THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT



2016
ANNUAL REPORT



AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR CAPITAL FORMATION

ABOUT US

For more than four decades, the American Council for Capital Formation (ACCF), a 501(c)(6) non profit, nonpartisan organization has advocated pro-growth economic policies to Washington's leading policymakers, the media, interest groups, think tanks, international organizations, and the business community which it represents.

The ACCF is uniquely able to play this role because of our bipartisan credibility with Members of Congress and the White House, our highly respected research and analysis of legislative and regulatory initiatives, and the respect we have earned in the media.



"I've always enjoyed ACCF events and appreciate your dedication to pro-growth economics. Thanks for all you do!"

-SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE PAUL RYAN (R-WI)

"I remember coming to the first ACCF session in 1982 and have benefited from coming back periodically since. I am committed to 'principled bipartisanship.' The ACCF understands that key to enacting good public policy."

- SENATOR RON WYDEN (D-OR)
Ranking Democratic Member,



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POPULISM REIGNS IN 2016, AUTHORITATIVE RESEARCH, BIPARTISAN ADVOCACY AND MEDIA CREDIBILITY ARE NEEDED

NOW MORE THAN EVER



The American Council for Capital Formation (ACCF) has advocated pro-growth economic policy with the last seven Presidents and 19 Congresses to foster savings, investment, and a business climate that promotes risk-taking and entrepreneurship.

We've seen many historic elections, but none like the 2016 cycle in which a seismic wave of populism has fundamentally changed U.S. politics and the making of U.S. economic policy.

Credibility is probably one of the most important assets in today's highly partisan and polarized climate in Washington, D.C—both political and public policy credibility. Now going on four decades, our traditional modus operandi is more valuable than ever before:

- Authoritative Research
- Bipartisan Advocacy
- Media Credibility

Our leadership on U.S. economic policy including tax, energy, regulatory improvement, and trade issues is recognized by policymakers, media, academia, think tanks, international organizations and the business community.

In 2016, we also hosted numerous Economic Policy Salons, also known as "Washington's Last Salon. These evenings brought together small bipartisan groups of Congress, prominent journalists, and the business community for off-the-record discussions on economic policy issues.

We offer our 2016 annual report as a chronicle of the unique niche the ACCF occupies. We stand ready to lead on economic policy in the new administration and Congress to create a higher standard of living, growth and competitiveness.

Sincerely,

Mark Bloomfield President & CEO January 2017



21

Members of Congress attended ACCF salon dinners (10 Republicans, 10 Democrats and 1 Independent). Four of the members were U.S. Senators.



13

Journalists and editorial writers from leading national publications attended ACCF salon dinners, including The Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Financial Times, The Economist, Politico and The Hill.



34

Published op-eds by ACCF principals in national and regional newspapers.



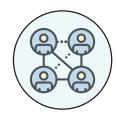
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Capital Formation Forums including then Senator and now Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady and economic advisors to the Trump and Clinton 2016 campaigns.



6

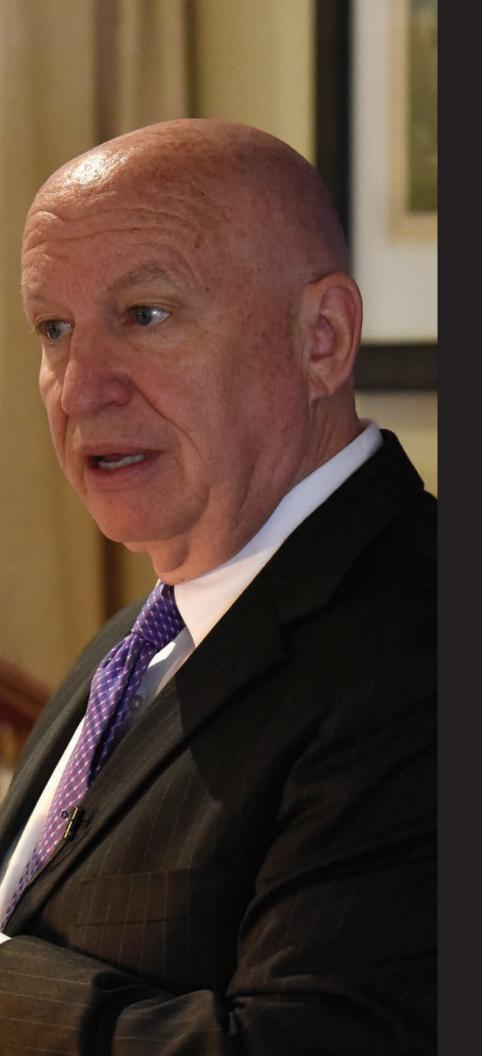
Special Reports Published by ACCF Center for Policy Research



