**Tom MacArthur (NJ-03): Swamp Creature**

**Significant Findings**

- MacArthur received $243,653 from insurance companies and their employees.
- MacArthur was estimated to be the third wealthiest member of the House of Representatives, and his net worth increased by over $400,000 during his first term.
- MacArthur has received $24,000 in donations from Paul Ryan and his associated entities.
- MacArthur owned and profited from health care industry stocks while in Congress.
- Macarthur spent nearly $60,000 in taxpayer money on franked mail and printing costs.
- Trump hosted fundraiser at his New Jersey golf club that raised $800,000 for MacArthur, who has voted with the president 94% of the time.

**Biography**

Tom MacArthur is a Member of Congress representing New Jersey’s 3rd Congressional District and has served in that position since 2015.

- Born October 1960 in Hebron, California
- Education: Hofstra University, B.A. (1982)
- Professional: worked as an insurance adjuster and then CEO of York Claims Services
- Served on the Randolph Township Council from 2011 to 2014
- Served as the Mayor of Randolph Township in 2013

**MacArthur Benefitted From The Perks Of Congress**

**MacArthur Has Received $522,000 In Taxpayer Funded Salary**

MacArthur has received an annual congressional salary of $174,000 since 2015. Over his three years served in Congress, MacArthur has received a total of $522,000 in taxpayer-funded salary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Congressional Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$174,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$174,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$174,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$522,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Congressional Research Service, 6/21/16]
MacArthur Was The Third Wealthiest Member Of The U.S. House Of Representatives

When MacArthur first took office, his net worth was an estimated $64.01 million. In 2016, his second year in Congress, MacArthur’s net worth grew to an estimated $64.46 million – a $452,709 increase.

According to Center for Responsive Politics, MacArthur was the third wealthiest Member of Congress. [Center for Responsive Politics, accessed 1/8/18]

MacArthur Bought A Home In Washington, D.C. After He Was Elected To Congress

In December 2014, MacArthur Bought A Home At 2 6 th St NE Washington, DC 20002 For $1.63 Million. [Nexis, Deed Record Search, 1/8/18; DC Office of Tax And Revenue, accessed 2/6/18]

MacArthur Did Not Receive A Homestead Deduction For The Property. [DC Office of Tax And Revenue, accessed 2/6/18]

Macarthur Received $20,324 In Privately Funded Travel

MacArthur Received $20,324 In Privately Funded Travel. In August 2015, MacArthur went on a privately funded trip, receiving a total of $20,324 in travel. [Political Moneyline, accessed 1/8/18]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Location(s)</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/8-8/16/15</td>
<td>American Israel Education Foundation</td>
<td>Jerusalem, Israel, Tiberias, Israel</td>
<td>$20,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MacArthur Owned Stock Portfolios With Connections To The White House And Pending Legislation

MacArthur Owned Stake Of Up To $5 Million In Anthony Scaramucci’s Skybridge Hedge Fund. “Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-3) owns a stake in SkyBridge Capital, the investment firm owned by White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci. Scaramucci, who joined the Trump administration last week, had a lead role managing the firm but left it in January. SkyBridge Capital is now in the process of being sold to a group of companies led by HNA Group, a Chinese conglomerate that has drawn scrutiny for its opaque ownership structure. Scaramucci announced the sale days before Trump’s inauguration in January, but U.S. regulators have delayed the deal […] MacArthur owns between $1 million to $5 million in SkyBridge assets, according to a 2016 U.S. House financial disclosure form. He hasn’t reported selling his stake in the company as of May this year.” [NJ Observer, 7/27/17]

MacArthur Spokesman Didn’t Address Whether It Was Appropriate For Scaramucci To Sell Skybridge To HNA Group, A “Shadowy” Chinese Firm U.S. Banks Avoided. “HNA, the potential SkyBridge buyer, has been criticized for its mysterious ownership. Wall Street firms including Bank of America, Citigroup and Morgan Stanley have mostly steered clear of HNA because they can’t get internal approvals from ‘know your customer’ committees, according to Bloomberg. The New York Times dubbed the company ‘shadowy’ in a lengthy article published Wednesday about an unusual $18 billion donation HNA made to a New York charity. A MacArthur spokesman didn’t answer whether the congressman thinks it’s appropriate for SkyBridge to be sold to the Chinese conglomerate in a statement Thursday.” [NJ Observer, 7/27/17]

MacArthur Bought Up To $800,000 In Stock And $120,000 In Corporate Bonds In Health Care Companies While Issue Of Repealing ACA Was Before The House. “The two New Jersey lawmakers who voted to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act bought or sold securities in health care companies while the issue was before the House, financial disclosure filings show. Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-3rd Dist.), whose proposed changes helped bring back the Obamacare repeal debate, bought as much as $800,000 in stock in health care companies this year […] MacArthur this year bought between $250,000 and $800,000 worth of stock in health care companies, almost
all of it on Jan. 9 and 10, just days before he dissented on the House Republican budget bill making it easier to repeal the existing law. His biggest purchases were stock worth $102,000-$280,000 in CVS Health and $51,000-$115,000 in Roche Holding AG, a pharmaceutical and biotechnology company. MacArthur also bought from $4,000 to $60,000 in Tenet Healthcare corporate bonds from Feb. 28-March 3, and $4,000 to $60,000 in HCA corporate bonds in March and April. Both companies own hospitals and other medical treatment centers.” [Newark Star-Ledger, 6/3/17]

