

Alabamians stood strong for Biblical, natural, traditional and moral marriage on June 6, 2015, during a rally held at the Alabama State Capitol building to send a message to elected officials and the Supreme Court that Alabamians support marriage. Media reported over 800 people attending. The rally was led by Dr. Tom Ford, Pastor at Grace Baptist Church and included a number of excellent speakers.



*Part of the Crowd at the rally*

Speakers were: Dr. Joe Godfrey, Executive Director of ALCAP; Alabama Representative Will Ainsworth; Colonel John Eidsmoe, Legal Counsel for the Foundation for Moral Law; Dr. John Killian, pastor of Maytown Baptist Church and former President of the Alabama Baptist Convention; Dr. Aaron Motley, pastor of Miracle Deliverance Temple of Christ and station manager at TBN, Bishop Kyle Searcy, Senior Pastor of Fresh Anointing House of Worship and member of the International Communion of Evangelical Churches; Mrs. Eunie Smith, President of Eagle Forum of Alabama; Nick Williams, Probate Judge of Washington County and Associate Pastor of Rivers Baptist Church; and Mrs. Kayla Moore, President of the Foundation for Moral Law and wife of Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore.



*Eunie Smith speaks at rally*

Dr. Ford summed up the purpose of the rally by saying that, “We stand with God’s Word and the law of our land for marriage as defined by God – union of one man and one woman.”

### Campaign Donors, Educrats 3—

### Alabama Children 0



For the third year in a row we must report that the repeal of Common Core has been defeated again in the Alabama Senate. Pressure by campaign donors, especially by leadership of the Business Council of Alabama, a leading contributor to Republican politicians, and the liberal education establishment has made it especially hard to get Republicans to commit to repeal. Republican Senator Rusty Glover, sponsor of the Alabama Ahead bill (SB101), was required to obtain 21 commitments for a vote to cut off debate before the bill could come to the floor of the Senate for a vote. As of Monday evening, May 25, he had the required commitments.

The bill was on the calendar on Tuesday, May 26, as the first bill to be considered. But, three senators who had committed to vote for cloture did not show. Those were Senators Pittman, Blackwell and Whatley. Then when Republican Senator Gerald Dial said he would filibuster the bill, others caved as well. Seems they put more stock in their internal agreement not to vote cloture on a fellow Republican than their commitment to the children of Alabama and the need to restore control of education to Alabama teachers and parents.

This was especially disappointing since the Tennessee legislature just repealed Common Core there by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 97-0 in their House and 27-1 in their Senate. We will not give up our battle for the minds of the children of Alabama. The battle will continue as long as it takes.

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## We Can Look to Canada to see impact of Common Core Math

**Truth in American Education** posted an article on June 2, 2015, about a report that was released by the C.D. Howe Institute in Canada that demonstrates discovery learning has brought about a decline in Canadian students' math skills.

*The National Post* [reports](#):

Canadian students' math skills have been on a decade-long decline because rote learning was replaced by discovery-based methods that promoted multiple strategies and estimations, according to a new report that calls for a return to tradition.

"You know what's the worst kind of instruction? The kind of instruction that makes kids feel stupid. And that's what a lot of that discovery stuff does; their working memory gets overloaded, they're confused. That's bad instruction," said Anna Stokke, an associate professor in the University of Winnipeg's department of mathematics and statistics, who wrote the C.D. Howe Institute report. Sound familiar? The article continues:

The report puts a good deal of the blame on discovery or experimental learning approaches that encourage students to explore different ways to solve math problems instead of using a single standard algorithm and often promote concrete tools such as drawing pictures, or using blocks or tiles to represent math concepts. The idea is students will gain a deeper understanding of math and be better equipped to apply it to a variety of situations.

What really happens, though, says the report, is students' working memories get overwhelmed if they don't know their times tables and can't quickly put a standard algorithm to work to solve a more complex problem, both features of what's known as "direct instruction." Key operations, such as addition and subtraction of fractions, are overly de-

played until the middle school years, just as students need that facility to tackle algebra.

