Perry doesn’t know what working families face. He voted to increase the deficit by trillions of dollars to give a massive tax handout to millionaires and big corporations, which they planned to pay for by cuts to your hard-earned Medicare and Social Security. Now he’s voting against extending unemployment insurance to people who lost their jobs due to the coronavirus, and says “who’s living that they’re not going to make it to the next paycheck?”

Perry Voted For Final Passage Of The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act. [HR 1, Vote #699, 12/20/17; CQ Floor Votes, 12/20/17]


Reuters: The Deficit Would Balloon To Over $11 Trillion By 2028 Because Of The Tax Bill. “The massive tax cuts signed into law in December, which Republicans said would pay for themselves, will balloon the U.S. deficit in years ahead, the Congressional Budget Office said on Monday, possibly hobbling President Donald Trump’s future agenda. […] But those growth rates will not offset the deficits, which will ‘increase rapidly this year and over the next few years,’ then stabilize, resulting in a projected cumulative deficit of $11.7 trillion for 2018-2027, CBO forecast.” [Reuters, 4/9/18]

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: 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]


US News: “The Most Likely Targets For Cuts And Restructuring In The Coming Months Are Likely To Be Medicare And Social Security Benefits.” “Instead, the most likely targets for cuts and restructuring in the coming months are likely to be Medicare and Social Security benefits. Rubio last week indicated ‘the driver of our debt is the structure of Social Security and Medicare for future beneficiaries.’ Ryan issued a similar assessment just a few days later, noting that ‘health care entitlements … are the big drivers of our debt.’” [US News, 12/7/17]

Perry Voted Against The HEROES Act, Which Included An Extension Of Federal Funding Of Expanded Unemployment Compensation Benefits. “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide roughly $3 trillion in funding to further address the health and economic effects of COVID-19, including almost $1 trillion for direct aid to state and local governments; $200 billion for a fund to provide hazard pay for essential workers; $75 billion for a national testing program; and funding for state and federal response related to health care, education, housing, and food supply. It would extend federal funding of expanded unemployment compensation benefits through January 2021 and provide an additional round of tax rebates of $1,200 for individuals with incomes of $75,000 or less. The bill would provide $540 billion for states, territories, and tribal governments and $375 billion for local governments to address costs and economic impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. It would also provide $100.2 billion for the Education Department; over $120 billion for federal programs and $75 billion to states to provide housing and homeownership assistance; and over $14 billion for nutrition programs. It would provide $16.5 billion for the Agriculture Department to reimburse agricultural producers for losses due to COVID-
19, in addition to other assistance for farmers and ranchers. It would provide $200 billion to establish a fund providing grants for employers to provide hazard pay to essential employees at $13 per hour above regular wages during the COVID-19 crisis. It would provide $75 billion to the Health and Human Services Department for a national testing and contact tracing initiative and $100 billion for HHS to reimburse health care providers for expenses and lost revenue related to COVID-19. It would increase federal contributions to state Medicaid programs and eliminate cost sharing for coronavirus treatments under Medicare and Medicaid. It would create a special enrollment period during the public health emergency for Affordable Care Act marketplace health plans and Medicare Parts A and B, and it would establish "risk corridor" programs to make federal payments to issuers of most private health insurance plans and Medicare Advantage plans. It would provide an additional tax rebate of $1200 to individuals or $2400 to those filing a joint return, increased by $1200 for each of up to three dependents. It would extend through January 2021 federal unemployment compensation benefits of up to $600 per week under previous coronavirus response legislation. It would extend through 2021 requirements for employers to provide additional sick and family leave, and expand the requirements to apply to all private employers. It would extend the Paycheck Protection Program for small business loans through 2020; remove loan forgiveness requirements related to minimum amounts used for payroll costs; and establish set-asides for businesses with 10 or fewer employees, nonprofit organizations, and community financial institutions. It would provide $45 billion for Treasury Department payment of private student loans up to $10,000 for economically distressed borrowers, and it would provide up to $10,000 of loan forgiveness for all federal student loans. It would expand a March 2020 provision to prohibit all evictions and foreclosures for one year and establish a temporary moratorium on consumer debt collection from consumers and debt collection from small businesses and nonprofits. It would provide $3.6 billion for payments to states for coronavirus response related to the 2020 elections and require states to offer same-day voter registration and an early voting period of at least 15 consecutive days. It would also provide $25 billion to the U.S. Postal Service and $410 million to the Census Bureau. Among other provisions, it would eliminate the existing $10,000 cap on federal tax deductions for state and local taxes for tax years 2020 and 2021.” [HR 6800, Vote #109, 5/15/20, CQ, 5/15/20]

The HEROES Act Included An Extension Of The Federal Unemployment Compensation Benefits Past The Deadline Decided In The CARES Act. “A key component of the $2 trillion CARES Act passed by Congress in March was the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation program (FPUC), which provided an additional $2,400 per month to individuals who were collecting unemployment compensation. The benefits had a fixed expiration date of July 31, 2020; however, the HEROES Act, which was passed by the House of Representatives last week, but hasn’t been taken up by the Senate, includes a proposal to extend the expiration date to January 31, 2021.” [Forbes, 5/21/20]

Scott Perry: “Who’s Living That They’re Not Going To Make It To The Next Paycheck.” “U.S. Rep. Scott Perry, a regularly unfiltered speaker who is by now familiar with the sensitive tripwires of the Washington D.C. media world, tripped those triggers again Thursday with a comment about the effects of a possible partial shutdown of the federal government on federal workers. When asked by a Politico reporter about the potential consequences of a shutdown for the federal employees who would be affected, Perry was quoted as saying he didn’t believe they’d be seriously affected because – in the event of a shutdown – any missed pay is eventually caught up. The outrage meter started running, however, when according to Politico’s Sarah Ferris, Perry added: ‘Who’s living that they’re not going to make it to the next paycheck?’ ” [Penn Live, 12/21/18]