4

Current Cabinet Members of the Trump Administration are past attendees of ACCF events.





ELECTION 2016
TAX REFORM
ENERGY POLICY
REGULATORY
IMPROVEMENT



ELECTION Z

The American Council for Capital Formation (ACCF) has advocated pro-growth economic policy with the last seven Presidents and 19 Congresses to foster savings, investment, and a business climate conducive to risk-taking and entrepreneurship..

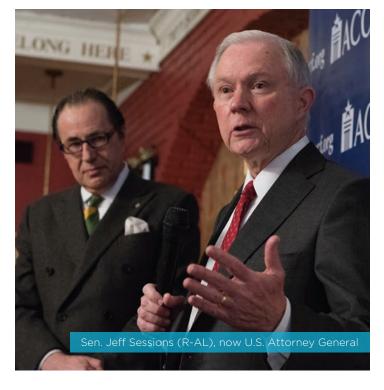
ACCF and the Trump Administration

The ACCF has hosted intimate policy discussions with congressional leaders, many of whom have climbed the ranks and will be part of the new Trump administration, including: Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL), now U.S Attorney General; Rep. Tom Price (R-GA) now Secretary of Health and Human Services; Sen. Dan Coats (R-IN) now Director of National Intelligence, and Rep. Mike Pompeo (R-KS), now CIA Director.

ACCF and Congressional Leadership

On Capitol Hill, ACCF has forged strong relationships on both sides of the political aisle, uniquely positioning it to press for long-overdue changes to economic policy.

Speaker Paul Ryan has been a featured guest at numerous ACCF forums on capital formation. On the other side of the aisle, the ACCF has hosted Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Democratic Chief Deputy Whip Peter Welch (D-VT), Senate Finance Committee Ranking Democrat Ron Wyden (D-OR), and New Democrat Coalition Chairman Rep. Jim Himes (D-CT).



















ACCF Conversations with Economic Policy Advisors to Clinton and Trump **Presidential Campaigns**

As a centerpiece of its 2016 Election Project, the ACCF hosted economic advisors to both of the major presidential campaigns along with business leaders, foreign diplomats and leading journalists to gain insight and offer policy ideas for the 45th presidency.

David Kamin, Economic Policy Adviser for Hillary for America, outlined Secretary Clinton's agenda on economic policy including tax reform, energy policy, regulatory improvement, and free trade. The ACCF also hosted Steve Moore, Senior Economic Adviser to Donald Trump, who offered the Republican nominee's vision on strongly growing the economy and addressing the needs of people that have felt left behind and betrayed by the Republican and Democrat establishment.

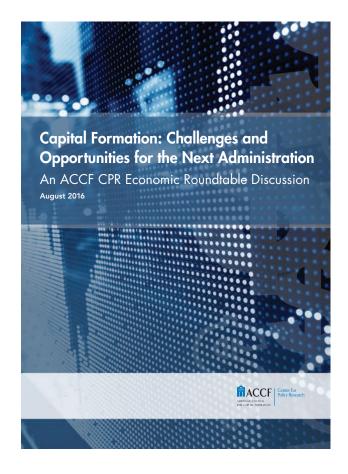


Left: David Kamin, Economic Policy Adviser for Hillary for America Right: Steve Moore, Senior Economic Adviser to Donald Trump

CAPITAL FORMATION:

Challenges And Opportunities For The Next Administration

Concerns about the low U.S. saving rate and its negative impact on capital formation and economic growth have been a key driver of the American Council for Capital Formation Center for Policy Research's agenda for the past four decades. The ACCF Center convened a panel discussion with two of its distinguished scholars Robert Gordon, Professor of Economics at Northwestern University and Dale Jorgenson of Harvard University to outline challenges and opportunities for the next administration in Capital Formation. Wall Street Journal Economics Correspondent Greg Ip moderated the discussion.



