

YOUR VIEWS ON THE STATE OF OUR NATION

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Dear

As I survey America's political landscape, I am struck by a dynamic that I think is all wrong for our nation: A lot of journalists, many lawmakers, and even some people in Hollywood believe they can tell Americans like you and me what we're supposed to think.

It's gone on for too long, and it's just not right.

Let me give you an example: Lawmakers on the Left refuse to consider any plan to secure America's borders, stop illegal immigration and get criminal aliens out of our country... instead, they want to abolish ICE — the brave men and women who are trying to keep America safe! They erode our culture by hurling insults at those of us who simply want to restore the rule of law and defend America's sovereignty. Solving the border crisis is a top priority for mainstream Americans, but sensible immigration reforms are being railroaded by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's liberal majority. It's obvious that radicals on the Left don't want to see progress.

The same is true for taxes — Heritage facts and figures helped make the case for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017, which is fueling extraordinary economic growth and making the lives of all Americans so much better.

But is this seen as good news by those on the Left? Of course not! They claim that "the American people" actually support *higher* taxes — and these "experts" dismiss as "crumbs" the bonuses and bigger paychecks families have received thanks to the Trump tax cuts. Even worse, they are urging Congress to reverse course and take more — and spend more — of your money.

Here's another example: Many media elites and political operatives are also saying Americans really support socialized health care and would accept its high costs and paltry coverage. You and I both know that when Americans have the facts, they oppose government-rationed health care schemes like the Left's so-called Medicare for All. Why? Because whenever socialized health care is imposed, it becomes unworkable, unfair, and unaffordable!

Well I say enough is enough...

What we need right now is to hear from Americans with real experiences in the business world and those who work to earn a living. We need to hear from Americans who are raising families and planning for the future... who know what it's like to pay into Social Security and Medicare for decades and to depend on these programs for their retirement years... REAL people with REAL experience in just trying to do their best, play by the rules, and enjoy the American Dream.

what we need right now is to hear from you...

... where you stand on the issues... how you feel about the state of our nation and the need to advance a conservative agenda and what you think lawmakers should do to confront the problems that face America.

So enclosed you will find a **Tickfaw Survey of Taxpayer Opinions** on behalf of The Heritage Foundation — America's leading public policy institute representing the views and values of hundreds of thousands of proud Americans in Louisiana and across the nation.

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Heritage has a proven track record — over 46 years strong — of speaking out for America's taxpayers and educating elected officials and journalists about the need for sensible policies that lower people's taxes, stop Congress from wasting everybody's money, secure our borders and protect our nation from the terrorists and countries that want to do us harm.

I'm talking about sensible policies that are proven to work in the real world and that you and I know can bolster our economy and secure our nation... We need the people who represent us in Washington to do their jobs and do what's right for America.

Heritage makes a difference by showing lawmakers which policies are right for our country and why these policies should be enacted into law, sooner rather than later...

The most powerful weapon we have in convincing elected officials to do what's right is the strong, united voice of citizens like you. Great things happen when citizens speak their minds, and stand up.

Heritage's success is a direct result of the hundreds of thousands of Americans who support our work and allow us to speak on their behalf for a stronger country. The purpose of this **Survey of Taxpayer Opinions** for your area is to build on this "power of the people" and make sure you have the place you deserve in the debate over America's future.

Can I count on you to complete your Survey and send it back to Heritage right away?

Your answers are 100% confidential and will be logged and tabulated using only the secure tracking code listed on your Survey... so you can be 100% frank and candid in your response. If you're unsure or undecided on any issue, feel free to make that clear.

The data we gather from this survey will allow Heritage to speak for you as we tell the White House, members of Congress, the news media, and the public exactly where grassroots Americans stand on the issues that are currently being debated and decided in Washington. It's not fair for you to be at the mercy of anyone who wants to tell you what to think. By working with Heritage today, you can join with your fellow taxpayers from every state in making it clear exactly where the American people stand.

The most important thing is that you respond quickly and make sure your opinions are represented in the work of the most influential and most effective force for sensible public policy — The Heritage Foundation.

And in fact, if you agree — as I believe you will — that your opinions line up with the common-sense, pro-taxpayer, pro-America policy agenda represented by The Heritage Foundation, I hope you will support our work not just through your Survey response but also through your generous financial backing.

If you think the historic tax cuts of 2017 are a step in the right direction, and especially if you're fed up with the left's dishonest claims that lower taxes are harmful...

... you can count on The Heritage Foundation to tell the truth about the President's conservative tax agenda. During the 2017 tax debate, Heritage delivered our ideas and research to the right people in Congress and the White House as well as the public, and that's why the enacted tax cuts are so pro-growth and beneficial. We're now focused on our critical role of debunking the liberals' false claims that tax relief is harmful, and their campaign to turn Americans against lower taxes. Heritage is speaking out for taxpayers, and we need your help!