**Ethics Experts Criticized MacArthur And Frelinghuysen For Trading In Health Stocks While Working On The Health Care Bill.** “Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-3rd Dist.), whose proposed changes helped bring back the Obamacare repeal debate, bought as much as $800,000 in stock in health care companies this year. Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-11th Dist.) sold off shares of another company at their yearly high, according to filings with the Clerk of the House. They are the two richest members of the state's congressional delegation. ‘Why are they buying and selling health care company stock when they're working on a health care industry bill?’ said President George W. Bush's top ethics officer, Richard W. Painter, now a University of Minnesota law professor. ‘This looks incredibly suspicious.’ [...] ‘It's always concerning to see lawmakers explicitly participating in the marketplace while simultaneously making policy choices that could impact those markets,’ said Lisa Gilbert, a Glen Rock native who is vice president for legislative affairs for Public Citizen, a Washington advocacy group. ‘It isn't illegal, but it certainly raises red flags.”’ [Newark Star-Ledger, 6/3/17]

**Star-Ledger Editorial: MacArthur’s Trading In Health Stocks During AHCA Debate “Fits The Prevailing Impression that MacArthur, Like Trump, Is Primarily Out For Himself.”** “It didn't help to learn that the Toms River Republican, one of the richest members of New Jersey's delegation, was among the GOPers buying or selling stock in health care companies while working on this health care industry bill. (So was Rodney Frelinghuysen, R-11th Dist). While it's not illegal, and MacArthur insists he wasn't personally involved in the trade, the timing ‘looks incredibly suspicious,’ as President George W. Bush's top ethics officer, Richard W. Painter, now a law professor, put it. Most damaging is that it fits the prevailing impression that MacArthur, like Trump, is primarily out for himself. He, too, is a man of dangerous ambition and hubris, who claims that because he is an insurance executive, he knows more about the market than the Congressional Budget Office - much like Trump says he knows more about the military than the military does. That MacArthur represents a special interest - the industry that got us into this mess in the first place - sounds more like a reason for him not to be involved in this legislation at all. His agenda clearly isn't helping New Jersey, or his district.” [Newark Star-Ledger, Editorial, 6/12/17]

**In 2015, MacArthur Held Between $834,000 And $2.3 Million In Health Care Company Investments Which Gained Him Between $142,000 And $472,000 In Income.** “Among the influential members with significant investments is Rep. Thomas MacArthur of New Jersey, who held between $834,000 and $2.3 million in health-care company investments in 2015. MacArthur made between $142,000 and $472,000 in capital gains and dividends on those investments, according to his disclosure forms. MacArthur authored an amendment to the AHCA that allows insurance companies to deny coverage to some people with pre-existing conditions. The amendment won over critical support from the right-wing Freedom Caucus, allowing the bill to narrowly pass the House.” [Daily Beast, 5/24/17]

**MacArthur Owned The Seventh-Most Health Care Stock Of Any Congressman Who Voted For AHCA.** “MacArthur ranks seventh among the 40 AHCA supporters who owned the most health-care stock.” [Daily Beast, 5/24/17]

**MacArthur’s Spokesperson Did Not Say Whether He Had Consulted Ethics Officials About His Health Care Investments And Role In Passing AHCA.** “Camille Gallo, spokesperson for Rep. MacArthur, provided the following statement: ‘Congressman MacArthur has divested from all holdings in companies that are affected by his committee appointments. This is not required, nor was he asked to do so. Anyone who is alleging that Tom entered public service to make money is embarrassing themselves and needs to find a new witch to hunt.’ Gallo did not say whether MacArthur has consulted ethics officials regarding his significant health-care investments and large role in the AHCA, something both Noble and Painter say should occur for all members of Congress who are doing more than simply voting on legislation.” [Daily Beast, 5/24/17]
MacArthur Consistently Voted With Trump, And Fundraised With The President

MacArthur Has Voted With Trump 94% Of The Time

According to FiveThirtyEight, as of February 2018, MacArthur voted with Trump 94% of the time since the president took office. [FiveThirtyEight, accessed 2/21/18]

Trump Hosted Fundraiser At His New Jersey Golf Club That Raised $800,000 For MacArthur

Trump’s Golf Club Was Paid $15,221 For Hosting MacArthur Fundraiser. “Rep. Tom MacArthur and the Republican Party weren't the only beneficiaries of the fundraiser President Donald Trump hosted at his Bedminster golf club last month. Trump's golf club was paid $15,221 for rent and food. The Republican National Committee reported $776,350 in contributions from the event, according to documents filed with the Federal Election Commission. The committee spent $59,043, including the money to the golf club, the records show.” [Newark Star-Ledger, 7/17/17]

MacArthur Said Trump Offered To Host Fundraiser For Him After MacArthur Got “Beat Up” At His Town Hall Meeting. “Nonetheless, MacArthur's high-profile role in writing the GOP's health care bill has made him a target in his district. Already three Democrats have announced their intentions of running against him next year, and there have been weekly protests outside his district office in Evesham. Last month, MacArthur hosted a five-hour town hall meeting in Willingboro that drew hundreds of protesters. MacArthur said the attention prompted Trump to offer his assistance. ‘He knew I was getting beat up a bit. He called me up a few weeks ago and said he wanted to help me,” the congressman said. According to wire reports, about 100 guests attended the function, which raised about $800,000 for MacArthur's campaign. A copy of the invitation suggested donations ranging from $5,400 to $100,000 for a VIP photo opportunity with the president.” [The Intelligencer, 6/11/17]