AX REFORZ

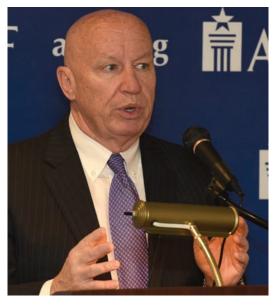
The ACCF has become the leading voice for policymakers for shifting the current taxation on saving and investment to consumption. This dates back to 1978 when the ACCF was credited with being instrumental in turning Jimmy Carter's populist tax agenda into a capital gains tax cut.

This fundamental policy choice of trying to fix the income tax versus turning the current tax system into a consumption tax has been part of every tax reform effort in the last four decades. We've worked in a bipartisan manner with the White House and Congress. The ACCF has maintained close relationships with Capitol Hill's tax leaders and are honored to have hosted eight Chairmen of the House

Committee on Ways & Means and five Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Finance at our ACCF Capital Formation Forums.

The ACCF's leadership on tax reform is recognized in think tanks, interest groups and in the media. We are proud to have been a player in setting the stage for pro-growth tax reform in 2017.

EVENTS



On April 15th, 2016, the ACCF hosted House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX) for a discussion with Washington business leaders on The State of Tax Reform.



ACCF President & CEO Mark Bloomfield met one on one with the Chairman to discuss several critical questions related to tax policy and asked what the tax reform prospects could look like in 2017. Watch the Tax Day interview **HERE**

"Capital Formation is so critical for job creation. One of the missing ingredients in this very disappointing recovery is the lack of investment due to lack of capital. Part of our overall pro-growth tax reform goals is to unlock it, make it mobile and make sure it is investment where it can help companies and the economy succeed." —Chairman Brady



"I have two articles written by Mr. Mark Bloomfield — one of the articles entitled "bipartisan tax reform" was printed in The Wall Street Journal specifically commenting on the work of the business tax reform working group. The other article was in Fortune magazine entitled "This is the fairest way to tax America." ACCF President Mark Bloomfield is no stranger to this committee and I appreciate his comments in these articles and ask unanimous consent that they be included in the record." — Chairman Hatch

FORTUNE

What Will Really Fix America's Unfair Tax System

By Mark Bloomfield - May 30, 2016

Nothing galvanizes bipartisan opposition quite like flawed tax policies, as the Obama Administration recently learned when 18 former high ranking U.S. Treasury officials of past administrations from both parties publicly rebuked Treasury Secretary Jack Lew for Treasury's latest proposal to discourage corporate inversions. Their assessment was succinct: the Treasury's 'fix' will likely make matters worse. Instead, they urged Lew to focus on "addressing the competitive disadvantages that are harming capital investment, employment, and economic growth in the United States." In other words, let's get serious about reforming America's tax code...

"Mr. Chairman, I appreciate you mentioning Mark Bloomfield and the American Council for Capital Formation. The ACCF has worked in a bipartisan manner bringing together many of us from both sides of the aisle to look at better ways to do our tax policy."

-Senator Cardin

MEDIA

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Models for Kevin Brady on Leading the House Ways and Means Committee

By Mark Bloomfield - November 6, 2016

Both Mr. Ryan and Mr. Brady want to fundamentally amend the U.S. tax code. Mr. Ryan, as House speaker and Mr. Brady, as Ways and Means chairman, may now be in the right places in Congress to make that happen.



Unleashing the Global Competitiveness of the U.S.

February 5, 2016 - By Dr. Pinar Cebi Wilber High taxes and excessive regulation serve as America's twin hurdles to

capital formation, the essential expenditure necessary to preserve and increase the stock of our nation's wealth. Entrepreneurship and commerce have suffered in recent years, but so too, has American competitiveness...