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If you want the politicians in Washington to END the plague of debt and deficits and STOP spending money we don't have...

... you can count on Heritage to serve as your voice of reason. Politicians have spent our tax dollars like there's no tomorrow, but fiscally conservative leaders in Congress are using Heritage research to explain that the U.S. is saddled with a massive deficit... that our national debt is now a staggering \$23 trillion... and that we can't afford even bigger government like the \$93 trillion Green New Deal or the \$52 trillion Medicare for All plan.

Worried about the liberals' efforts to smear and obstruct Constitutionalist nominees to the Supreme Court and the federal judiciary?

Then stand with Heritage and help us make it clear to public officials that Americans support judicial nominees who would be faithful to the Constitution. This is the battle of our lifetime. Without the BEST judges leading our courts, free speech, religious liberty, the Second Amendment and the right to life will be in greater peril. Our borders will be obliterated, and Washington will seize even more control of our lives. The left's shameful attacks on Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh and other nominees prove just how hard conservatives must fight to get constitutionalist judges confirmed to America's courts.

If you care about America's national security in a world of rogue nations and terrorists — and if you're concerned that the left is moving far away from "the common defense" by demanding drastic defence cuts and blocking border security measures ...

... Heritage is speaking for you by demanding a strong national defense and secure borders. Protecting America is a core constitutional responsibility and a fundamental duty of the federal government — and it's absolutely essential to preserving American liberty and prosperity.

Reporters, these are just a few of the many challenges facing America. If even one of these issues is important to you, I hope you will strongly consider a tax-deductible gift to The Heritage Foundation to go along with your Survey response.

And if you're like most of our members, you're deeply concerned about the challenges facing America... and you understand that taxes, spending, national security and health care are all interconnected issues that are vitally important to America's continued strength and security, and to our very existence.

That's all the more reason to support Heritage. We are the taxpayers' voice in Washington, speaking forcefully and knowledgeably on every issue facing America and every challenge to our country's safety and security.

Let us be your voice in Washington with a tax-deductible gift of \$25, \$35, \$50, \$100 or \$250. We'll put your gift to work to do all of the things that Heritage does best: Getting the facts out about the most important issues that will be debated and decided in Washington... developing sensible, responsible policy SOLUTIONS that will benefit U.S. taxpayers like you...

... and getting members of Congress and the news media "in the know" on why the time is now to listen to you and your fellow Americans and implement a pro-taxpayer, pro-growth agenda — NOT a pro-Big Government policy bureaucracy.

The thing to remember about Heritage is this: We don't just sit around and come up with big ideas for policy proposals. We don't just publish research and reports for the sake of seeing our

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words in writing. At Heritage, our policy experts generate practical, workable solutions for each major challenge facing America.

And once we have these solutions developed and perfected, we distribute our work directly into the hands of White House officials and members of Congress — so that when they talk about issues like taxes, spending, immigration and health care that affect you, our leaders will be talking about REAL solutions that will benefit REAL Americans like you.

This is why time and again, you'll hear conservative members of Congress, administration leaders and Cabinet officials praise The Heritage Foundation's work, rave about how our policy solutions are useful and practical, and single us out as the group they trust for the best ideas for America.

And through our dedicated news site, the *Daily Signal* (dailysignal.com), Heritage is shaping the news and giving Americans fair, honest coverage of key issues like taxes and spending. The *Daily Signal* now reaches 4 million people a month — a huge impact that allows Heritage to bypass the liberal media's censorship and get the facts out about conservative ideas.

The Heritage team is always on call to refute the false claims that liberal politicians and operatives make about their own policies and to get out the facts about the policies that are the right path for America. And we do so not only with determination but with civility.

If you make an effort to stay on top of current events and tune in to the big news channels' talk shows every day, there is an excellent chance that you've seen The Heritage Foundation, our experts and our ideas hard at work for you and all Americans.

Today I want you to be part of our work, by giving your views on this **Survey of Taxpayer Opinions** and by supporting The Heritage Foundation and helping us make sure policies that affect you are decided by FACTS — not political spin or partisanship.

I look forward to hearing from you and making sure your opinions are a central part of the debate Heritage is leading about America's future. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay C. James". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kay" being particularly prominent.

Kay C. James
President

P.S. The enclosed **Survey of Taxpayer Opinions** lets you represent taxpayers in your community and give your views on the issues now being debated and decided — issues like how much you should pay in taxes, how your tax dollars should be spent and how to make sure America is safe and well defended. These are issues that will define America for generations. I believe your personal opinions must be given full consideration as these matters are decided.