Trump Hosted Fundraiser At His New Jersey Golf Club That Raised $800,000 For MacArthur. “U.S. Rep. Tom MacArthur's role as one of the saviors of the Republican health care overhaul earned him the praise and thanks of President Donald Trump, who hosted a fundraiser for the congressman Sunday at his New Jersey golf course. The event at Trump National Golf Club was the first personal fundraiser the president has held for a member of Congress, and MacArthur's campaign expected it to be their single biggest event ever […] According to wire reports, about 100 guests attended the function, which raised about $800,000 for MacArthur's campaign. A copy of the invitation suggested donations ranging from $5,400 to $100,000 for a VIP photo opportunity with the president.” [The Intelligencer, 6/11/17]

Funded By Republican Leadership, Receiving $24,000 From Paul Ryan

Over his career, MacArthur has received $24,000 in donations from Paul Ryan and his associated entities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Candidate/Committee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/30/17</td>
<td>Ryan for Congress, Inc.</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/30/17</td>
<td>Ryan for Congress, Inc.</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/30/17</td>
<td>Prosperity Action, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/14/16</td>
<td>Prosperity Action, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14/16</td>
<td>Prosperity Action, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/16/14</td>
<td>Prosperity Action, Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$24,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[FEC, accessed 1/8/18]
In September 2017, the Congressional Leadership Fund, a SuperPAC Affiliated With Ryan, Opened An Office In MacArthur’s District To Support Him In The 2018 Elections. “The Republican super PAC backed by House leadership is expanding its field program by opening new offices in six GOP-held districts. Congressional Leadership Fund now has a 17 field offices across the country. […] New Jersey’s 3rd District, where two-term Rep. Tom McArthur is a Democratic target, especially after he played a key role in reviving the GOP health care bill.” [Roll Call, 9/6/17]

Voted To Elect Paul Ryan Speaker Of The House

2017: Voted To Make Rep. Paul Ryan Speaker Of The House. In January 2017, MacArthur voted for Paul Ryan to be Speaker of the House. Ryan was elected by a vote of 239-189. [Election to the Speaker, Vote #2, 1/3/17; CQ, 1/3/17]

2015: Voted To Make Rep. Paul Ryan Speaker Of The House. In October 2015, MacArthur voted for Paul Ryan to be Speaker of the House. Paul Ryan received 236 votes, Nancy Pelosi received 184 votes, and Daniel Webster received 9 votes. [Election to the Speaker, Vote #581, 10/29/15]

Funded By Special Interests

### Top Overall Industries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$243,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership PACs</td>
<td>$239,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>$163,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities &amp; Investment</td>
<td>$154,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers/Law Firms</td>
<td>$132,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>$111,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Trade Unions</td>
<td>$94,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceuticals/Health Products</td>
<td>$91,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc</td>
<td>$83,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican/Conservative</td>
<td>$77,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Center for Responsive Politics, accessed 1/8/18]

### Top Overall Sectors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Indivs</th>
<th>Other Cntes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance, Insurance &amp; Real Estate</td>
<td>$332,591</td>
<td>$390,470</td>
<td>$723,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideological/Single-Issue</td>
<td>$117,800</td>
<td>$372,757</td>
<td>$490,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>$33,160</td>
<td>$157,550</td>
<td>$190,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc Business</td>
<td>$80,161</td>
<td>$104,845</td>
<td>$185,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers &amp; Lobbyists</td>
<td>$158,767</td>
<td>$24,400</td>
<td>$183,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$170,000</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy &amp; Natural Resources</td>
<td>$69,950</td>
<td>$92,340</td>
<td>$162,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$125,820</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$130,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$89,000</td>
<td>$36,500</td>
<td>$125,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>$14,800</td>
<td>$92,500</td>
<td>$107,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Center for Responsive Politics, accessed 1/8/18]
MacArthur Received $243,653 From Insurance Companies

Career: MacArthur Received $243,653 From Insurance Companies. According to Center for Responsive Politics, over the course of his congressional career, MacArthur received $243,653 from insurance companies and their employees. [Center for Responsive Politics, accessed 1/8/18]

MacArthur Received $154,625 From Securities And Investments Interests

Career: MacArthur Received $154,625 From Securities And Investments Interests. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, over the course of his congressional career, MacArthur received $154,625 from securities & investment interests and their employees. [Center for Responsive Politics, accessed 1/8/18]

MacArthur Received $19,000 From The Telecommunications Industry

2016: MacArthur Received $19,000 From The Telecommunications Industry. According to the Verge, during his most recent election, MacArthur received $19,000 from telecommunications industry and its employees. [The Verge, 3/29/16]

MacArthur Spent Nearly $60,000 In Taxpayer Money On Franked Mail And Printing Costs

MacArthur Spent By Far The Most On Franked Mail And Printing Of Any N.J. House Member


The table below displays the total spending on franked mail and printing/reproduction reported by all New Jersey members of the House of Representatives in the Statement of Disbursements of the House for April 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member of Congress</th>
<th>Franked Mail</th>
<th>Printing &amp; Reproduction</th>
<th>Combined Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald Norcross (D-01)</td>
<td>$1,420.25</td>
<td>$2,768.75</td>
<td>$4,189.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Frank LoBiondo (R-02) $356.43 $825.40 $1,181.83
Tom MacArthur (R-03) $29,429.15 $28,778.49 $58,207.64
Chris Smith (R-04) $1,844.52 $1,677.72 $3,522.24
Josh Gottheimer (D-05) $2,738.90 $1,939.12 $4,678.02
Frank Pallone (D-06) $672.83 $500.33 $1,173.16
Leonard Lance (R-07) $334.26 $452.48 $786.74
Albio Sires (D-08) $221.82 $457.10 $678.92
Bill Pascrell (D-09) $30.22 $1,858.99 $1,889.21
Donald Payne (D-10) $32.21 $1,215.97 $1,248.18
Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-11) $1,876.64 $453.76 $2,330.40
Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-12) $408.94 $1,750.84 $2,159.78

