

GOP House taxwriting leaders announce TCJA ‘tax teams’

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jason Smith, R-Mo., and Tax Subcommittee Chairman Mike Kelly, R-Pa., announced April 24 that they have formed 10 “tax teams” of GOP taxwriters to “study key tax provisions from the [Tax Cuts and Jobs Act] that are set to expire in 2025 and identify legislative solutions that will continue to help families, workers, and small businesses. . . .”

Specific areas of tax policy that have been identified for review include: American Manufacturing, Working Families, the American Workforce, Main Street, the New Economy, Rural America, Community Development, Supply Chains, US Innovation, and Global Competitiveness. A complete list of team leaders and membership rosters is available from the Ways and Means Committee.

URL: <https://waysandmeans.house.gov/ways-means-chairman-smith-and-tax-subcommittee-chairman-kelly-announce-tax-teams-to-avert-2025-tax-cliff/>

The announcement did not define the respective purviews the 10 teams, so it is unclear to what extent their inquiries may become duplicative (for example, without clear jurisdictional lines it is not hard to imagine the American Workforce and Working Families teams examining overlapping issues). Also unclear from Smith and Kelly’s announcement is what process the teams are expected to follow (such as soliciting input from stakeholders, holding private listening sessions, or holding public hearings), whether the teams are charged with producing specific deliverables (such as a report on their findings or recommendations for legislative proposals that Republicans should pursue in 2025), whether there will be any milestone requirements for the teams to provide updates on their progress, and whether any updates and deliverables will be made public.

The TCJA tax teams are likely to serve at least in part as an opportunity for House Republican taxwriters—many of whom were not on the Ways and Means Committee and some of whom were not even in Congress when the legislation was enacted—to familiarize themselves with the intricacies of its provisions.

Crapo hints at mirror effort for Finance Committee Republicans

Across the Capitol, Senate Finance Committee ranking member Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, told reporters May 1 that he is thinking about empaneling a set of working groups on TCJA issues for GOP taxwriters in his chamber.

Crapo declined to provide specifics on how those working groups might be organized, however. When asked for details, his only response was: “More to come.”

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