ACCF is an internationally recognized economic authority on energy and environmental policy issues. The availability of abundant and affordable energy is of critical importance to economic growth. U.S. policymakers should strive to create an environment that promotes sustained investment, increased efficiency, development of new technologies, and a predictable and rational regulatory system.

RESEARCH

The ACCF is recognized for its research on the economic impact of today's energy policies. In 2016, ACCF Executive Vice President George David Banks and Senior Fellow Jeffrey Crater published a report on the nuclear relationship between the U.S. and South Korea.

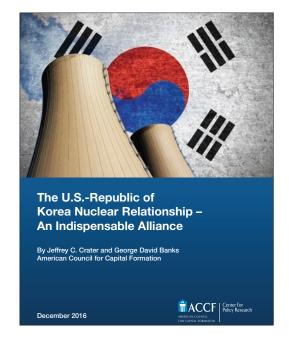
Another report by ACCF Vice President of Policy and General Counsel Tim Doyle examined President Obama's energy legacy. It also made recommendations to the new administration to focus on encouraging innovation and technological advancements. That would enable the U.S. to continue to benefit as a nation from our vast wealth of traditional energy resources, while continuing to steadily reduce the impact on the environment from their production and use.

The ACCF worked with University of Tennessee Professor Dr. Daniel De La Torre Ugarte on an update to a December 2015 report on the renewable fuel standard. The report examines the impacts of the RFS on the environment, the economy and advanced biofuels development.



10-YEAR REVIEW OF RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD
IMPACTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT, THE ECONOMY, AND
ADVANCED BIOFUELS DEVELOPMENT: AN UPDATE

DR. DANIEL DE LA TORRE UGARTE
RESEARCH PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE





Congress Should Take The Lead On Our Nation's Energy Policies

December 2, 2016 - By Dr. Margo Thorning

As the year comes to a close, the debate over LNG exports and modernizing out energy policy is at a tipping point. Before the 114th Congress comes to a close, we encourage lawmakers to reconcile differences and send a final energy bill to the president for signing that includes overdue reforms to the DOE review process for LNG export licenses.



Trump Administration Offers an Opportunity to Correct Course on Energy Policy

December 5, 2016- By Tim Doyle

Instead of declaring war on traditional energy resources, the new administration should pursue policies to ensure Americans have access to energy that is abundant, affordable, and with the least environmental impact. Support for advanced research and development can make sure those resources are used in increasingly cleaner and more efficient ways.



EPA Relies On Weak Methodology To Justify Proposed Methane Regulations

February 5, 2016 - By Dr. Pinar Cebi Wilber

While it is true that forecasting the future and making estimates based on unknowns is a difficult task, there needs to be a better process and guidelines. Especially for work that will drive national policymaking. Whether it is the proposed rule on methane or another, it is important to weigh regulatory costs and benefits accurately to set a policy path that will improve national wellbeing.

Renewable Fuel Standard

In March, the ACCF sponsored an event with CQ Roll Call, "Ethanol in America: Politics and Policy." As the first caucus in the presidential election season, lowa has been perceived as a bellwether for the rest of the campaign season. And yet Ted Cruz won the caucuses on a strong repudiation of the renewable fuel standard. The panel briefing brought together Members of Congress, agriculture and energy policy experts, political scientists and industry stakeholders to discuss where we go from here on ethanol and the Renewable Fuel Standard.





Regulatory improvement must be central to our economic policy agenda. The federal regulatory state has dramatically increased in size and scope, and now reaches into every corner of the American economy—a reality that businesses, large and small, contend with every day in the form of red tape, litigation, permitting delays and compliance costs. This is taking a major toll on American enterprise. The ACCF has laid the groundwork for a comprehensive regulatory improvement campaign based on three components: transparency, accountability and scientific integrity.

