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## **DEMOCRATS USE SPIN TO CONFUSE US**



By Stephen L. Bakke  December 20, 2017

*Here's what provoked me:*

*Rules and spin! Spin and rules! Repeat that a few times and you'll start getting dizzy. I know this type of thing is a fact of life in politics, but I think the Democrats are setting new record levels of misleading information, bold nastiness, and demagoguery. Democrats are perfecting the art of divisive class warfare. I will protest in the only way I'm able.*

*Here's my response:*

### **Democrats Use Spin to Confuse Us**

The tax reform legislation has been passed, and the Democrats' "spin" during the Congressional debate was outrageous. I'll present two examples.

First, individual tax cuts end after 10 years. Democrats claim this shows Republican insincerity for providing tax benefits to individual taxpayers. Democrats know better. Under Senate rules, a "sunset provision" was necessary to permit this legislation to pass with a simple majority. They didn't have the 60 votes necessary to avoid a filibuster by Democrats.

Republicans were bound by Senate "reconciliation" rules if they were to have any hope of passing the legislation. Legislation to make those cuts permanent will have to be done at a future date.

Second, Democrats misled with claims that the wealthy receive all the benefits. The following indisputable facts are in the record:

- The middle 50% (middle class) will receive proportionately more tax relief than the top 25%.
- The percentage of total taxes collected coming from the middle 50% will drop.
- The percentage of total taxes collected coming from the top 25% will rise.

But Democrats still claim the wealthy get all the benefits.

Consider something else. Currently the top 25% pay about 87% of taxes, while the middle 50% pays only 13%. Suppose we reduce middle class taxes by 100%. And let's reduce the wealthiest by a mere 20%. In that case, the wealthiest would still receive far more tax reduction, in dollars, than the middle class. And the top 25% would be left paying all the taxes. Is that equitable?

The Democrats have a distorted idea of fairness.