

## List of Tax Reform Good News

711 examples of pay raises, charitable donations, special bonuses, 401(k) match hikes, business expansions, benefit increases, and utility rate reductions attributed to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

As of August 14, 2018. Please send any additions to this list to John Kartch at jkartch@atr.org

This list and all 50 state lists are constantly updated – please access this national list and all 50 state lists at <u>www.atr.org/list</u>

Thanks to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed by the Republican congress and signed by President Donald Trump, 90 percent of wage earners have higher take-home pay. And companies of all sizes are giving bonuses and raises and expanding the scope of their operations. Below are examples of pay raises, bonuses, 401(k) match hikes, business expansions, and utility rate reductions attributed to the tax cuts:

**<u>1A Auto, Inc.</u>** (Westford, Massachusetts) -- Bonuses for all full-time employees:

Massachusetts based online auto parts retailer 1A Auto announced across the board cash bonuses for all full-time employees. CEO Rick Green says that the decision was based on recent changes to tax policy. In a company meeting Wednesday, Green told employees, "Ultimately the tax savings will be passed to our customers in the form of lower prices, but we want to also share some of the savings with you, our hard-working employees." Jan. 25, 2018 1A Auto, Inc. press release

**<u>1st Source Corporation</u>** (South Bend, Indiana) -- 10 shares of stock; base pay increases:

1st Source Corporation announces important investments in its people as a result of record performance in 2017 and new tax legislation opportunities. These new investments include the following:

• The issuance of 10 shares of 1st Source stock currently valued at \$500.00 in early 2019 (which must be held for three years) to all employees who were active with the company December 31, 2017 and are also active with the company on December 31, 2018.

- An additional performance award base pay increase of \$500.00 to eligible colleagues.
- A significant increase in the company's higher education tuition reimbursement program to an annual benefit of \$6,000 from \$3,000.

Christopher J. Murphy III, Chairman and CEO stated. "We believe in shared ownership among all our colleagues at 1st Source. We also believe the new tax act gives us additional funds to invest in the company's long term future. -- Jan. 31, 2018 1st Source Corporation

<u> $1^{st}$  Summit Bank</u> (Johnstown, Pennsylvania) – \$1,000 bonuses to full-time employees; salary raises; increased charitable donations.

<u>AaLadin Industries, Inc.</u> (Elk Point, South Dakota) – Bonuses of \$250 - \$1,000 based on length of service; base wage raised; increased capital expenditures:

This 38 year old family owned manufacturer of high pressure cleaning equipment (AaLadin Cleaning Systems), accessories for the cleaning industry (Steel Eagle Inc.), and hunting and towing products (Rugged Gear, LLC) is giving its 80 plus employees bonuses ranging from \$250 to \$1000 based on time served at the company. They are also going to be implementing a new starting wage policy effective March 1, 2018. They are planning on spending somewhere between 1 and 2 million dollars on new equipment to enhance their 125,000 square foot facility. Thank you President Trump for your vision for the future! – Jan. 31, 2018 statement of CEO/COB Patrick Wingen

AAON (Tulsa) – this heating and cooling firm gave \$1,000 bonus checks to 2,000 employees:

"We are very appreciative of all AAON employees and want to commemorate the passing of this historic, economy-stimulating tax reform law. While most employees are shareholders of the company and benefit as a result of the new tax law, we felt it appropriate to provide a more direct recognition of their importance to AAON's future success." -- Jan. 2, 2018 AAON press release

<u>AbbVie, Inc.</u> (North Chicago, Illinois) -- permanent salary increases for all non-executive employees; increased profit sharing for employees; one additional holiday for U.S. employees.

