

# DECODING TAX REFORM

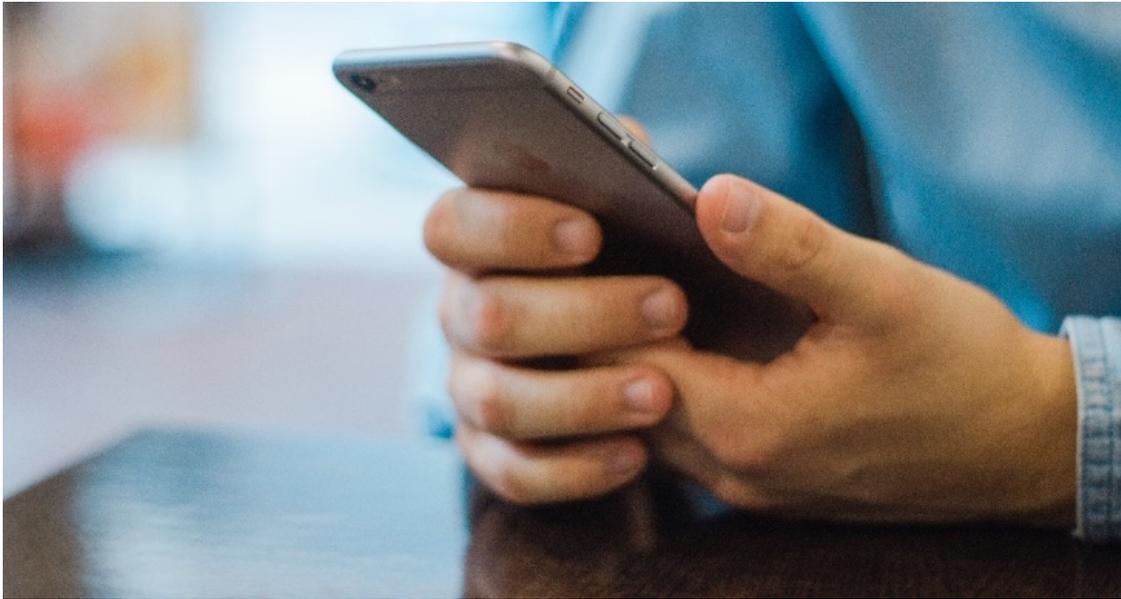
Advising the Advisor

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Friday, 18 May 2018

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## Bottom Line, Up Front



Technical implementation and debating the benefits (especially who enjoys the most) are the continuing themes of the tax discussion in D.C. Interestingly, both Republicans and Democrats see their messages on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as a winning cocktail for the voters.

The IRS' much anticipated guidance for pass-through businesses is expected to be released in July. In addition, the Joint Committee on Taxation is expecting their blue book, containing guidance on how to interpret the new tax law, to be released by December.

House Republicans continue to talk up the idea of "Tax Reform 2.0" at some point this summer. However, the precise timing and scope of that bill remains uncertain. House passage is more likely than not, but no one expects a final bill for President Trump to sign in 2018.

## Tax Cut Effects

The alternative minimum tax (AMT) will affect a fraction of the people it did in previous years due to reduced limit for state and local tax deductions and the elimination of personal exemptions and other write-offs subject to the AMT. Pass-through business owners continue to gauge the opportunities created by changes in how their businesses are taxed. Changes to tax deductions for several kinds of business entertainment are causing companies to re-evaluate different perks.

- [Who Will and Won't Pay America's Rich-Person Tax? \(WSJ\)](#)
- [It's May, and entrepreneurs still don't understand new tax laws \(CNBC\)](#)
- [Season Tickets? Steak Dinners? Small Firms Rethink Client Events After Losing Tax Break \(WSJ\)](#)

## Tax Cut Messaging

Last year's tax overhaul remained a top issue this week going into the mid-term elections. Democrats maintained their message against the tax cuts. While Republican's have hailed the TCJA as a success, some top GOP donors are closing their checkbooks over unexpected effects from last year's tax changes.

- [Democrats Stick to Script Attacking Tax Law Amid Strengthening Economy \(Weekly Standard\)](#)
  - [Top GOP donors close wallets over tax law \(CNN\)](#)
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### Upcoming Events

- **Strategies for Success: Decoding Tax Reform - Estate Planning: Strategies and Opportunities** | Feat. Michael Fontanini | Tuesday, May 22, 11am Eastern | [Register Here](#)
- **Strategies for Success: Decoding Tax Reform - Impact on Small Business** | Feat. Tom Sellin | Tuesday, June 5th, 11am Eastern | [Register Here](#)



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