According to the report, Discovery Learning has many characteristics that are very similar to what we see with Common Core math. Some of them are:

- minimal guidance from the teacher and few explicit teacher explanations;
- open-ended problems with multiple solutions;
- frequent use of hands-on materials such as blocks, fraction strips and algebra tiles or drawing pictures to solve problems;
- use of multiple, preferably student-invented, strategies;
- memorization of math facts is deprioritized;
- standard methods such as column addition or long division are downplayed;
- a top-down approach in which students work on complex problems, even though foundational skills might not be present.

The report [notes](#) on page 8, "A particularly disturbing finding, from a number of studies, is that low-aptitude students perform worse on post-test measures after receiving discovery-based instruction than they do on pre-test measures.

For additional information on the harm this type of math will do to students, visit [alabamaeagle.org](http://alabamaeagle.org) and see the letter from Dr. James Milgram, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at Stanford University. He concludes that after four years of Common Core math, students will experience "irreversible harm", as they did with the 1992 California math standards that were written by the same Phil Daro that authored the Common Core math standards.

## U. S. House Sues President Obama

On May 28, 2015, the U. S. House of Representatives had its first day in court in its lawsuit against the Obama Administration for making unilateral changes to the Affordable Care Act. The House and its lawyer, George Washington University law professor Jonathan Turley, charge that these changes to the law violate the Constitution.

Turley wrote in the suit documents, "In challenging these actions the case addresses fundamental issues regarding the limits of power under our constitutional form of government, and the continued viability of the separation of powers doctrine upon which the whole American fabric has been erected."

The Obama Administration claims that the House does not have standing for the suit. District Judge Rosemary Collyer addressed this in speaking with the administration lawyers, saying, "So it is your opinion that if the House of Representatives affirmatively voted not to fund something...then that vote can be ignored by the administration, because after all, no one can sue them."

The full House voted to authorize the suit in July 2014. Speaker John Boehner said in a statement on May 27, 2015, "The very fact that the administration wants to avoid scrutiny—judicial or otherwise—shows you why this challenge is important. No one — especially the president—is above accountability to the Constitution and the rule of law." This is one of many suits filed regarding ObamaCare.

*Source:*

*Dailysignal.com 2015/05/28*

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# The H1-B Visas Don't Help American STEM Graduates



Breitbart News reported on May 5, 2015, regarding an editorial **Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL)** wrote to the *Wall Street Journal* dated May 1, 2015, in response to two recent *Wall Street Journal* editorials critical of the Sessions position that high immigration rates are harmful to American workers, specifically those in tech fields.

In his Letter to the Editor, Sen. Sessions pointed to the publication's April 25 article, "Scott Walker's Labor Economics" and its April 27 follow up "The Sessions Complaint" in which the *Journal* took both Walker and Sessions to task for arguing that immigration policies should be determined based on what is good for American workers. Sessions is the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest.

Sessions wrote: "To support your belief that American workers should receive no protections, you recycle the myth that there is a shortage of qualified Americans to fill jobs in STEM—science, technology, engineering and math—and then demand more guest workers as substitutes." He also said, "Your evidence for this claim is that the government 'received a record 233,000 requests from American business for the 85,000 H-1B visas available.' But the only thing this statistic proves is that companies prefer low-wage, bonded guest workers over higher-paid Americans."

In its editorials, the *Journal* argued that more high-skilled immigrants can serve to increase productivity and increase the proverbial pie for everyone. The newspaper further took issue with the proposition that such workers are replacing American workers, writing that few American STEM workers are not working in their chosen field. The *Journal* also questioned Sessions' definitions, saying the Alabamian has been too narrow in his delineation of what constitutes a STEM worker.

But, Sessions argues: "Each year, the U.S. graduates twice as many students with STEM degrees as are hired in STEM occupations. Contrary to the suggestion that these students are finding better, higher-paying jobs, the opposite is true," he wrote. He added that, "About 35% of science students, 55% of technology students, 20% of engineering students and 30% of math students who recently graduated are now working in jobs that don't require any four-year college degree."

