

AFPBusiness.com Marketing Solutions Ahead.
 Website Design | Marketing/PR | Video/Audio | Classes

— AFP Quick Links —



AUGUSTA FREE PRESS

Home News Politics Sports Calendar Web Design, Marketing, More Chris Graham Advertise

video
& AUDIO

BY AUGUSTA FREE PRESS LLC

CLICK HERE



Families advance with recent tax bill: Corporations got a lot more

Published Monday, Dec. 28, 2015, 5:26 pm
 Front Page » Business Inside Page » Families advance with recent tax bill: Corporations got a lot more

Join AFP's 112,000+ followers on **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **YouTube**
 Subscribe to sports and news podcasts on iTunes
 News, press releases, letters to the editor: chris@augustafreepress.com
 Advertising inquiries: crystal@augustafreepress.com

ADVERTISE WITH US LEARN MORE →

Reach more than 3 million potential customers per year with affordable ads on AugustaFreePress.com.

By Frank Clemente

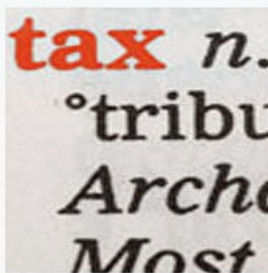
Surprisingly, Congress's **\$680 billion holiday-season tax deal** will bring some cheer to working families and not just to big corporations this year. Refundable tax credits putting extra cash in the hands of hard-pressed workers and parents were included in a huge year-end gift-wrapped package of tax breaks—the type of bill that usually only offers big rewards to corporate fat cats.

Every two years for the past few decades, Washington has renewed a collection of about **50 temporary tax breaks**, called “**tax extenders**.” Even though some of them had been repeatedly renewed for 30 years, the giveaways were deemed temporary to hide their **substantial \$50 billion annual cost**—80% of which benefitted businesses. It's an accounting trick. Tax cuts supposedly expiring in a year or two don't make long-range budget projections look so bad, after all.

None of these corporate tax breaks are ever paid for—for instance by closing other corporate tax loopholes. All of the cost goes straight to the deficit.

Moreover, a repugnant double standard is at work. Any time our side wants even a little bit more in spending to improve public services, conservatives demand it be paid for. They even thumbed their noses at 9/11 responders recently.

Conservatives demanded that a renewal of the **9/11 first responders World Trade Center Health Program**



Search for: Search



AugustaFreePress.com
 Today Visit: 65439
 Week Visit: 1238941
 Month Visit: 4677350
 Year Visit: 38549627

Advertise online.

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH!
 Get Auto Chip Keys and Remotes for 10-40% Less Than the Dealer!
 GET YOURS NOW

precision LOCKSMITH CO., LLC
 Harrisonburg | Charlottesville

precisionlocksmithco.com

BLUE RIDGE Class Schedule Online!
 DRIVING SCHOOL
 540-324-0111 [CLICK HERE](#)

Driver Education | Driver Improvement

and a Victims Compensation Fund, costing a total of \$8 billion, be paid for in order to be included in the year-end budget package that included **\$400 billion in unpaid-for corporate tax giveaways**.

Tax extender legislation has always enjoyed strong bipartisan support. It's a veritable lovefest between both parties and their corporate contributors.

As usual, though, corporations wanted more. Objecting to the (theoretically) temporary nature of their special breaks, this year they pushed to make several of their biggest billion-dollar loopholes permanent. This gave our side leverage to demand major concessions in return.

Progressives rallied around **two tax credits** that are very important to low- and moderate-income households—the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Improvements made to these pro-work and pro-family programs were scheduled to expire in two years. This would have **pushed 16 million people**—including 8 million children—into or deeper into poverty.

Advocates demanded—and won—that any corporate tax cut package had to also make permanent the improvements to these effective poverty-fighting programs. That means a single mom working minimum wage with two kids at home **will have \$1,725 more in her pocket**, for example.

Another victory was the renewal of the **American Opportunity Tax Credit**. It provides a tax credit of up to \$2,500 per year for expenses incurred while attending college such as tuition, fees and course materials. This will give a helping hand to millions of families struggling with the costs of higher education.

Altogether, the final tax package makes a **\$250 billion investment in America's working families**.

Of course, corporations still got more: more than \$400 billion in undeserved tax favors. Among them are two loopholes that make it easier for multinational firms to stash profits offshore in tax havens. The **Active Financing Exception** was permanently enshrined in law while the **CFC Look-Through Rule** was extended for five years. It was the AFE that helped General Electric to **go five straight years without paying any federal income tax**, and in fact get billions in refunds.

Together, the two tax breaks will cost the American people around \$85 billion in lost revenue over the next decade. Alternatively, if we didn't plow \$75 billion of that money back into overstuffed corporate treasuries we could **guarantee preschool for every low-and moderate-income four-year-old in America** for 10 years.

Another gratuitous gift called **Bonus Depreciation**—originally intended as a recession fighter, and **not even good at that**—will go on for another six years, losing \$28 billion in corporate tax revenue.

Congress should not be making any corporate tax loopholes permanent or even temporarily extending them. It should be closing them.

Over the past half-decade of budget austerity, **American families have withstood \$2.7 trillion in spending cuts** in everything from senior nutrition to college financial aid to affordable housing. America's corporations haven't contributed a nickel in extra tax revenue.

Moreover, while corporations enjoy record profits, workers continue to struggle in a slow economy. Working families need a hand. Corporations don't need handouts.