[Statement of Disbursements of the House, April-June 2017, accessed 10/23/17] (NOTE: Disbursement information is also available in spreadsheet format at https://disbursements.house.gov/)

MacArthur Voted For Key Republican Priorities In The 115th Congress

MacArthur Voted For Final Passage Of The Republican Tax Scam Bill

MacArthur Voted For Adopting The Conference Report Of The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act. In December 2017, MacArthur voted for “adoption of the conference report on the bill that would revise the federal income tax system by lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent; lowering individual tax rates through 2025; limiting state and local deductions to $10,000 through 2025; decreasing the limit on deductible mortgage debt through 2025; and creating a new system of taxing U.S. corporations with foreign subsidiaries. Specifically, it would repeal personal exemptions and would roughly double the standard deduction through 2025. It would raise the child tax credit to $2,000 through 2025, would repeal the alternative minimum tax for corporations and provide for broader exemptions to the tax for individuals through 2025. It would double individual exemptions to the estate tax and gift tax through 2025, and would establish a new top tax rate for “pass-through” business income through 2025.” The conference report was adopted 227-203. [HR 1, Vote #692, 12/19/17; CQ Floor Votes, 12/19/17]

MacArthur Voted For Final Passage Of The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act By Concurring With A Senate Amendment. In December 2017, MacArthur voted for “Brady, R-Texas, motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the tax overhaul that would revise the federal income tax system by: lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent; lowering individual tax rates through 2025; limiting state and local deductions to $10,000 through 2025; decreasing the limit on deductible mortgage debt through 2025; and creating a new system of taxing U.S. corporations with foreign subsidiaries. Specifically, it would repeal personal exemptions and would roughly double the standard deduction through 2025. It would raise the child tax credit to $2,000 through 2025, would repeal the alternative minimum tax for corporations and provide for broader exemptions to the tax for individuals through 2025. It would double individual exemptions to the estate tax and gift tax through 2025, and would establish a new top tax rate for “pass-through” business income through 2025.” The motion was passed 224-201. [HR 1, Vote #699, 12/20/17; CQ Floor Votes, 12/20/17]

House Was Forced To Vote For A Second Time On The Final Bill After Small Changes Were Made To Comply With Senate Budget Rules. “The House, forced to vote a second time on the $1.5 trillion tax bill, moved swiftly to pass the final version on Wednesday, clearing the way for President Trump to sign into law the most sweeping tax overhaul in decades. House lawmakers approved the tax bill 224 to 201 on Wednesday, after being forced to vote on the bill again after last-minute revisions were made to it in the Senate, which passed the measure 51 to 48 early Wednesday morning. The final House vote was essentially a formality, as the changes, which were made to comply with Senate budget rules, did not significantly alter the overall bill.” [New York Times, 12/20/17]
New York Times: Tax Bill “Creates As Many New Preferences For Special Interests As It Gets Rid Of” After Republican Ambitions “Fell To The Powerful Forces Of Lobbying And The Status Quo.” “The Republican tax bill does not pass the postcard test. It leaves nearly every large tax break in place. It creates as many new preferences for special interests as it gets rid of. It will keep corporate accountants busy for years to come. And no taxpayer will ever see the postcard-size tax return that President Trump laid a kiss on in November as Republican leaders launched their tax overhaul effort. This was not the grand simplification of the code that Republicans promised when they set out to eliminate tax breaks and cut the number of tax brackets as they lowered rates. As their bill tore through Congress, their ambitions fell to the powerful forces of lobbying and the status quo.” [New York Times, 12/16/17]

Washington Post: Final Tax Bill Included A “Significant Tax Break For The Very Wealthy” And “A Massive Tax Cut For Corporations.” “A new tax cut for the rich: The final plan lowers the top tax rate for top earners. Under current law, the highest rate is 39.6 percent for married couples earning over $470,700. The GOP bill would drop that to 37 percent and raise the threshold at which that top rate kicks in, to $500,000 for individuals and $600,000 for married couples. This amounts to a significant tax break for the very wealthy, a departure from repeated claims by Trump and his top officials that the bill would not benefit the rich. […] A massive tax cut for corporations “A massive tax cut for corporations: Starting on Jan. 1, 2018, big businesses' tax rate would fall from 35 percent to just 21 percent, the largest one-time rate cut in U.S. history for the nation's largest companies.” [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

[...]While Millions Of Americans Would Pay More In Taxes

Politifact: GOP Tax Bill Would Raise Taxes For The Middle Class After Individual Tax Cut Provisions Expired In 2025. “Gillibrand said the Republican ‘tax [plan] raises middle-class taxes.’ That's not true during the first years of the new tax provisions. If not for the sunset for the tax changes for individuals, we likely would have rated Gillibrand's statement False or perhaps Mostly False. Middle-income taxpayers will either benefit or see no change in their tax liability through 2025. But her claim could hold up after the bill's individual provisions expire that year. There's no guarantee a future Congress will extend those parts of the bill.” [Politifact, 12/22/17]

Tax Policy Center: In 2018, 5 Percent Of Taxpayers Would Pay More In Taxes Under The GOP Tax Bill, But Would Increase To 53 Percent Of Taxpayers In 2027. “Some taxpayers would pay more in taxes under the proposal in 2018 and 2025 than under current law: about 5 percent of taxpayers in 2018 and 9 percent in 2025. In 2027, however, taxes would increase for 53 percent of taxpayers compared with current law.” [Tax Policy Center, 12/18/17]


Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Increased The Federal Debt – Increasing Pressure To Cut Program Like Medicare

