

# The American Spectator

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### [Criticism of Perry's Tax Plan](#)

By [Joseph Lawler](#) on 10.25.11 @ 12:32PM

At *The Business Insider*, Michael Brendan Dougherty [rips](#) Rick Perry's plan for an optional flat tax rate:

But Perry doesn't have all that much faith in his scheme, as he would allow anyone who wants to file under the current code the option to do so.

This is an admission that for many Americans the status quo is actually better than anything Rick Perry's team can devise.

Perry's tax plan would preserve all the confusion, waste, and market distortions in the current code, and add another layer....

Perry's plan is not as simple as Herman Cain's [9-9-9](#) plan or even Jon Huntsman's [more progressive](#) tax-simplification plan. Perry has managed to release a tax plan that is bad politics on top of bad policy.

It's difficult to imagine that Perry has the capacity to explain his plan with any sense of confidence. Mitt Romney's [economic](#) plan may be over 50 pages long, but Romney can recite PowerPoint-style presentations spontaneously. Rick Perry forgets his one-liners halfway through delivering them.

Perry's [editorial](#) outlining his plan didn't even mention whether his team believed it was revenue-neutral. Does he care? Probably not. Does it matter? Of course not. This plan is only good for disqualifying the candidate who bothered to suggest it.

As far as the news cycle's concerned, though, Perry's latest [giant gaffe](#) may totally drown out the introduction of his tax proposal.