EVENTS

ACCF Convenes Bipartisan Group

On June 22, 2016, the ACCF convened a small bipartisan group comprised of a diverse cross-section of organizations, associations, and coalitions to discuss improving the federal regulatory system. Specifically, the focus was on the policy and politics of regulatory improvement efforts at the federal level, similar activities occurring at the state level, and ideas working together to partner with the new Administration and Congress.

ACCF Addresses Regulatory Improvement At NCSL

At the National Conference of State Legislatures' Annual Meeting in Chicago, ACCF Vice President of Policy and General Counsel Tim Doyle participated in a panel discussion on "The Federal Regulatory Burden." The discussion centered on the federal rulemaking process, the need for reform, and what can be done to avoid prescriptive regulatory procedures.



NCSL Panel on "The Federal Regulatory Burden" (left to right) Tim Doyle, ACCF Vice President of Policy and General Counsel, Wayne Crews, Competitive Enterprise Institute, Robert Weissman, Public Citizen

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Letter to Editor: Market-Limiting State in Lean and Fat Times

July 25, 2016 - By Dr. Pinar Cebi Wilber

In its Global Competitiveness Report, the World Economic Forum ranks countries based on various criteria that impact their overall competitiveness, including institutions, infrastructure, macro environment and education. Based on the overall score, the U.S. ranks third out of 140 countries. However, when ranked based on the burden of government regulation, the U.S. ranking is 51. We keep talking about how to improve U.S. competitiveness, but why not reach for the low-hanging fruit?



MORNING CONSULT

The Case for Cutting Red Tape July 7, 2016 • By Tim Doyle

The growing accumulation of federal rules that increasingly govern every facet of American life is a disturbing trend that holds consequences both for individual liberties and the health of the U.S. economy.

ACCF Salon on Regulatory Improvement

The first ACCF evening of 2016 centered on regulatory improvement, critical for a growing economy. Does taking an incremental approach to reform stand a better chance than pursuing a comprehensive piece of legislation, such as the REINS Act? Given polling that indicates that a large majority of Americans favor greater transparency, what steps, if any, have been taken by the Administration and the Congress to guarantee greater regulatory transparency? Elected officials that attended the evening included Governor Doug Ducey (R-AZ), Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI), Senator Angus King (I-ME), Senator Michael Rounds (R-SD) and Representative Richard Neal (D-MA).







Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD)

Roundtable On Regulatory Improvement

Following the presidential election, the ACCF Center for Policy Research hosted a Capitol Hill roundtable discussion on "Improving the Federal Regulatory System: Promoting Transparency, Accountability, and Scientific Integrity." Senator James Lankford (R-OK) joined members of the Senate Regulations Caucus for the robust discussion.



ACCF Roundtable on Regulatory Improvement



Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD) and Senator James Lankford (R-OK)



ACCF-CPR Vice President of Policy and General Counsel Tim Doyle moderated the ACCF-CPR Roundtable

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AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR CAPITAL FORMATION

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President and Chief Executive Officer

George David Banks Executive Vice President

Tim Doyle Vice President of Policy and General Counsel

Ashley Laing Secretary

Hamideh Kashaninejad

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American Beverage Association

American Exploration & Production Council

American Forest & Paper Association

American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers

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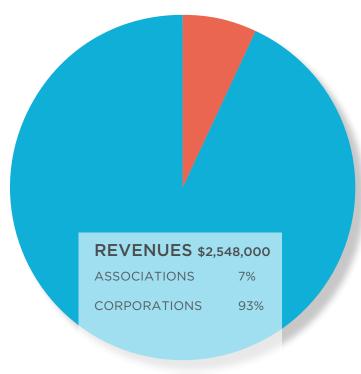
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ACCF FINANCIAL PROFILE

The American Council for Capital Formation is grateful for the generous financial support of the corporations and associations that helped underwrite its 2015 programs. The ACCF is a 501(c)(6) organization. While contributions or gifts to it are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes, they may be deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense or an expense incurred in the production of income. The ACCF estimates that in calendar year 2015, 1.25 percent of its expenditures were allocated to influencing legislation within the meaning of federal tax laws. Therefore, 1.25 percent of contributions to the ACCF in 2015 were nondeductible. Audited financial statement is available upon request.