Official CBO Estimate Found Final Tax Bill Would Increase The Federal Deficit By $1.46 Trillion. “Republicans decided it would be all right to go into debt up to $1.5 trillion to fund the tax cut. In the end, they nearly hit that mark. The official estimate -- released Friday evening alongside the bill -- came in at $1.46 trillion.” [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

Center For A Responsible Federal Budget Found True Cost of Tax Bill Would Be $2 Trillion Or More, After Budget Gimmicks Were Accounted For. “Adding these gimmicks to the cost of the bill would increase the total cost to $2.0 trillion to $2.2 trillion. Though the dynamic effect of making the bill permanent is unknown, we estimate a permanent bill would produce roughly $450 billion of feedback,” leading to a dynamic cost of roughly
$1.6 trillion to $1.7 trillion. With interest, these costs would rise to $2.4 trillion to $2.5 trillion, or $1.9 trillion to $2 trillion with dynamic effects included, over a decade.” [CRFB, 12/18/17]

After Passing A Tax Bill That Added Trillions To The Deficit, Speaker Ryan Said Medicare And Medicaid Would Need To Be “Reformed” In Order To Decrease The Deficit. “With his dream of tax reform now realized, Ryan is hoping to make progress on two other issues he’s targeted during his two-decade career in Washington: entitlement and welfare reform. ‘We’re going to have to get back next year at entitlement reform, which is how you tackle the debt and the deficit,’ Ryan, a former Budget Committee chairman, said in a recent interview this month on the Ross Kaminsky radio talk show. Medicare and Medicaid are the ‘big drivers of debt,’ Ryan said, suggesting Republicans could once again use the budget reconciliation process to avoid a Democratic filibuster. Medicare is the ‘biggest entitlement that’s got to have reform,’ Ryan added.” [The Hill, 12/27/17]


HEADLINE: Ryan says Republicans to target welfare, Medicare, Medicaid spending in 2018 [Washington Post, 12/6/17]

HEADLINE: Paul Ryan Pushes to Keep Overhaul of Safety-Net Programs on GOP Agenda [Wall Street Journal, 2/4/18]

AP: “A Wide Range Of Economists And Nonpartisan Analysts Have Warned That The Bill Will Likely Escalate Federal Debt, Intensify Pressure To Cut Spending On Social Programs And Further Widen America's Troubling Income Inequality.” “The tax overhaul of 2017 amounts to a high-stakes gamble by Republicans in Congress: That slashing taxes for corporations and wealthy individuals will accelerate growth and assure greater prosperity for Americans for years to come. The risks are considerable. A wide range of economists and nonpartisan analysts have warned that the bill will likely escalate federal debt, intensify pressure to cut spending on social programs and further widen America's troubling income inequality.” [Associated Press, 12/17/17]

Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Would Increase Incentives To Move Jobs Overseas

Tax Experts Said The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Increased Incentives For Companies To Move Jobs Overseas. “What happened to the workers in Clinton, tax experts say, will probably happen to more Americans if the Republican tax overhaul becomes law. The legislation fails to eliminate long-standing incentives for companies to move overseas and, in some cases, may even increase them, they say. ‘This bill is potentially more dangerous than our current system,’ said Stephen Shay, a senior lecturer at Harvard Law School and former Treasury Department international tax expert in the Obama administration. ‘It creates a real incentive to shift real activity offshore.’” [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

Tax Cuts And Jobs Act Would Lead To More Expensive Health Insurance; 13 Million More Uninsured

Final Tax Bill Eliminated Central Affordable Care Act Provision, Leading To 13 Million Fewer Americans With Insurance. “The individual mandate is part of the Affordable Care Act, and removing it was a top priority for Trump and congressional Republicans. The Congressional Budget Office projects the change will increase insurance premiums and lead to 13 million fewer Americans with insurance in a decade, while also cutting government spending by more than $300 billion over that period.” [Washington Post, 12/15/17]

GOP Tax Bill Would Cause Health Insurance Premiums To Rise, And Could Lead Insurers To Drop Out Of Regional Markets. “The final GOP plan will repeal the Affordable Care Act’s individual insurance mandate, which would allow young and healthy people to leave the insurance pool, forcing insurers to compensate by raising prices due to the higher costs of insuring only less-healthy people. Not only would premiums likely rise, but many insurers could drop out of regional markets.” [Newsweek, 12/18/17]

HEADLINE: Republican Tax Plan Will Make Health Insurance More Expensive [Newsweek, 12/18/17]

CNN Money: Final Tax Bill “Adds Plenty Of Complications, Particularly For Small Businesses.” “But the plan Republicans and Trump came up with almost certainly won't put tax preparers out of business. The final tax bill, released on Friday, does indeed deliver some simplification, but not as much as promised. And it adds plenty of complications, particularly for small businesses.” [CNN Money, 12/18/17]

**Time: Republicans Failed To Follow Through On The “Central Promises” Of Their Tax Bill – To Allow People To File On A Postcard And To Benefit Working And Middle Class Americans.** “As they pushed their sweeping tax bill through Congress, Republicans made two central promises. First, that the bill would simplify the U.S. tax code, allowing citizens to file their taxes ‘on the back of a postcard.’ And second, that the overhaul would primarily benefit working Americans and the middle class. The first claim proved false. And economic experts are skeptical about the second, arguing that the bill aids businesses at the expense of middle-class taxpayers.” [Time, 12/19/17]