Sessions continued, "As further proof of no shortage, wages in the profitable IT industry have been largely flat for more than a decade." Sessions added that currently, two-thirds of entry-level tech jobs are going to foreign-born workers. "That is because the H-1B visa is not a high-skilled immigration program," he wrote.

It operates as a low-wage, non-immigrant temporary visa, undercutting the jobs and wages of highly qualified Americans. Just recently, Southern California Edison laid off hundreds of loyal employees and forced them to train the H-1B guest workers hired to replace them. Sessions concluded his letter saying that: "**America is a country, not a spreadsheet. A country puts the needs of its own citizens first.**"

We commend our Senator for his strong stand for American workers and thank him for his continued efforts to stop the runaway immigration in our nation, both legal and illegal.

In the aftermath of the Baltimore riots, many in the liberal press have expressed the idea that the situation is the result of inadequate spending, especially for schools. According to a report published on *Townhall.com* dated 5/9/2015, Baltimore spending per student ranks number two—trailing only New York,. They spend \$17,196 per student. The Baltimore system had about 10,165 teachers and other staff on the payroll in the 2012-13 school year — or about 1 for every 8.3 students. In spite of this, class sizes are often 40 students per teacher, with only \$5,190 actually getting to the classroom. It appears that the problems with education in Baltimore has more to do with bureaucratic glut than lack of money. But then, that appears to be the case with most public systems.

By November, the Department of Justice and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are expected to finalize regulations that would restrict who is qualified to exercise their Second Amendment rights. "The regulations range from new restrictions on high-powered pistols to gun storage requirements," [The Hill](#) reports. There will be a renewed effort to keep guns out of the hands of people who are mentally unstable or have been convicted of domestic abuse. Of course, what constitutes domestic assault and mental illness is subject to social mores, and rights guaranteed by the Constitution are not tied to majority rule.

*The Patriot Post*, 6/1/2015

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER STUDY EXAMINES AMERICA'S CHANGING RELIGIOUS LANDSCAPE.** In a recent [survey](#) of 35,000 Americans, Pew Research found that the Christian share of the U.S. population is declining, while the number of U.S. adults who do not identify with any organized religion is growing. This trend is particularly pronounced among young adults, but it is occurring among Americans of all ages. The survey found that of the more than 35,000 Americans polled, adults who describe themselves as Christians dropped by nearly eight percentage points in just seven years, from 78.4% in 2007 to 70.6% in 2014. Over the same period, the percentage of Americans who are religiously unaffiliated - describing themselves as atheist, agnostic or "nothing in particular" - has jumped more than six points, from 16.1% to 22.8%.  
*News & Notes*, 5/29/2015

The House and the Senate have passed H.R. 2353 which extended the Highway Trust Fund authorization to July 31st. Over the next two months, Congress will consider long-term fixes to the fund. One proposal will be a \$13 billion bailout of the fund. But, the Transportation Empowerment Act, which will be introduced by Rep. Ron DeSantis of Florida and Sen. Mike Lee of Utah, would reform the fund by reducing the gas tax and let localities decide how to spend the funds. We urge support for this bill.

*Source: Heritage Sentinel 6/2/15*

"Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh in vain."  
President John Quincy Adams, March 4, 1825  
*American Minute*, 3/27/2015

"Posterity! You will never know how much it cost the present generation to preserve your freedom! I hope you will make a good use of it. If you do not, I shall repent in Heaven that I ever took half the pains to preserve it."  
President John Adams April 26, 1777  
*American Minute*, 3/27/2015

"Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom." —Benjamin Franklin, Letter to the Abbes Châlut and Arnoux, 1787  
*The Patriot Post*, 4/30/2015

"I consider the government of the United States as interdicted by the Constitution from intermeddling with religious institutions, their doctrines, discipline, or exercises. This results not only from the provision that no law shall be made respecting the establishment or free exercise of religion, but from that also which reserves to the States the powers not delegated to the United States." —Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Miller, 1808  
*The Patriot Post*, 4/28/2015

"It does not take a majority to prevail...but rather an irate, tireless minority keen on setting brushfires in the minds of men."  
Samuel Adams

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## *An Open Letter to Pope Francis on Climate Change*

On April 27, 2015, **The Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation** released an open letter to Pope Francis asking for a more cautious approach to climate change policy.

