



# DECODING TAX REFORM

Advising the Advisor

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Friday, 26 October 2018

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## Beyond the Headlines



President Trump surprised many this week by promising to unveil a new tax cut before the November midterm elections, heralding a cut of 10% for middle-class earners. While no one on Capitol Hill was aware of such a tax bill, or how it will be paid for, House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX) [said Tuesday](#) that he would work with the administration over the coming weeks. However, Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) acknowledged that it is highly unlikely Congress will pass any new tax law before the end of the year.

### Midterm Countdown: 11 days until the election

Talk of a “blue wave” for Democrats slowed this week as polls showed that taking back the

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Senate looks increasingly unlikely and House races tightened in key districts. President Trump's rising approval rating, the contentious fight over Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, and a strong economy are all factors that could be helping swing the momentum back towards the GOP. While Democrats have led in almost every generic congressional ballot poll, they still need to flip 23 seats in November to take back the House. Prospects for retaking the Senate look increasingly bleak for Democrats.

## Midterm Elections

- [The Forecast: Republicans could keep the House. Here's how. \(CNN\)](#)

While experts forecast Democrats taking back the House by at least a small margin, most predictions are within the margin of error. This mirrors the leadup to the 2016 presidential elections, where the overwhelming majority of experts guessed Hillary Clinton would win the presidency. But, if Republicans keep control of all the seats where they are favored as well as win seats where Democrats lead by a point or less, it would result in a Republican majority of 220-215.

- [The 15 Races That Will Determine How Democrats Approach 2020 \(Politico\)](#)

Democrat congressional candidates across the country are running on more diverse platforms than in recent years. The differences between the progressive wing and the party establishment are on full display. With the 2020 Presidential primary right around the corner, how representatives of each wing fare in November will influence the shape of the nomination process going forward.

- [Talkin' about massive turnover no matter who wins the House \(Washington Post\)](#)

Regardless of which party wins more seats in the November midterms, the House will witness its highest turnover in over two decades. More than 70 lawmakers who took the oath of office in January last year have either resigned, decided not to run for reelection, lost in primaries, or are running for another office—including eight GOP committee chairmen and House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI). There will be a new leader in the House regardless of the election results.

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[Complete Survey Here](#)

### Upcoming Events

- **WIFS 2018 National Conference: Come see Suzy Jacobs, Senior Vice President of Business Development & Marketing, speak on the Leading the Way: An Industry Perspective panel.** October 24 - 26, 2018 | Use promo code **AALU18** when registering to receive the WIFS member rate. [Register Here](#)



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