**MacArthur Voted For House Passage Of The Republican Tax Scam Bill**

**MacArthur Voted For Passage Of The House Version Of The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act.** In November 2017, MacArthur voted for “passage of the bill that would revise the federal income tax system by: lowering individual and corporate tax rates; consolidating the current seven tax income rates into four rates; eliminating the deduction for state and local income taxes; limiting certain deductions for property taxes and home mortgages; and creating a new system of taxing U.S. corporations with foreign subsidiaries. Specifically, it would eliminate personal exemptions and would nearly double the standard deduction. It would raise the child tax credit through 2022, repeal the alternative minimum tax, repeal the estate tax in 2025 and reduce the gift tax rate in 2025. It would establish a new top tax rate for pass-through business income and would modify tax credits related to energy production.” The bill passed 227-205. [HR 1, Vote #637, 11/16/17; CQ Floor Votes, 11/16/17]

**MacArthur Voted For Considering The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act.** In November 2017, MacArthur voted for: “Adoption of the rule (H Res 619) that would provide for House floor consideration of the bill (HR 1) that would revise the federal income tax system by: lowering individual and corporate tax rates; consolidating the current seven tax income rates into four rates; eliminating the deduction for state and local income taxes; limiting certain deductions for property taxes and home mortgages; and creating a new system of taxing U.S. corporations with foreign subsidiaries.” The rule was adopted 235-191. [HRes 619, Vote #633, 11/15/17; CQ, 11/15/17]

**MacArthur Voted For FY18 House Republican Budget That Cut Medicare And Medicaid**

**MacArthur Voted For FY18 Republican House Budget.** In October 2017, MacArthur voted for “adoption of the concurrent resolution that would provide for $3.2 trillion in new budget authority in fiscal 2018, not including off-budget accounts. It would assume $1.22 trillion in discretionary spending in fiscal 2018. It would assume the repeal of the 2010 health care overhaul law. It also would propose reducing spending on mandatory programs such as Medicare and Medicaid and changing programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (also known as food stamps). It would call for restructuring Medicare into a "premium support" system beginning in 2024. I would also require the House Ways and Means Committee to report out legislation under the budget reconciliation process that would provide for a revenue-neutral, comprehensive overhaul of the U.S. tax code and would include instructions to 11 House committees to trigger the budget reconciliation process to cut mandatory spending. The concurrent resolution would assume that, over 10 years, base (non-Overseas Contingency Operations) discretionary defense spending would be increased by a total of $929 billion over the Budget Control..."
Act caps and non-defense spending be reduced by $1.3 trillion.” The budget pass 219-206. [H Con Res 71, Vote #557, 10/5/17; CQ Floor Votes, 10/5/17]

AP: House Budget “Reprises A Controversial Plan To Turn Medicare Into A Voucher-Like Program.” “The House on Thursday passed a $4.1 trillion budget plan that promises deep cuts to social programs while paving the way for Republicans to rewrite the tax code later this year. The 2018 House GOP budget reprises a controversial plan to turn Medicare into a voucher-like program for future retirees as well as the party's efforts to repeal the "Obamacare" health law. Republicans controlling Congress have no plans to actually implement those cuts while they pursue their tax overhaul.” [Associated Press, 10/5/17]

CBPP: FY18 Budget As Passed By House Budget Committee “Would Cut Medicare Spending By $487 Billion Over The 2018-27 Period, Largely By Shifting More Health Care Costs To Beneficiaries.” “The 2018 budget resolution that the House Budget Committee approved this week would end Medicare’s guarantee of health coverage by converting the program to a premium support system. Overall, it would cut Medicare spending by $487 billion over the 2018-27 period, largely by shifting more health care costs to beneficiaries. President Trump’s budget, by contrast, would spare Medicare from cuts.” [CBPP, 7/21/17]

House Budget Called For $5 Trillion In Spending Cuts, Including Slashing Medicaid By $1 Trillion. “The plan, passed by a nearly party-line 219-206 vote, calls for more than $5 trillion in spending cuts over the coming decade, promising to slash Medicaid by about $1 trillion over the next 10 years, repeal the ‘Obamacare’ health law, and force huge cuts to domestic programs funded each year by Congress.” [Associated Press, 10/5/17]

AP: “Republicans Are Not Actually Planning To Impose Any Of Those Cuts… Those GOP Proposals For Spending Cuts Are Limited To Nonbinding Promises.” “But Republicans are not actually planning to impose any of those cuts with follow-up legislation that would be required under Washington’s Byzantine budget rules. Instead, those GOP proposals for spending cuts are limited to nonbinding promises, and even a token 10-year, $200 billion spending cut package demanded by tea party House Republicans appears likely to be scrapped in upcoming talks with the Senate.” [Associated Press, 10/5/17]

Washington Post: House Budget “Set The Stage For An Ambitious Tax-Overhaul Bill They Are Planning To Pass Without Democratic Help.” “House Republicans passed crucial budget legislation Thursday, setting aside months of intraparty squabbles to set the stage for an ambitious tax-overhaul bill they are planning to pass without Democratic help. The House budget resolution includes major spending cuts demanded by the party’s conservative wing, but the party’s focus is now on passing a tax bill that could add as much as $1.5 trillion to the budget deficit. Special procedures set out in the legislation would ultimately allow Republicans to pass the bill over a potential Democratic filibuster in the Senate.” [Washington Post, 10/5/17]

MacArthur Voted For Republican Repeal & Ripoff After Bringing It Back From The Dead

MacArthur Offered An Amendment That Brought The AHCA Back To Life By Allowing States To Wave Certain Provisions Of The Affordable Care Act, Including Essential Health Benefits

MacArthur Offered An Amendment That Would Allow States To Wave Certain Provisions Of The Affordable Care Act, Including Essential Health Benefits. [H.R. 1628, MacArthur Amendment, 4/26/17]