The letter is presented here in part from the Cornwall Alliance website. It says that according to Pope Benedict XVI, “It is important for assessments in this regard to be carried out prudently, in dialogue with experts and people of wisdom, uninhibited by ideological pressure to draw conclusions, and above all with the aim of reaching agreement on a model of sustainable development capable of ensuring the well-being of all while respecting environmental balances.”

The signees of the letter ask Pope Francis to, “carefully consider the scientific evidence regarding the real, not merely theoretical effects of human action on global climate, and carefully consider energy, technology and economics in seeking to protect the poor from harm.”

The letter addresses that this approach would include, “consideration of the Imago Dei

and man’s dominion over creation, the specifics of how societies overcome poverty, the empirical evidence that suggests fossil fuel use will not cause catastrophic warming, the fact that for the foreseeable future, wind and solar energy cannot effectively replace fossil fuel and nuclear energy, and most importantly that the poor are the ones who will suffer the most from restrictions on affordable energy, as well as benefit the most from abundant affordable energy sources.”

The letter also quotes Cornwall Alliance Founder and National spokesman E. Calvin Biesner who said, “Thus far Pope Francis has heard exclusively from those who blame human action for most recent global warming. The data show otherwise, that human contribution, though real, is small and harmless. But the data also show that adding carbon dioxide to the atmosphere enhances plant growth, making food more affordable for the poor. Pope Francis should take that carefully into consideration.”

Beisner said his chief concern is to protect the world’s poor from climate policies that would delay their escape from poverty by depriving them of the abundant, affordable, reliable energy from fossil fuels that lifted other nations out of poverty.

He said, “No nation has overcome poverty without that. And climate policies now on the table would deprive the developing world of it. Poor nations should reject such policies—and so should Pope Francis.”

The letter has over 75 endorsements from world - class climate scientists, environmental and developmental economists, theologians, and ethicists, such as climatologists Dr. Roy Spencer and Dr. David Legates, physicists Will Happer and Tom Sheahan, NASA space program scientist Hal Doiron, and pro-life, anti-human trafficking leader Liz Yore.

The entire letter is available on the Cornwall Alliance Website at <http://www.cornwallalliance.org/>

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## **Thankfully the Compact Bill Dies in House**

Eagle Forum continues to oppose any call for a constitutional convention in any form. So we are thankful that although the Alabama Senate passed SB 414 to have Alabama join the Compact for an Article V Convention of the States, it died in the House. Due to a procedural issue, Rep. Ed Henry, who was handling the bill in the House, thought he did not have the votes, so he pulled it after moving to bring it to a vote and drawing an objection. We are thankful for the objection that stopped the vote on this dangerous bill. Also, we rejoice that the same resolution is dead in both South Carolina and Missouri. However, Senator Allen, the Senate sponsor, has asked that the Governor add the bill to any special session he calls. We oppose that addition.

We fully agree with Justice Antonin Scalia who recently said: “A constitutional convention is a horrible idea. This is not a good century to write a constitution.”

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# The Old Deluder Act

The **Old Deluder Act** was passed in 1647 in Massachusetts by the [Puritans](#). It established the first public schools in America to teach children to read the Bible and thus defeat [Satan](#) (whom they called "the old deluder").

## The Old Deluder Act

From Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England (1853), II: 203

It being one chief project of that old deluder, Satan, to keep men from the knowledge of the Scriptures, as in former times by keeping them in an unknown tongue, so in these latter times by persuading from the use of tongues, that so that at least the true sense and meaning of the original might be clouded and corrupted with false glosses of saint-seeming deceivers; and to the end that learning may not be buried in the grave of our forefathers, in church and commonwealth, the Lord assisting our endeavors. It is therefore ordered that every township in this jurisdiction, after the Lord hath increased them to fifty households shall forthwith appoint one within their town to teach all such children as shall resort to him to write and read, whose wages shall be paid either by the parents or masters of such children, or by the inhabitants in general, by way of supply, as the major part of those that order the prudentials of the town shall appoint; provided those that send their children be not oppressed by paying much more than they can have them taught for in other towns.

