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Good Evening – Below, please find the latest Op-Eds, Press Releases, and Articles on Tax Reform.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 9, 2017

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Passage of Tax Cut Legislation through the House Ways and Means Committee

Today's passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act through the House Ways and Means Committee is an important step toward providing historic tax relief for the American people. The President's priorities have remained the same throughout this process: delivering tax cuts for middle income families, a simplified tax code, and lower rates for American businesses so they can grow, create jobs, raise wages for their workers, and dominate their global competition. There is still much to do, but the Administration remains confident that, through continued cooperation with Congress, we will achieve these priorities this year.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 9, 2017

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Introduction of the Senate Tax Bill

President Donald J. Trump applauds the Senate Finance Committee for introducing their companion to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which is another important step toward providing historic tax relief for the American people. The President is encouraged that the House and Senate have shown great unity in achieving our common goals of delivering middle-class tax relief, simplifying the burdensome tax code, and empowering American businesses to create more jobs, increase wages, and compete in the global economy. We will continue working with Congress to deliver tax cuts and reforms for hardworking Americans by the end of the year.

Gov. Henry McMaster: Trump Tax Plan a Win for South Carolina

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Governor McMaster today lent his support to the Trump Administration's tax reform proposal, the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act."

Governor McMaster said, "For too long, our tax code has been overcomplicated and uncompetitive, placing an outsized burden on business while perplexing the average American. This is a rare opportunity to fix a broken system, putting money back in taxpayers' pockets and encouraging more companies to invest, expand, hire and profit. It's a win for South Carolina."

Additionally, the governor supports the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee's decision today to restore the adoption tax credit, which had been eliminated in the initial version of the plan.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will:

- Simplify the tax code by reducing the number of tax brackets and more broadly distributing the burden among South Carolina taxpayers;
- Lower the corporate tax rate, incentivizing job growth in South Carolina and throughout the country;
- Increase the standard deduction by nearly double, lowering the tax liability for the vast majority of South Carolinians who do not itemize;
- Eliminate the "Death Tax," which allows the government to confiscate property and redistribute the earnings of hardworking Americans;
- Increase the Child Tax Credit, reducing the financial burden on parents and families.

An analysis by the Tax Foundation, a non-partisan Washington, D.C.-based think tank, found that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act would result in 13,850 additional jobs in South Carolina over a 10-year period, and an average gain of $2,391 in after-tax income for middle-income families in the Palmetto State.

The governor is urging members of the South Carolina congressional delegation to support this important legislation.

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Gov. Scott Walker: Cut Taxes Now and Unleash America's Economy

by Scott Walker

"The purpose of cutting taxes now is not to incur a budget deficit, but to achieve the more prosperous, expanding economy which can bring a budget surplus."

President John F. Kennedy's comments promoting comprehensive tax reform before the Economic Club of New York more than a half-century ago are just as valid today. America needs a tax cut.

When I took office in 2011, the people of our state were suffering from record job loss and a multi-billion-dollar budget deficit. We immediately set out to reform government, balance the budget, and cut taxes. The results have been undeniably positive for the hard-working taxpayers of Wisconsin and for the bottom line of the state.

Property taxes will be lower in 2018 than they were in 2010. Income taxes will be lower in 2018 than they were in 2010. We even eliminated the entire state tax on the property tax bill for the first time since 1931. The cumulative impact of our tax relief through the end of the current budget will exceed $8 billion.

For decades, we were stuck at the bottom among the worst states for taxes. In 1995, our combined state-local tax burden ranked 4th highest in the nation according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In 2010, we ranked 9th. Today, thanks to our tax relief, Wisconsin now ranks below the national average for state and local tax burden.

Deficits? Gone. Our state's economy is growing, and we've ended every year with a surplus since taking office. Our actions created what we call the Reform Dividend, which is a series of surpluses we are using to continue lowering the tax burden and make investments in priorities like K-12 education and worker training. We are moving Wisconsin forward.

Our nation's tax code, on the other hand, is outdated and in desperate need of reform. Due to the incomprehensible regulations and untold pages of forms and instructions, nearly 90 percent of taxpayers need external help to simply comply with paying their taxes. Across the country, this time and energy spent adds up to some 6 billion hours and $15-16 billion in tax compliance costs, according to the Internal Revenue Service and the National Federation of Independent Business.

The negative impact on business is just as burdensome. America's corporate tax rate of 39%, the highest in the world among industrialized countries with advanced economies, drives job creators away from our shores. Since businesses have less money to work with after taxes, it suppresses wages and reinvestment for those that stay.

The President's tax reform plan will allow entrepreneurs and small businesses more room to improve, invest, and expand, propelling economic growth and creating more family-supporting careers, all while freeing up Americans to keep more of their hard-earned money. The President wants to simplify the tax code by consolidating our seven current tax brackets down to three, doubling the standard deduction, eliminating the death tax, and promoting capital investment for businesses of all sizes.

