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A national retail sales tax is the wrong answer

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We need a very flat income tax, not a national retail sales tax.

The only idea that makes any sense for taxpayers and Congress is a very flat income tax.

For individuals: A single 10 percent rate. We need not bow to the silly Marxist class warriors who demand that the rich be robbed progressively “because they can afford” to be, or because they “benefitted more.” They will pay more tax dollars.

Everyone eligible to vote (who can thus be pandered to) must feel some pain when Congress spends our tax dollars. Congress steals from those who pay to buy the votes of those who don't.

Today, only about half of all eligible voters pay no federal Income tax, no Social Security/Medicare “tax,” and receive a net tax welfare check (via “refundable tax credits” — your money). Our president and the GOP (see, a better way) propose to slaughter taxpayers by reducing the number of people who pay taxes (by doubling the standard deduction). Taxpayers would then comprise only 40 percent-plus and would irreversibly remain an indefensible minority. We must stop Congress from doing this.

i say, eliminate the standard deduction, itemized deductions, personal exemptions, refundable tax credits – they can be phased-out over four years.

Business income should be taxed only once, at 10 percent, on a very simplified basis.

You could use a business' audited financial statements as the basis for their tax return.

Every individual/business could prepare their taxes on one sheet of paper in less than an hour, without needing a CPA.

Cheating would decline, compliance costs disappear. People and businesses would be free to make decisions based upon economic, not tax, considerations. IRS is neutered.

For 18 years, a national lobbying (sales) group, AFFT, has been selling a national retail sales tax aka “FairTax Act of 2017,” House Resolution 25. But, FairTax exposes itself to be a progressive financial scam!

FairTax advertises that it is more progressive (more welfare).

FairTax's "prebate" is a \$600 billion new entitlement! The poor pay still nothing and receive a bigger tax welfare check.

FairTax is a 30 percent (not the deceptively advertised 23 percent) national retail sales tax on virtually everything you buy (they divide a \$30 FairTax, \$100 pre- FairTax, by the total, \$130).

Retail prices would rise by nearly 30 percent. FairTax lobbyists, finally appear to "admit" to this.

The combined federal-plus-local 30 percent to 45 percent sales tax would spark a taxpayer revolt destroying our retail economy. At an illustrative 30 percent evasion/avoidance rate (laughably, FairTax "assumes" zero) a \$1 trillion shortfall will likely result in adding a new income tax (Cato Institute agrees).

Used property is advertised as exempt, but that may be a cruel hoax.

Their claim, "IRS is Abolished" is a myth. FairTax's new IRS (STAA) may be more invasive by auditing consumers and requiring an annual filing.

It appears that FairTax required a 70 percent to 80 percent rate. Lobbyists simply "assumed" away 20 percent to 30 percent evasion/avoidance, hid another 20 percent to get the rate down to 30 percent . Then they devised the 23 percent fraud.

Many middle class seniors would pay more FairTax than they would have paid in income tax and many would lose purchasing power.

FairTax promises grand economic benefits which are entirely unpredictable, mere "hype and change." Their many claims are superficial and false.

A sales tax works raising \$9 billion for Tennessee, but it fails raising \$3.5 trillion nationally. Early FairTax -engaged Harvard economist Dale S. Jorgenson wrote, "In trying to replace three taxes, FT takes on too great a burden for it to carry."