And it is further ordered, that when any town shall increase to the number of one hundred families or householders, they shall set up a [grammar school](#), the master thereof being able to instruct youth so far as they may be fitted for the university, provided that if any town neglect the performance hereof above one year that every such town shall pay 5 pounds to the next school till they shall perform this order.

Source: *Conservapedia*

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## Poll Shows Alabamians Strongly Oppose Raising Taxes

A survey by nationally known public opinion research firm McLaughlin & Associates shows that Alabamians strongly oppose raising taxes as a way to solve Alabama's budget problems. As reported by *Yellowhammer News* on June 9, 2015, **71.8 percent** of likely primary voters say they oppose Governor Bentley's plan to raise taxes. 72 percent believe that it is possible to balance Alabama's state budget without raising taxes.

The legislature did indeed pass a General Fund budget balancing it with spending cuts rather than raising taxes. It appears from this poll that the people of Alabama strongly agree with that approach. In fact, 66.2 percent say that they would be less likely to vote for a legislator next time who supported a plan such as the Governor has proposed. The Governor quickly vetoed the budget and said he would call a special session to continue pushing for his tax increases.

## OSHA Adopts Policy for Transgender Restroom

The federal government agency charged with regulating workplace conditions has formed an "alliance" with a "national social justice advocacy organization for transgender people" primarily to promote gender-appropriate restroom access. This particular alliance provides for the National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) to "review, promote and disseminate the OSHA-developed bulletin of recommended best practices for restroom access for transgender workers." In return, the NCTE will disseminate general OSHA information on a quarterly basis via its website or other method as well as provide OSHA representatives opportunities to speak at NCTE events.

OSHA describes the larger Alliance program itself as follows:

Through its Alliance Program, OSHA works with unions, consults, trade and professional organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, businesses and educational institutions to prevent workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses. The purpose of each alliance is to develop compliance assistance tools and resources, and to educate workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities. Alliance Program participants do not receive exemptions from OSHA inspections or any other enforcement benefits.

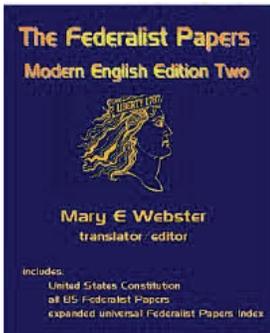
OSHA's agreement with the National Center for Transgender Equality will last for two years.

*Above information from the WeeklyStandard.com by Jeryl Bier dated 5/5/2015*

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## The Federalist Papers: Modern English Edition Two by Mary Webster



This is a 10th-grade reading-level edition of *The Federalist Papers*. It includes all 85 Papers, the US Constitution, and an extensive glossary and index.

