

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: What It Means for States

Speaker Biographies

Sandra Beattie is deputy director at the New York State Division of the Budget (DOB). Her career began at DOB, working in Albany and as DOB's Washington, DC-based representative in the New York State Office of Federal Affairs. Before her return to DOB, Beattie worked for the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, where she oversaw the conceptualization, design, analysis, and production of high-quality research products designed to improve government programs and operations. Before joining GAO, she was a manager with Deloitte Consulting, where she focused on budgeting, forecasting, and financial processing needs for public-sector and private-sector clients. Beattie holds a BA in political Science from Emmanuel College in Boston and an MBA from the State University of New York at Albany.

Howard Gleckman is a senior fellow in the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where he edits the fiscal policy blog *TaxVox* and the daily news summary *The Daily Deduction*. He is also affiliated with Urban's Program on Retirement Policy, where he works on long-term care issues. Before joining Urban, Gleckman was senior correspondent in the Washington bureau of *Business Week*, where he was a 2003 National Magazine Award finalist. He was a 2006-07 media fellow at the Kaiser Family Foundation and a visiting fellow at the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College from 2006 to 2008. Gleckman writes two regular columns for *Forbes.com*, on tax policy and elder care. He is author of the book *Caring for Our Parents* and speaks and writes frequently on long-term care issues.

John Hicks is executive director of the National Association of State Budget Officers (NASBO) in Washington, DC. Before joining NASBO, Hicks served in Kentucky state government for 32 years, including 25 years in Kentucky's Office of State Budget Director. For the last 10 years, he was deputy state budget director, and he oversaw budget development and execution. Hicks graduated from Murray State University and received his master of public administration degree from the University of Kentucky's Martin School of Public Policy and Administration. As a past member of NASBO, Hicks served on the association's executive committee from 2007 to 2013 and was NASBO's president from 2011 to 2012. Hicks received NASBO's 1987 George A. Bell Service Award and the 2013 Gloria Timmer Award, which each recognize outstanding contributions and service to public budgeting and management in state government.

Mark J. Mazur is the Robert C. Pozen director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. His research interests cover all aspects of tax policy. From 2012 until early 2017, he was the assistant secretary for tax policy at the US Department of the Treasury. Mazur served in the federal government for 27 years in various positions, including policy economist at the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation; senior economist in the President's Council of Economic Advisers; senior director at the National Economic Council; chief economist and senior policy adviser and director of policy at the US Department of Energy; acting administrator of the Energy Information Administration; director of research, analysis, and statistics at the Internal Revenue Service; and deputy assistant secretary for tax analysis in the Office of Tax Policy. Before entering public service, Mazur was an assistant professor in Heinz College at Carnegie Mellon University. He has a bachelor's degree in financial administration from Michigan State University and a master's degree in economics and doctorate degree in business from Stanford University.

Kim Rueben, a senior fellow in the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center at the Urban Institute, is an expert on state and local public finance and the economics of education. Her research examines state and local tax policy, fiscal institutions, state and local budgets, education finance, and public-sector labor markets. Rueben directs Urban's State and Local Finance Initiative. Her current projects include work on state budget shortfalls, financing options for California, the fiscal health of cities, and examining higher education tax credits and grants. She serves on a council of economic advisers for the Controller of the State of California and on a National Academy of Sciences panel on the economic and fiscal consequences of immigration, and she was on the DC Tax Revision Commission in 2013. In addition, Rueben is an adjunct fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC). Before joining Urban, Rueben was a research fellow at the PPIC. She has been an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Public Policy Institute and the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley; a visiting scholar at the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank; and a member of the executive board of the American Education Finance Association. Rueben received a BS in applied math-economics from Brown University, an MS in economics from the London School of Economics, and a PhD in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Laura Wheeler is a senior research associate with the Fiscal Research Center in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. Before joining Georgia State, she worked for the Joint Committee on Taxation for the US Congress, where she estimated the revenue implications of proposed federal legislation. Since 2005, she has evaluated numerous tax proposals at the state level for the Georgia General Assembly, including the annual federal conformity bills. She developed the tax expenditure report for the state of Georgia and was the principal author of the report from 2010 to 2017. Wheeler has extensive experience forecasting and analyzing state and local government revenues. Her areas of interest include state and local tax incentives, the impact of federal tax policy on state and local fiscal policy, and distributional issues associated with state and local tax policies. Wheeler has a PhD in economics from Syracuse University.