*Figures for 2016 are unaudited.

2016 SPONSORS

American Benefits Council

American Beverage Association

American Exploration & **Production Council**

American Forest & Paper Association

American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers

American Gas Association

American Iron and Steel Institute

American Trucking Associations

America's Natural Gas Alliance

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National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Occidental Petroleum Corp.

The Principal Financial Group

Prudential

The Real Estate Roundtable

Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association

Standard & Poor's

USAA





3 reasons we'll get tax reform in 2017

December 28, 2016 • By Mark Bloomfield

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 was possible because it included something for all the major players. President Reagan and congressional Republicans wanted lower tax rates and Democrats wanted to close loopholes. The latter paid for the former. Today, the impetus for tax reform is coming courtesy of three unlikely partners: Apple CEO Tim Cook, Trump and Ryan...



Obama's Midnight OCS Withdraw Puts U.S. Security at Risk

December 23, 2016 • By Robert Dillon

President-elect Trump can and should move swiftly to reverse those decisions of the current administration that make the United States less secure and more dependent on foreign sources for the energy needed to drive economic growth.



Clinton and Trump are both wrong about trade deals

October 20, 2016 • By Dr. Pinar Cebi Wilber

We can continue lowering the trade piñata for everyone to whack and claim that "we cannot compete." Or we can reach for the higher goal, put our fiscal house in order, approve TPP, and lead the pack in Asia, the fastest growing region of the world.



Trump's Instincts on Russia Are Correct

October 17, 2016 • By George David Banks

As America allied with the Soviet Union to defeat Nazi Germany, Washington should seek similar cooperation with Moscow to defeat ISIL. America needs a functional working relationship with Russia. Hillary Clinton understands its importance, having attempted to "reset" relations at the beginning of her tenure as secretary of State.



IRS Data: Strong Markets Bolstered Capital Gains in 2014

May 27, 2016

ACCF Senior Economist Dr. Pinar Cebi Wilber Wilber said realizations for capital gains 'are extremely sensitive to the timing of tax changes,' which explains several recent fluctuations. 'If they're expecting tax rates to decrease, people will hold onto capital gains realizations the year before. But if they're expecting the rate to increase, they will immediately unlock and start selling,' she said

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Why a Price on Carbon Is Unlikely in the U.S. Anytime Soon

September 14, 2016 • By George David Banks

America is unlikely to adopt a formal price on carbon during the next administration. Washington academics and New York traders should accept the political reality that GOP opposition won't be overcome by a Clinton presidency. Furthermore, regulation of manufacturing represents the Achilles' heel of the climate agenda.



The Presidential Politics Of Energy Policy

September 27, 2016 • By Tim Doyle

Climate change is the new energy policy. President Obama has shifted the nation in recent years away from the abundance of oil and natural gas to cleaner, though more expensive, renewable energy sources.



Corporate tax reform is vital to boosting America's growth

August 26, 2016 • By ACCF Scholar Robert Gordon, Northwestern University

The American tax code, in particular, exerts a downward pressure on capital formation and therefore on economic growth. It is now 30 years since the passage of comprehensive federal tax reform in the US.

In the intervening years, nearly every developed country has reformed its tax codes to make them more competitive than that of America. Meanwhile, the US has allowed its tax code to atrophy..."

EDAILY CALLER

Fiduciary Rule Puts Retirement Savers at Risk

June 10, 2016 • By Dr. Pinar Cebi Wilber

Published in Daily Caller - Under the new rule, financial advisors will be burdened with increased compliance considerations and greater legal liability, which will in turn increase the cost and restrict access to affordable retirement advice for many hardworking Americans.

FORTUNE

What Will Really Fix America's Unfair Tax System

May 30, 2016 • By Mark Bloomfield

Inversions, where U.S.-based corporations relocate their official headquarters to another country with a more favorable tax rate, should be discouraged. But it's a mistake to view the phenomenon, as Obama administration officials do, through the singular lens of recovering millions of dollars in lost tax revenue. Instead, they should recognize corporate inversions as the manifest result of an American tax structure that's inhospitable to business.