Constituent To MacArthur On AHCA: “You Brought It Back From The Dead. It’s Yours. You Own It.” “A hostile crowd assailed Mr. MacArthur, who by turns pleaded for respect and fell silent, a smile frozen on his face as attendees shouted over him. A man who identified himself as a resident of Fort Pleasant expressed concern about what would happen if he lost his job and Gov. Chris Christie opted out of the existing law’s protections. ‘That’s a problem, and this is your amendment, sir,’ the man said. ‘You brought it back from the dead. It’s yours. You own
Burlington County Times Editorial: “The AHCA, Which Was Dead Until Congressman Tom MacArthur […] Wrote The Amendment That Resuscitated It, Disproportionately Affects Women.” “The AHCA, which was dead until Congressman Tom MacArthur, R-3rd of Toms River, wrote the amendment that resuscitated it, disproportionately affects women. Insurance plans will no longer be required to cover some of the “essential benefits” included in the Affordable Care Act, including maternity care. This bill also incentivizes states to eliminate some of the other ACA protections for women. States will be able to seek a waiver to deny treatment for basic services, such as prenatal care, maternity care and mammograms. And if you think states wouldn’t be that cruel, consider this: Before the Affordable Care Act, 88 percent of insurance plans denied coverage for basic maternity care.” [Burlington County Times, Editorial, 5/7/17]

MacArthur Defended Medicaid Cuts In AHCA That Would Hit New Jersey Harder Than Any Other State, Said It Would Not Put Pressure On Patients, Doctors Or Hospitals. “House Republican cuts to Medicaid in the American Health Care Act would hit New Jersey harder than any other state. The bill would leave 500,000 more Garden State residents without health insurance than under current law, and New Jersey no longer would get extra federal funding for expanding Medicaid. While New Jersey officials likely won’t seek waivers to allow insurers to sell bare-boned insurance policies and jack up rates for those with pre-existing conditions, the House Republicans’ health bill would hurt the state in many other ways […] Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-3rd Dist.), whose proposal on the state waivers led to approval of the Republican measure, said the Medicaid cuts are designed to force states to try hold down health care costs. ‘What the Medicaid reforms really do is put pressure on the states to get costs under control,’ MacArthur said. ‘That's where the pressure is. It's not going to be on patients. I don't ultimately believe it will be on hospitals or doctors either. It's going to be on states.’” [Newark Star-Ledger, 5/7/17]

Moran: After Saving AHCA “By Making It More Harsh […] MacArthur Loses Any Claim To Being A Moderate.” “And then he voted for the first repeal. And when that flopped, he did something worse: He saved it by making it more harsh, allowing states to opt out of the key protections for those with pre-existing conditions. He was the supposed moderate leader, reaching out to the right. With this move, MacArthur loses any claim to being a moderate. But he has new status in the party, new friends on the right. He swears that's not why he did this. But the puny concessions he won do little to mitigate the damage of this bill. Mark the moment. Because this is really the starting gun of the Trump Era. This isn't just an insulting tweet, a money grab by Trump or his family, or even an executive order to keep dirty coal alive. This is the real thing. People without insurance die before their time.” [Newark Star-Ledger, Moran column, 5/4/17]

Moran: MacArthur Amendment Left In Place Medicaid Cuts That Amounted To “A Retreat In The Fight Against The Opioid Epidemic.” “Mark this, too, as the moment when Republicans sounded a retreat in the fight against the opioid epidemic. Because the money behind that fight comes mostly from Medicaid, which this bill eviscerates. In New Jersey, only 10 percent of those in treatment for heroin addiction have private insurance. The CBO estimated that of the 24 million who would lose coverage under the first repeal, 14 million would come from the Medicaid cuts. MacArthur's ‘compromise’ leaves those cuts in place.” [Newark Star-Ledger, Moran column, 5/4/17]

MacArthur Voted For Republican Repeal & Ripoff

MacArthur Voted For The American Health Care Act. In May 2017, MacArthur voted for repeal and replace major parts of the Affordable Care Act. According to the New York Times, the bill “would eliminate tax penalties for people who go without health insurance. It would roll back state-by-state expansions of Medicaid, which covered millions of low-income Americans. And in place of government-subsidized insurance policies offered exclusively on the Affordable Care Act’s marketplaces, the bill would offer tax credits of $2,000 to $4,000 a year, depending on age. […] The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said the first version of the bill would trim the federal budget deficit considerably but would also leave 24 million more Americans without health insurance after a decade. Average insurance premiums would be 15 percent to 20 percent higher in 2018 and 2019, but after
American Health Care Act Would Gut Protections For People With Pre-Existing Conditions

Politifact Found That AHCA “Would Weaken Protections” For Those With Pre-Existing Conditions, “Would Allow States To Give Insurers The Power To Charge People Significantly More.” “An ad by the American Action Network says that under the American Health Care Act ‘people with pre-existing conditions are protected.’ The only kernel of truth here is that the amendment has language that states insurers can’t limit access to coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions. However, the ad omits that the House GOP health plan would weaken protections for these patients. The legislation would allow states to give insurers the power to charge people significantly more if they had a pre-existing condition. While Republicans point to the fact that those patients could get help through high-risk pools, experts question their effectiveness. Current law does not allow states to charge people with pre-existing conditions significantly more. We rate this claim Mostly False.” [Politifact, 5/24/17]

American Health Care Act Would Lead To 23 Million More Uninsured – Disproportionally Older People With Lower Incomes