I'm not sugar coating our challenges with a lot of holiday cheer. Progressives won some, but lost a lot, in this big fight.

We have a long way to go towards the day when corporations routinely pay their fair share of taxes and families and communities get the public services they deserve. It may sound like a Christmas miracle today, but we can get there.


Frank Clemente is executive director at Americans for Tax Fairness. A version of this article previously appeared in The Huffington Post.



Like this:

Loading...

KRIS McMACKIN CPA PC



Is your small business complying with 1099 requirements from the IRS? Contact us today for your 1099 Review for only \$55!

11 E. Beverley St., Suite 31, Staunton, VA 24401
540-885-5775 | www.kris McMackin CPA PC

NOT FEELING WELL?



Augusta HEALTH URGENT CARE

... In Your Neighborhood

OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR
12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

540-453-0040
1140 Keezletown Rd.
Weyers Cave, VA www.augustahealth.com

GROOMING BY VICTORIA, LLC

Victoria Bender
Owner/ Professional Groomer

2851 Staunton Dooft Highway
Suite 104, Staunton Dooft Va, 24411

540.256.5222
groomingbyvic@gmail.com

LIKE US ON  facebook

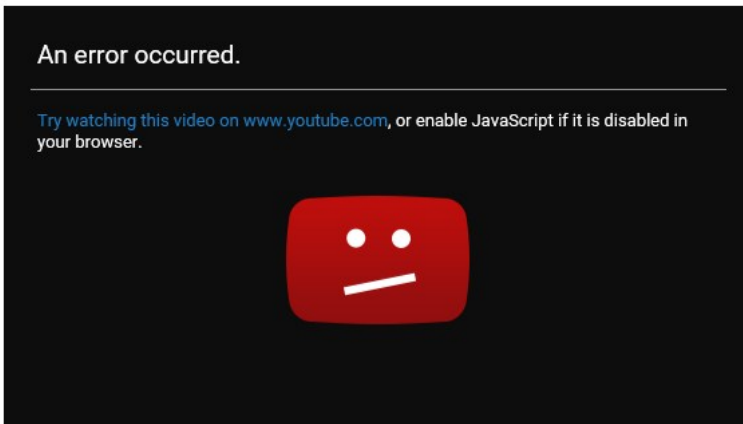
New Clients Only! **Save \$10** For a limited time, save \$10 on any full grooming service. Walk-In Nail Trim: Only \$5
Original price for full grooms start at \$35.

Discussion

Recent News

- 📌 [VDOT invites comments on Hillsdale Drive environmental report](#)
- 📌 [Waynesboro City Council backs economic incentives for museum](#)
- 📌 [Virginia opens Cavalier Classic with a victory over Coppin State](#)
- 📌 [Virginia's Faith Randolph named ACC Co-Player of the Week](#)
- 📌 [SBA deadline to apply for Economic Injury Disaster Loans in Virginia is Jan. 28](#)
- 📌 [Families advance with recent tax bill: Corporations got a lot more](#)
- 📌 [State Police: Five killed in Christmas holiday crashes in Virginia](#)
- 📌 [Podcast: AFP editor Chris Graham talks Virginia basketball](#)
- 📌 [Virginia maintains #5 spot in national polls](#)
- 📌 [ACC announces basketball players of the week](#)
- 📌 [Justin Anderson: 'Tweeners, or ready to break out?](#)
- 📌 [Republican lawmaker: Trump 'bullying' will not work in Virginia](#)

AFP Business



AFP: The Magazine

In 2015, Augusta Free Press brought back our print magazine under a new name, Augusta Free Press: The Magazine.

[More info >](#)

Advertise on AFP

Get information on AFP readership and advertising online with us.

[More info >](#)

AFP Classes

Augusta Free Press offers a series classes on website design, marketing strategy, social media, event planning and more.

[More info >](#)

AFP Web Design

Get your business online for as little as \$1,299. We take care of all facets of web design – visual design, layout design and content development.

[More info >](#)

AFP Graphic Design

AFP Marketing/PR

Augusta Free Press manages advertising campaigns for small- and medium-sized businesses across Virginia. You don't need to hire a full-time marketing coordinator. Bring the experience of the Augusta Free Press team to work for you – for a fraction of the cost.

[More info >](#)

AFP Search Engine Optimization

The prettiest website in the world is like a tree falling in the forest with no one there to hear it. If your website hasn't been search engine optimized, no one is going to see it or hear it – and it's not going to work for you.

[More info >](#)

AFP Video/Audio

Web videos, TV and radio commercials, DVDs – Augusta Free Press LLC has you covered when it comes to video and audio production.

[More info >](#)

AFP Book Publishing

Augusta Free Press Publishing has produced

AFP Graphic Design

Whether you need a fresh business card design, rack card, ad, flyer or full magazine design, we can help with all your graphic-design needs.

[More info >](#)

books in-house and assisted more than 17 authors with book publishing and production services since 2003. Whether you need a cover, layout, or need help from start to finish, we are here to help!

[More info >](#)

Subscribe to AFP

Enter your email address to subscribe and receive notifications of new stories by email.

Email Address

[Subscribe](#)



Waynesboro, VA 22980

Weather

9:37 AM Tue Dec 29 WillyWeather

Tweets by @AFPNewsSports

ADVERTISE WITH US

LEARN MORE →

Contact Us | Connect with Editor | Advertise | *Augusta Free Press: The Magazine*
 AugustaFreePress.com covers Waynesboro, Staunton, Augusta County and surrounding areas in Virginia.
 © 2002-2016 Augusta Free Press LLC