Please send in your Survey response today — and please also support The Heritage Foundation with a generous special tax-deductible gift if you agree with us that lower taxes, less spending, limited government and a strong, powerful military are the most sensible, rational policies for America. *Congress, the White House and the news media listen to Heritage* when we talk about the ideas that are right for our country — and I would be honored for Heritage to speak for you. Thank you!

Tickfaw Survey of Taxpayer Opinions

REGISTERED TO:

SECURE TRACKING CODE:

Lawmakers and media pundits proclaim endlessly that they represent the views of "the American people" when they advocate higher taxes, more spending, bigger government and a budgetary assault on the U.S. military. The Heritage Foundation wants you to have the opportunity to make your views clear, and have your opinions shape the national debate we're leading with the most sensible, practical policies for America's economy and national security.

Please be part of this debate. Share your views on current issues being decided, provide your thoughts on the direction of America, and your hopes for the future of our great nation. When you complete the survey below, please submit your answers to The Heritage Foundation in the return envelope that's enclosed for you, along with a special tax-deductible contribution to help Heritage advance sensible ideas that reflect your views and values. Thank you!

■ AMERICA, IN GENERAL: YOUR VIEWS ON THE STATE OF OUR NATION

1. *Do you believe America has been led astray by failed liberal policies implemented during past presidential administrations?*
 - Yes
 - No
 - Not Sure/No Opinion
2. Think "big picture" for a moment: *Do you believe that America can get back on course, IF good ideas for limited government, personal responsibility, strong families and a powerful national defense are implemented?*
 - Yes
 - No
 - Not Sure/No Opinion
3. *In general, which form of government do you think is ideal for America?*
 - A large, powerful federal government.
 - A limited federal government with more power given to states.
 - Not Sure/No Opinion
4. *Which statement generally describes your view of taxes?*
 - Taxes should be kept as low as possible to keep the politicians from spending.
 - Taxes should be increased so that we can fund new government programs.
 - Not Sure/No Opinion
5. *What is your general opinion on Supreme Court nominations?*
 - We need responsible judges who follow the Constitution and uphold the rule of law.
 - It is okay to compromise for "moderate" judges who lean to the left.
 - Not Sure/No Opinion
6. *Which statements best describe your views on the U.S. military? (Check all that apply.)*
 - America always needs a strong, powerful military to guard against our enemies.
 - Protecting our nation is the federal government's most important responsibility.
 - Politicians should NOT raid the U.S. defense budget to bankroll Big Government.
 - Overall we spend way too much on military programs.
 - There are no real threats to America now, so we don't need a big defense budget.



■ THE TRILLION DOLLAR QUESTION: *WHAT ABOUT TAXES?*

7. Following Heritage's conservative principles, sweeping tax relief was enacted in 2017 that will spark economic growth and ease the burden on hardworking taxpayers. Liberal politicians and interest groups oppose lowering taxes and letting people keep their hard-earned money. *Where do you stand?*
- I support lower taxes.
 I oppose tax relief.
 Not Sure/No Opinion
8. Self-proclaimed socialists in Congress are calling for a top tax rate of 70 percent or even higher. *Do you believe such a punishing tax burden would halt America's economic growth?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
9. *As you watch the news in your area and follow national coverage, are you hearing the false claims and "fake news" being used by opponents of tax relief who seek to turn Americans against tax cuts?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
10. Some in Washington support the "status quo" when it comes to our complex tax code — but Heritage believes that officials should continue to focus on making the tax code fairer and easier to understand for families and small businesses. *What do you think?*
- The tax code is fine the way it is — no changes needed.
 Heritage is right — we need a serious debate about simplifying our tax code.
 Not Sure/No Opinion

■ IT'S YOUR MONEY: *WHERE ARE YOU ON THE SPENDING ISSUE?*

11. Entrenched, wasteful programs and bloated budgets, Washington spent over \$4 trillion in 2018. Over the past 20 years, federal spending grew 63 percent faster than inflation. *In general, do you think that the federal government is currently spending too much money?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
12. Federal spending per household — which more than doubled since 1970 and grew by 15 percent over the past decade — is projected to grow by 30 percent through 2025. *Do you think America can continue to withstand such high levels of spending with no end in sight?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
13. Because Washington refuses to cut spending, the federal government faces a massive budget deficit this year — and our national debt is now at a staggering **\$23 trillion**. *Do you want Congress to take serious action to rein in out-of-control spending?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
14. What about corporate welfare? Heritage is emphasizing the need to end taxpayer-funded corporate subsidies and bailouts that benefit large corporations at the expense of families, seniors and workers. Eliminating corporate welfare would save taxpayers almost \$100 billion or more each year. *Is this something you support?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion

■ A BITTER PILL: *SOCIALIZED MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE REFORM*

15. *Are you concerned that, as in other countries, government-rationed health care will cost too much and rob citizens of their personal freedom?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion