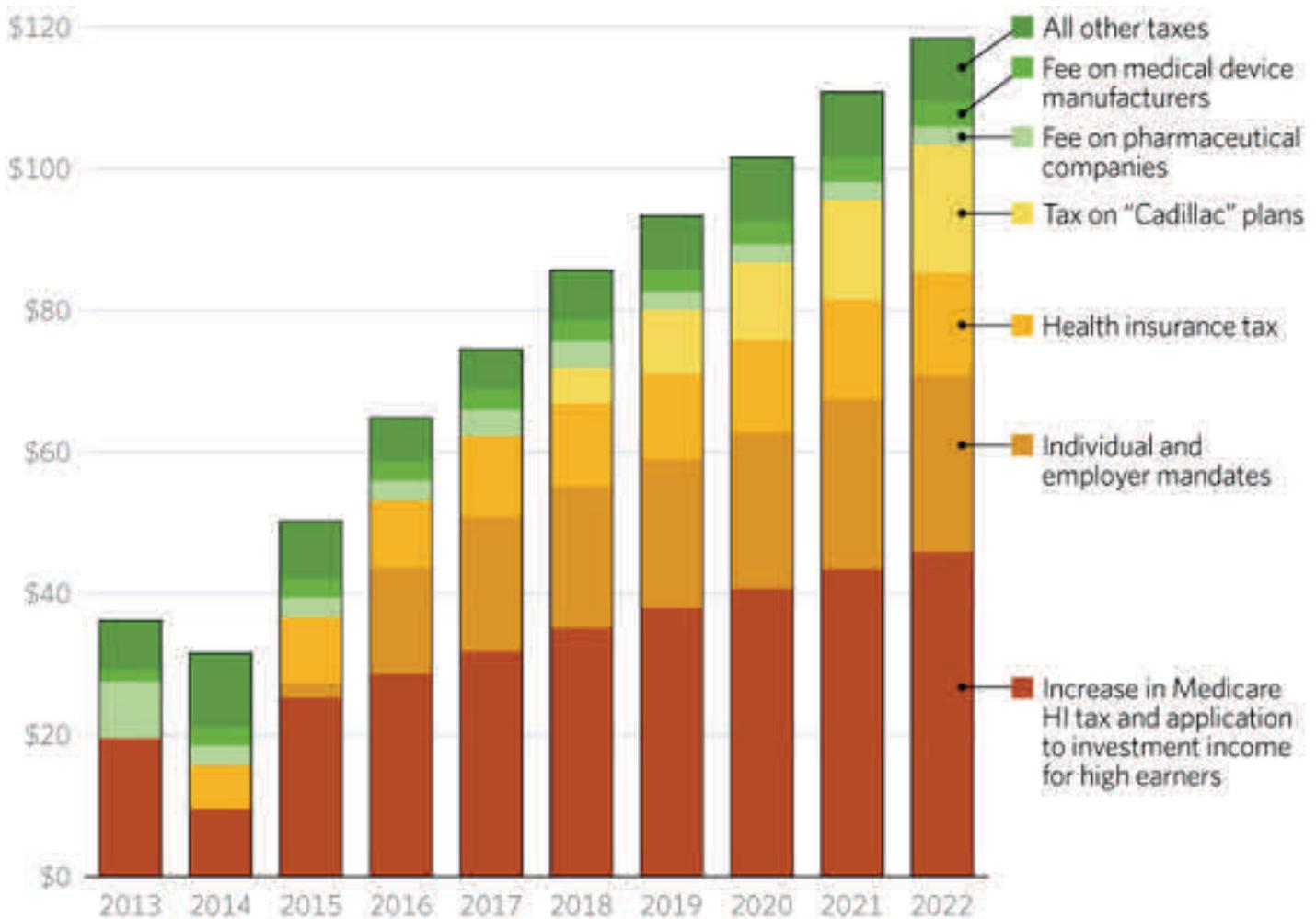
*The Federalist Papers*, written immediately following the Constitutional Convention in 1787, explains the precedents and psychology supporting the United States Constitution. *The Federalist Papers: In Modern Language* updates the grammar and vocabulary while retaining the original meaning.

It was the Founding Fathers' keen grasp of human psychology and their use of historical examples to make their points that kept Mary Webster working on this new edition of *The Federalist Papers*. She studied *The Federalist Papers* for more than 10 years.

Mary was a political junkie when she started reading the Papers. She found herself disagreeing with some ideas she heard from politicians and pundits, but she didn't have the background to explain why they were bad ideas. So she educated herself. The book is available on *Amazon.com*.

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## Obamacare's \$800 Billion Tax Hike Explained in One Chart



Obamacare contains [18 separate tax increases](#). A few of the biggest include a tax on “Cadillac” health insurance plans, which doesn’t take effect until 2018, long after President Obama and many in Congress who voted for the tax in 2010 have departed Washington. Also, there is a tax on health insurance premiums and a higher rate on the Hospital Insurance payroll tax for single filers with incomes above \$200,000 (\$250,000 for married filers) that also applies to investment income. *From dailysignal.com 04/06/2015*

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*of Alabama*

**Education  
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