

# House of Representatives Tax Reform Talking Points

NAR is **OPPOSED** to H.R. 1, the “Tax Cut and Jobs Act” tax reform legislation. This bill is a direct threat to consumers, to homeowners and to our businesses. Not only will millions of homeowners not benefit from the proposal, many will get a tax increase. Additionally, homeowners could lose substantial equity from the more than 10 percent drop in home values likely to result if the bill is enacted.

## What the Legislation Would Do

- **Limits the exemption on Capital Gains Tax from the sale of a primary residence**
  - New rules would require homeowners to live in their home for five of eight years before a sale to qualify for the exemption versus just two of previous five years today. This will create a hardship to homeowners who have to move inside that five-year window.
  - Exemption phases out for single filers with incomes over \$250,000 (\$500,000 for joint returns).
- **Caps the mortgage interest deduction at \$500,000 for new mortgages**
  - Cap applies to new mortgage debt (but not refinancing) incurred after November 2, 2017.
  - Limit *is not indexed to inflation*, causing its value to even further diminish over time.
- **Increases the standard deduction**
  - Puts homeownership tax incentives beyond the reach of more than 90 percent of American families.
- **Eliminates the deduction for state and local income or sales taxes.**
- **Eliminates the Mortgage Interest Deduction for second homes.**
- **Eliminates the deduction for moving expenses.**
- **Eliminates the deduction on interest on student loans.**
- **Eliminates the deduction for medical expenses, even for the elderly.**
- **Eliminates the deduction for personal casualty losses, such as from hurricanes or wildfires.**

All this from a bill that is supposed to improve the current system. Not only is this legislation a clear and present danger to American homeownership, it will cost our children and grandchildren \$1.5 trillion in new federal debt.

- Millions of middle class homeowners would see a tax hike under this plan.
- This plan attacks homeownership and sticks future generations with a \$1.5 trillion price tag.
- America’s homeowners should not pay for corporate tax cuts.
- Hard-working homeowners will lose money when their home values fall, while corporations will get a huge tax break.
- Homeowners in all 50 states would be double taxed on the money they pay for state/local taxes.
- If you buy a home and then have to move within five years, you could be hit with a big tax bill under this plan.