

A Tax System for the Common Good

Making Billionaires and Ultra-Wealthy Corporations Pay Their Fair Share in Taxes

Messaging Guidance for Letters to the Editor (LTEs)

Main Ask

Make ultra-wealthy individuals and corporations pay their fair share in taxes, so that we can all thrive! *(See reverse page for list of proposals we support.)*

Key Talking Points

- **As Catholics** *[optional]* and people of faith and goodwill, we believe the Earth's resources are meant to be shared for the benefit of all people, not hoarded by an ultra-wealthy few.
 - The Catholic Church has long taught that governments have a responsibility to fairly tax those with excessive wealth to distribute it more equally for the common good. All people and families have a right to what we need to live a good life.
- Across faiths, ages, and races, the majority of us agree that **billionaires shouldn't pay a lower effective tax rate than working families.**
 - [63% of Americans](#) believe we should raise taxes on big corporations.
- **Yet, our current tax code allows the ultra-wealthy to immorally hoard money** - paying pennies on the dollar, if anything at all, in taxes.
 - **Just in the U.S., a handful of billionaires sit on a staggering \$8.2 trillion. Meanwhile, our families struggle to afford our food, housing, and health care.**
 - And, billionaires are getting richer. [Their wealth ballooned by 22%](#) in 2025.
 - Instead of making the ultra-wealthy pay what they owe in taxes, Republican lawmakers last year delivered [\\$1 trillion in tax giveaways to the top 1%](#) – all while gutting programs that our families and communities need, like Medicaid and SNAP. This is immoral.
- **When everyone pays their fair share in taxes, our communities can thrive.** By fairly taxing extreme wealth, we will be able to provide affordable health care, childcare, and education; end homelessness; build schools and hospitals; sustain Social Security; provide universal paid family and medical leave; and so much more. **(See reverse page!)**
- **The choice is clear:** Instead of further enriching billionaires, Congress must tax the ultra-wealthy to deliver the services that our communities want and need.
- **[Member of Congress name],** it's time to tax wealth and ensure that billionaires and ultra-wealthy corporations pay their fair share – so that all our communities can thrive!

What we could afford with \$7 trillion from a wealth tax

From Americans for Tax Fairness

- **Universal, affordable, high-quality childcare** for every child in the U.S.
- **Universal preschool** for all 3- and 4-year-olds.
- **Expanded Medicare** to cover long-term care, hearing and vision services.
- **Universal paid family and medical leave** for every employee in the U.S.
- **Health insurance** for every currently uninsured child.
- **1,000 new hospitals.**
- **1,000 new schools and 100,000 elementary school teachers.**
- **Tuition-free community college.**
- **Universally free school lunches.**
- **An end to homelessness** and one million public housing units.
- **Working-family income security** – the Child Tax Credit could be raised to \$6000 per child and indexed to inflation, and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) could be raised and made available to more younger and older workers.

Proposals for a More Moral Tax Code

1. Make billionaires and the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share

- **Tax wealth over \$50 million** – targeting the top 0.05% of households to raise roughly \$3 trillion over a decade (Ultra-Millionaire Tax Act).
- **Tax billionaires (about 938 people) with a 5% annual wealth tax**– raising roughly \$4.4 trillion over a decade to fund social programs like childcare, public education, and health initiatives (Make Billionaires Pay Their Fair Share Act).
- **Tax incomes exceeding \$2 million** for married couples, targeting the top 0.2% of earners. This would raise roughly \$634-\$716 billion over a decade to fund public services like health care and education (Millionaires Surtax Act).
- **Curb dynastic wealth** by increasing federal estate and gift taxes on the wealthiest Americans (For the 99.5 Percent Act)
- **Ensure that individuals with over \$1 billion** in assets or over \$100 million in income pay taxes *annually* on gains from tradeable assets like stocks (Billionaires Income Tax Act).

2. Make corporations pay their fair share

- **Raise the federal corporate income tax rate** from 21% up to 28% to raise federal revenue, fund public investments, and ensure large corporations pay their fair share.
- **Eliminate tax incentives** that encourage U.S. corporations to move jobs, factories, and profits overseas (No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act).

3. Strengthen Social Security and Medicare

- **Scrap the payroll tax cap to fully fund Social Security and Medicare** for the future of our country (Social Security 2100 Act; Social Security Expansion Act).