



Tax Policy Center

Urban Institute and Brookings Institution

Biographies

Stan Dorn, Senior Fellow, Urban Institute. For more than 25 years, Dorn has worked at the state and national levels on low-income health care issues. Before joining the Urban Institute, Dorn was a senior policy analyst at the Economic and Social Research Institute; health division director at the Children's Defense Fund; director of the Health Consumer Alliance, a consortium of county-based consumer assistance groups in California; and managing attorney at the National Health Law Program's Washington office. He is now focused on national and state implementation of the Affordable Care Act, including strategies to enroll the eligible uninsured into subsidized health coverage; the Affordable Care Act's Basic Health Program option; and methods for states to leverage their purchasing power to reform health care delivery and payment to slow cost growth while improving quality of care.

Zachary Goldfarb, White House and economics writer, The Washington Post. Goldfarb is a staff writer covering the White House, focusing on President Obama's economic, financial and fiscal policy. Previously, he covered financial regulation and government investigations into corporate wrongdoing. He also has written about national housing policy. He graduated from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton, where he was editor-in-chief of The Daily Princetonian. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Benjamin Harris, Senior Research Associate, Urban Institute. Harris's primary areas of focus are tax, budget, and retirement security. He has published a variety of papers and policy briefs related to topics in public finance and is regularly cited in media reports related to fiscal policy. Prior to joining the Institute, Harris worked at the White House as a Senior Economist with the Council of Economic Advisers, where he specialized in fiscal policy and retirement security. He has also served as a Research Economist at the Brookings Institution and as a Senior Economist with the Budget Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Harris has also taught as an adjunct professor at the policy schools at the University of Maryland and Georgetown University. Harris holds a Ph.D. in economics from The George Washington University, in

addition to a master's degree in economics from Cornell University and a master's degree in Quantitative Methods from Columbia University. He earned his BA in economics at Tufts University. In 2000, Harris was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Namibia.

Joseph Henschman, Vice President of State and Local Projects, Tax Foundation. Henschman is an attorney and policy analyst who supervises the Tax Foundation's state policy and legal programs, analyzing state tax trends, constitutional issues, and tax law developments. In 2010, he was identified in State Tax Notes as among four people who "will likely dominate the field in the next 10 years," and the state program was named "Organization of the Year" by State Tax Notes for 2011 and 2012. He is regularly cited by the media on state tax trends and has testified or presented to officials in 31 states. Joe holds a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley and a law degree from George Washington University.

Nick Johnson, Vice President for State Fiscal Policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Johnson directs the Center's State Fiscal Project, which publishes frequent reports on how state budget and tax decisions are affecting families and communities, and develops policies to enhance fiscal responsibility, equity, and accountability. Johnson's analysis and commentary have been featured in national, regional, and local newspapers, and he is a frequent television and radio commentator on state fiscal issues. He is a regular contributor to the Center's blog, "Off the Charts," and speaks regularly at conferences in Washington and around the country. He also serves as an advisor to the members of the State Fiscal Analysis Initiative, a network of independent state-level policy organizations. In 2004 Johnson was awarded an Ian Axford Fellowship in Public Policy and served as an advisor to the New Zealand Treasury and the New Zealand Ministry of Social Development, conducting analysis of that country's programs of tax relief and cash assistance for low-income families.