16. *What do you think are the worst "side effects" of socialist-style health care?*
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The costs are astronomical. | <input type="checkbox"/> Government gets too involved in people's lives. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax hikes are inevitable. | <input type="checkbox"/> Premiums are too high. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to doctors is limited. | <input type="checkbox"/> Wait times for care can surge. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient's needs are ignored. | <input type="checkbox"/> There's no competition. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |
17. Heritage envisions an affordable health care system that is patient-centered and market based, in which individuals own and control their health care dollars and decisions, and where health care providers compete for patients' business through better service and pricing. *Does this sound to you like a sensible plan for health care reform?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion

■ THE COURTS: THE BATTLE OF OUR LIFETIME

18. Heritage believes that the U.S. Senate must confirm responsible, constitutionalist judges. *Do you agree?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
19. *What do you think are the BEST reasons for Americans to unite behind judges who respect the Constitution and the rule of law? (Please check all that apply.)*
- We need judges who will fight "political correctness" and protect free speech.
- Religious liberty depends on responsible judges who will abide by the Constitution.
- The left is desperate to repeal the Second Amendment through the courts — we need judges who will stop them.
- Liberals will use the courts to block efforts to secure our borders and stop illegal immigration.
- The right to life is hanging by a thread and can only be rescued by conservative jurists.
- We need judges who will allow responsible efforts to fight radical Islam and terrorism.
20. As the Senate debates judicial nominees, Heritage is making the case for qualified, conservative jurisprudence forcefully, but with logic and reason, because we think this debate is too important for angry, unhinged rhetoric. *Are you concerned by the hostile tone we're hearing from many on the left in important debates like this?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion

■ RETIREMENT SECURITY: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

21. Regrettably many lawmakers and special interests have chosen to poison the debate over Social Security and Medicare with claims that retirees' benefits will be cut or eliminated if these programs are reformed. *As you've followed this debate, have you seen or heard these "scare the seniors" tactics being used?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
22. *Would you be willing to consider changes in Social Security that ONLY apply to middle-aged and younger Americans (ages 50 and younger), as long as current and soon-to-be retirees' current benefits are protected?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
23. Medicare faces an unfunded liability in excess of \$37 trillion over the coming years, while Social Security has promised to pay \$13.2 trillion more in benefits than it will receive in payroll taxes in the future. *Are you concerned about the stability of these two programs?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
24. There have been calls to simply raise taxes to pay for future Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid benefits — but Heritage research shows that this would require doubling tax rates for taxpayers at all income brackets (on top of payroll taxes or state and local income taxes). *Would you support a large tax increase like this?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion



■ THE COMMON DEFENSE: HOW WOULD YOU PROTECT AMERICA?

25. In recent years sweeping cuts were made to the U.S. defense budget. *Do you agree with Heritage that reversing these defense cuts must be a priority for elected officials?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
26. *Do you believe terrorism is still a serious threat to America's homeland security?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
27. *Do you think it's important for the United States to take tough stands against rogue nations like Iran and North Korea, and to relentlessly target terrorist groups like ISIS?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
28. *Are you concerned that open borders and unchecked illegal immigration are allowing terrorist elements to infiltrate the United States undetected?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
29. *Do you agree with Heritage that controlling illegal immigration is vital to America's national security?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion
30. Heritage knows that giving amnesty to illegal immigrants is NOT the answer to the illegal immigration crisis. *Do you agree?*
- Yes No Not Sure/No Opinion

■ HERE'S THE LAST STEP: YOUR SURVEY REGISTRATION

- a) For security purposes, do you confirm that the answers on this Survey are yours and yours alone?
- Yes No Decline
- b) Do you follow politics and public policy debates?
- Yes No Decline
- c) How would you describe yourself politically?
- Very Conservative Somewhat Conservative Independent, but lean Conservative Decline/No Answer
 Very Liberal Somewhat Liberal Independent, but lean Liberal

The Heritage Foundation is America's leading source of conservative solutions to the challenges facing our nation. We represent hundreds of thousands of Americans from your state and across the nation who support common-sense ideas for lower taxes, less spending and a secure America, and who are fed up with endless calls for Big Government spending and open borders. ***Will you support Heritage with a special tax-deductible gift and let us serve as your voice for sensible policies that will strengthen America and benefit you and your fellow taxpayers?***

YES! Enclosed is my contribution of: \$25 \$35 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other \$ _____

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to **The Heritage Foundation** and mail with this *Survey* in the envelope provided to: PO Box 97057, Washington, DC 20077-7315. To use your credit card, see below. Thank you!

If you prefer to contribute via credit card, please complete the following...

Amount of Gift: \$ _____ Type of Card: MasterCard VISA Discover American Express
Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____
Name (print as appears on card): _____

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