Fairness (ATF) shows:

- Very few Wisconsin corporations are giving their workers a pay hike through one-time bonuses or wage increases due to the tax cuts.
- Corporations getting big tax cuts are mostly sharing their windfall with CEOs and wealthy shareholders.
- Few Wisconsin corporations are making new investments and creating jobs that wouldn’t have occurred anyway.

The Trump-GOP tax cuts were a huge giveaway to the wealthy and corporations and will cost nearly $2 trillion over 10 years, according to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office. The huge deficits caused by the tax cuts have given President Trump and his congressional allies an excuse to demand massive cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education, and other services for working families. In fact, Trump proposed $1.7 trillion in cuts to these very services and programs in his budget plan in February.

That $4,000 pay hike will never materialize because few corporations are sharing their tax cuts with employees or making new investments that will raise workers’ wages down the road. Instead, corporations are sharing their newfound wealth with already rich shareholders and CEOs through stock buybacks and increased dividends. Stock buybacks overwhelmingly benefit the wealthy because they own most corporate stock.

Key Findings

Americans for Tax Fairness maintains the most comprehensive website reporting on what corporations are doing with their tax cuts. Here are key findings for Wisconsin:

Only 11 Wisconsin employers out of 108,745 are providing quantifiable one-time bonuses or wage hikes due to the tax cuts.
$163.6 Million: Amount of tax cuts that just 3 Wisconsin companies will get this year alone. This is 4 times more than the $43 million Wisconsin workers have been promised in bonuses and wage hikes from tax cuts.

$2.1 Billion: Amount of stock buybacks announced by 6 Wisconsin companies since the tax cuts were passed. This is 49 times more than the $43 million Wisconsin workers have been promised in bonuses and wage hikes from the tax cuts.

Only 1.1% of Wisconsin workers — 34,285 out of 3.1 million — have been promised one-time bonuses or wage hikes due to the tax cuts.

Only 2 of 23 Fortune 500 companies headquartered in Wisconsin have announced any bonuses or wage hikes related to the tax cuts.
Only 1 of Wisconsin’s 108,745 employers has announced "new" job-creating investments related to the tax cuts.

Source: All data in this report can be found at Americans for Tax Fairness’s website at: https://americansfortaxfairness.org/issues/trumptaxcuttruths/

The data is current as of June 27, 2018. It is the most comprehensive database on the web tracking what corporations are doing with their savings from the Trump-GOP tax cuts. Data is collected from company press releases, news stories, and third-party estimates of corporate tax savings.

A more detailed spreadsheet of state-specific data in this report is available at: https://americansfortaxfairness.org/6months-statedata