CBO Estimated 14 Million More People Would Be Uninsured In 2018; 23 Million More Uninsured By 2026. “CBO and JCT estimate that, in 2018, 14 million more people would be uninsured under H.R. 1628 than under current law. The increase in the number of uninsured people relative to the number under current law would reach 19 million in 2020 and 23 million in 2026 (see Table 4, at the end of this document).” [CBO, 5/24/17]

CBO Found Increase In Uninsured Would Disproportionately Impact Older People With Lower Income. “Although the agencies expect that the legislation would increase the number of uninsured broadly, the increase would be disproportionately larger among older people with lower income—particularly people between 50 and 64 years old with income of less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level (see Figure 2).” [CBO, 5/24/17]

CBO: Even In States Without Waivers, More People Would Be Uninsured Than Under Current Law. “CBO and JCT expect that under the current version of the legislation, the effects on health insurance coverage would be similar to those previously estimated for the half of the population that resides in states that would not obtain a waiver from the EHB or community-rating requirements. In general, under H.R. 1628, as passed by the House, fewer people would have coverage through the nongroup market, Medicaid, and employment-based coverage, and more people would be uninsured in those areas than under current law.” [CBO, 5/24/17]

American Health Care Act Would Create An Age Tax On Older Americans

American Health Care Act Allows Insurers To Charge Older Customers Five Times More Than Younger Adults. “Raises premiums for older people. The Affordable Care Act limited insurers from charging older customers more than three times what they charge younger adults. The House bill would raise that to five times. This may enable younger consumers to find cheaper coverage, but older policyholders would face higher rates.” [Huffington Post, 3/6/17]

New York Times: ACHA Achieved Lower Premiums Not Through Increased Choice And Competition, But By Making Health Insurance So Unaffordable For Many Older Americans They Would Leave The Market. “There are a lot of unpleasant numbers for Republicans in the Congressional Budget Office’s assessment of their health care bill. But congressional leadership found one to cheer: The report says that the bill will eventually cut the average insurance premiums for people who buy their own insurance by 10 percent. […] But the way the bill achieves those lower average premiums has little to do with increased choice and competition. It depends, rather, on penalizing older patients and rewarding younger ones. According to the C.B.O. report, the bill would make
health insurance so unaffordable for many older Americans that they would simply leave the market and join the ranks of the uninsured.” [New York Times, 3/14/17]

MacArthur Voted For Eliminating Limits On Consumer Internet Privacy

MacArthur Voted For A Resolution To Eliminate Limits On What ISPs Could Do With Customer Information, Including Browsing Habits, Usage History, Location Data, And Social Security Numbers. In March 2017, MacArthur voted for a resolution “that wipes away landmark online privacy protections, the first salvo in what is likely to become a significant reworking of the rules governing Internet access in an era of Republican dominance. In a party-line vote, House Republicans freed Internet service providers such as Verizon, AT&T and Comcast of protections approved just last year that had sought to limit what companies could do with information such as customer browsing habits, app usage history, location data and Social Security numbers. The rules also had required providers to strengthen safeguards for customer data against hackers and thieves.” The resolution passed 215-205. [S J Res 34, Vote #202, 3/28/17; Washington Post, 3/28/17]

Washington Post: ISPs “Will Be Able To Monitor Their Customers’ Behavior Online And, Without Their Permission, Use Their Personal And Financial Information To Sell Highly Targeted Ads.” “If Trump signs the legislation as expected, providers will be able to monitor their customers’ behavior online and, without their permission, use their personal and financial information to sell highly targeted ads — making them rivals to Google and Facebook in the $83 billion online advertising market. The providers could also sell their users’ information directly to marketers, financial firms and other companies that mine personal data — all of whom could use the data without consumers’ consent. In addition, the Federal Communications Commission, which initially drafted the protections, would be forbidden from issuing similar rules in the future.” [Washington Post, 3/28/17]

Washington Post: The House just voted to wipe away the FCC’s landmark Internet privacy protections [Washington Post, 3/28/17]

MacArthur Voted For Repealing Wall Street Reforms

MacArthur Voted For The CHOICE Act To “Overhaul Financial Industry Regulations And Repeal Many Provisions Of The 2010 Dodd-Frank Law.” In June 2017, MacArthur voted for “passage of the bill that would overhaul financial industry regulations and repeal many provisions of the 2010 Dodd-Frank law. It would convert the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau into an executive agency funded by annual appropriations and would modify operations at the Federal Reserve and at the Securities and Exchange Commission. It would repeal the prohibition on banking entities engaging in proprietary trading and would modify regulations governing the amount of capital that banks are required to maintain. It would also nullify the Labor Department’s April 2016 “fiduciary” rule regarding standards for individuals who provide retirement investment advice to act in the best interests of their clients.” The bill passed 233-186. [HR 10, Vote #299, 6/8/17; CQ Floor Votes, 6/8/17]

HEADLINE: House passes Choice Act that would gut Dodd-Frank banking reforms [CNBC, 6/8/17]

New York Times: CHOICE Act “To Erase A Number Of Core Financial Regulations,” Including Limits On Risk Taking Enacted After The Financial Crash, And “Would Weaken The Powers Of The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.” “The House approved legislation on Thursday to erase a number of core financial regulations put in place by the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act, as Republicans moved a step closer to delivering on their promises to eliminate rules that they claim have strangled small businesses and stagnated the economy. […] The Choice Act would exempt some financial institutions that meet capital and liquidity requirements from many of Dodd-Frank’s restrictions that limit risk taking. It would also replace Dodd-Frank’s method of dealing with large and failing financial institutions, known as the orderly liquidation authority — which critics say reinforces the idea that some banks are too big to fail — with a new bankruptcy code provision. In addition, the legislation would weaken the powers of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.” [New York Times, 6/8/17]