ASIAN REVIEW

Why a Price on Carbon Is Unlikely in the U.S. Anytime Soon

April 7, 2016 • By Tony Nash & George David Banks

Published in Nikkei Asian Review - Infrastructure is the key to Asia's future: energy systems to provide consistent, affordable power to factories, sprawling urban centers and flickering countryside villages; better schools to educate children and young adults; wider roads that lead commuters to shiny new office buildings; and better ports to move manufactured goods across borders.

MEDIA



CNBC Power Lunch

ACCF Executive Vice President George David Banks discusses the Trump transition, challenges and opportunities facing the new administration.



BBC World News

On BBC World News, ACCF President & CEO Mark Bloomfield discusses the intricate details of the presidential transition process. The ACCF has been involved in shaping the economic agenda in the first 100 days of the last six presidencies and now, President-elect Donald Trump. Bloomfield also served as secretary of President-Elect Reagan's Transition Task Force on Tax Policy.

CHOLARS Z 茾 ZEWS



Bloomberg Daybreak

John Taylor, Stanford University economics professor and ACCF Center for Policy Research Scholar, discusses the outlook for Fed policy and President-elect Donald Trump's economic policies with Bloomberg's Kathleen Hays and Betty Liu on "Bloomberg Daybreak: Asia."



C-SPAN Washington Journal

Gary Hufbauer, Peterson Institute for International Economics and ACCF Center for Policy Research Scholar, talks trade policy under the incoming Trump administration on C-SPAN's Washington Journal.

The New York Times

How Donald J. Trump **Could Promote Long-Term Economic Growth**

December 27, 2016 • By Glenn Hubbard

"Early equity market gains after Mr. Trump's election offer a vote of optimism in the potential impact of a different economic policy direction. Now, the right building blocks, action and communication can sustain that optimism and generate higher incomes and greater opportunity."

NATIONAL REVIEW

Recovery through tax reform

December 9, 2016 • By Dr. Kevin Hassett

"With apologies to Ronald Reagan, next year is teed up to be the biggest supply-side-policy year in American history. The expected changes are too numerous to list, but the most economically consequential will be tax reform. President-elect Trump promised a sweeping tax reform that strikingly resembled a proposal sketched last summer by House Republicans. These plans also closely followed ideas long sketched by Senate Republicans, so it seems certain that something like the Trump/House plan will become law. Thank goodness."





ECONOMIC POLICY EVENINGS











"ACCF Economic Policy Evenings bring members of Congress, journalists, and corporate executives into informal, off-the-record propinquity" —National Journal

"Citizens take heart, there is civil discourse, but behind the scenes." —Barron's

"An oasis from Washington's partisan bickering." —The Hill













"It's a unique opportunity to talk policy instead of politics and a true break from the political rhetoric in the Congress."

—Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD)





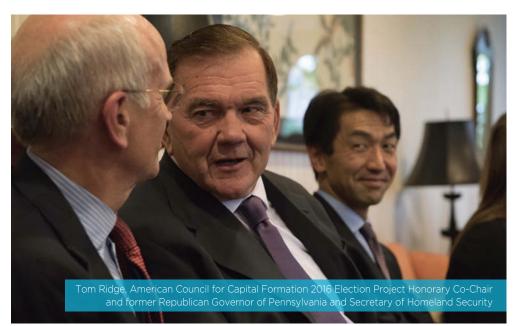


"Away from the cameras and grandstanding, participants discuss the issues of the day and on occasion help steer economic policy."

-The Economist

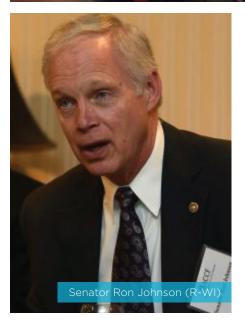












"I always enjoy participating in the ACCF Economic Evening. This event allows for lively and interesting discussion in a venue conducive to bipartisan and bicameral dialogue. We need more of that."

—Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI)



