

Sir, The "Big Read" on Trump's tax overhaul (29 Nov 2017) observes that the proposed cuts for lower income earners will sunset, while those for corporations will remain permanent fixtures. The White House invokes the Bush tax cuts as precedent to argue that Congress will eventually make lower income tax cuts permanent as well. But the comparison is inapt, considering that Bush's sunset provisions had applied across the board, and so Republicans had had an incentive to make them permanent in order to appease their upper income constituencies. No such incentive applies with respect to the Trump cuts, and so White House assurances must be regarded as nothing more than bait and switch.

Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me, Trump supporters might say to themselves if they indeed allow themselves to be persuaded by the Republican advertising campaign to gin up popular enthusiasm for their "reform."

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