Such streamlining changes, if enacted, would pay huge dividends in driving economic growth and reinvigorating our workforce. With a corporate tax rate comparable to other advanced economies, businesses would be encouraged to do business in America, bringing potentially billions in income and jobs along with them. Eliminating onerous restrictions and regulations would allow businesses to afford paying their employees higher wages and reinvesting in their own growth. Meanwhile, middle-class families would earn more, keep more due to the higher standard deduction, save more with less stress, and pass on more to their children without fear of a weighty death tax.

We've proven in our state you can cut taxes, create jobs, and generate budget surpluses at the same time. If it can work in Wisconsin, it can work for America.

Scott Walker is the governor of Wisconsin.

Corporate Tax Reform Is the Key to Growth

It could increase the U.S. capital stock by $5 trillion and cause a $500 billion rise in annual income.

By Martin Feldstein The Wall Street Journal

Nov. 5, 2017 1:44 p.m. ET

The debate over tax reform is focusing on all the wrong things: the personal rates and the deduction for state and local taxes. What will truly matter for the economy is corporate tax reform, which will lead to a major increase in capital spending by companies. That in turn will raise productivity and real wages.

These gains start small but will grow year after year as capital flows to corporate investment in the U. S. from the rest of the world and from other parts of the U.S. economy. Although it is hard to judge how much the U.S. capital stock will grow, a reasonable estimate is that tax reform will raise the U.S. capital stock by $5 trillion within a decade, causing annual national income to rise by $500 billion—equal to $3,500 a household.

That boost in future gross domestic product outweighs the adverse effect of the $1.5 trillion increase in the national debt. The government's interest cost on the extra debt will be substantially less than $100 billion a year, and the potential rise in the annual trade deficit will be less than 0.5% of GDP.

The $500 billion gain in total income is the right measure for evaluating the tax reform. It's wrong to focus on the resulting change in the rate of economic growth, as some critics have done. Even though an annual gain of $500 billion by 2027 translates to a substantial $3,500 in income per household, the implied increase in the growth rate is surprisingly small. Since GDP is projected to be $30 trillion in 2027, a $500 billion increase represents a gain of 1.7%, or just 0.17% per year over the decade.

The most important reform is to cut the corporate tax rate from 35%—the highest among major industrial nations—to 20%. This will increase corporate capital directly by reducing the tax burden. Cutting the corporate rate to 20% would raise retained earnings by about $2 trillion over 10 years.

The lower tax rate will also induce foreign companies to shift some of their production to America. And capital within the U.S. will move from low-productivity uses in agriculture and housing to corporate investments that can create good jobs and raise real wages. This will be reinforced by reforms that induce American corporations to bring back profits earned by their foreign subsidiaries. Under the proposed reform the U.S. will follow the practice of nearly all other countries in adopting a "territorial" tax system. This will make American companies bring back cash from foreign subsidiaries as it is earned.

In addition, tax reform will help bring home some of the $2.6 trillion that U.S. companies already hold abroad because of today's unfavorable taxation of repatriated profits. The GOP plan includes a one-time moderate mandatory "deemed repatriation" tax on those profits accumulated overseas, after which the funds can be repatriated with no further tax.

What about tax reform's effect on the budget deficit and the national debt? I have long been a deficit hawk. It is troubling that America's ratio of debt to GDP has more than doubled in the past 10 years and is projected to increase from 77% today to 91% in a decade, even with no legislated changes in taxes or spending. An extra $1.5 trillion of debt will raise that ratio to 96%. But I believe the advantages of the corporate tax reform outweigh the adverse effects of the relatively small debt increase.

The challenge for the Congress after the next election will be to start reversing the rise in the debt. The debt-to-GDP ratio, which was 35% as recently as 2007, is heading to more than 100%. But cutting future annual deficits from the projected 5% of GDP to 3% would reverse that trend, causing the ratio to head back toward about 60%. That would be a useful next step toward a fiscally responsible condition for the U.S. economy. But the first step is to put tax reform into law.

Mr. Feldstein, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Reagan, is a professor at Harvard and a member of the Journal's board of contributors.

AT&T TO INVEST AN ADDITIONAL $1 BILLION IN THE UNITED STATES IF COMPETITIVE

TAX RATE ENACTED

"Today, the company committed to step up its 2018 U.S. investment by an additional $1 billion if Congress passes — and the President signs into law — the corporate tax provisions currently in the House bill introduced last week."

AT&T to Invest an Additional $1 Billion in the United States if Competitive Tax Rate Enacted

BusinessWire

November 8, 2017

Since 2012, AT&T has invested more in the United States than any other public company. Today, the company committed to step up its 2018 U.S. investment by an additional $1 billion if Congress passes — and the President signs into law — the corporate tax provisions currently in the House bill introduced last week.

"By immediately lowering the corporate tax rate to 20%, this bill will stimulate investment, job creation and economic growth in the United States," said Randall Stephenson, AT&T Chairman and CEO.

…

"If the House bill is signed into law, we'd commit to increase our domestic investment by $1 billion in the first year in which the new rates are in place. And research tells us that every $1 billion in capital invested in telecom creates about 7,000 good jobs for the middle class"

…

Beyond 2018, a lower tax rate would incent AT&T to continue to deploy incremental capital to its fiber and future 5G builds.

Read the full press release here.