AccuWeather (State College, Pennsylvania) – year-end bonuses to all employees. (Approx. 450 – 500 employees)

"The bonuses are possible due to the company's robust financial performance in 2017 and strong confidence in the growing U.S. and global economy now that the Tax Bill has passed." – <u>Dec. 26,</u> <u>2017 AccuWeather press release</u>

Adams Community Bank (Adams, Massachusetts) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees; base wage raised to \$13.25 per hour; other wage increases; increased charitable contributions, increased capital expenditures, and more:

Adams Community Bank today announced investments in its employees, customers, and the Berkshire community following the recent passage of federal tax reform legislation. These investments include:

- Paying a special one-time bonus of \$1,000 to full time employees, and \$500 to part time employees. This initiative is focused on those employees making below a certain compensation threshold.
- Increasing base pay by \$1 per hour for regular non-officer employees making below a certain compensation threshold.
- Raising our minimum wage to \$13.25.
- Reducing the employee's share of medical and dental insurance premiums from 30% to 20%, for all bank employees who are not officers.
- Increasing interest rates on customer deposit products beginning in January.

In addition, during 2018 Adams Community Bank will be upgrading our website, ATM's and streamlining account-opening processes.

Finally, the Bank anticipates having more money to use for our long-standing goal of donating 10% of net income each year to local charitable and non-profit initiatives.

"The recent change to the Federal tax law offered a unique opportunity to assess how we can use this savings to improve our community," said Charles O'Brien, President and CEO. "The bank will benefit from the lowering of corporate tax rates and as a true community bank headquartered in the Berkshires we would like to pass along these savings right here at home by investing in our staff, our customers, and the local community. These initiatives will put more money into the pockets of our employees, our customers, and the local non-profit community which will serve to benefit the Berkshire economy. We are thrilled that more than 80% of our staff will be positively impacted by these changes. In addition we are planning to add to our staff during 2018 by hiring several employees to better serve our growing customer base."

O'Brien also noted "these compensation changes are in addition to the full complement of benefits the bank offers including an existing incentive plan for all staff, our pension and 401(K) plans, life insurance, tuition reimbursement, employee wellness, and more. Some banks have eliminated or scaled back on some of these benefits but we strive to attract the most talented staff. Our entire salary and benefit package is the most competitive offered by any community bank within Berkshire County." -- Jan. 25, 2018 Adams Community Bank press release

<u>Acadia Healthcare</u> (Franklin, Tennessee) – Creating new jobs, opening new facilities, expanding existing facilities:

Acadia Healthcare is pleased to announce it will be adding to new jobs, opening additional treatment facilities, and expanding existing facilities due to the extraordinary tax bill. Our employees witnessed the personal benefits of the new tax bill in their paychecks last week, and I'm excited to announce that Acadia will use the corporate tax savings to increase access to mental health and substance abuse services across the country.

We are committed to build on our strategies to keep facilities up to date. Make sure we build new opioid treatment centers to meet the growing epidemic, expand access to beds at our inpatient and residential facilities, and creating new jobs across the country. Our future and ongoing expansions includes projects in Kentucky, California, Tennessee, Louisiana, Oregon, and Ohio to name a few.

We are also increasing our efforts to partner with local health systems to train health care providers in evidence-based treatment in the behavioral healthcare field. Workforce challenges are significant in our industry, and we are committed to investing the necessary resources and hire and train the growing demands spurred on by the epidemic. The tax savings allow us an opportunity to better address this need. –Joey Jacobs, CEO and Chairman of Acadia Healthcare in letter Leader McConnell, Speaker Ryan and Leader McCarthy on February 12, 2018

<u>Advance Financial</u> (Nashville, Tennessee) – increase in 401(k) match; increase in profit sharing; increase in charitable donations:

"Because we believed the new administration was committed to doing what it takes to get America's economy back on track, we are already ahead of the curve this year in terms of capital investments. We dramatically sped up our plans to open new locations – we're opening the 85th one this morning in Jackson – and hire more employees – we are bringing on 100 new people in January. We have also exponentially expanded our reach outside of Tennessee. In 2017, for the first time, we began offering our services outside the state via the Internet and today we are in 10 states other than Tennessee." – Tina Hodges, CEO and chief experience officer for Advance Financial, in a Jan. 5, 2018 Advance Financial press release

Advanced Sciences and Technologies, LLC (Berlin, New Jersey) – increased 401(k) match for employees.

Advanced Superabrasives (Mars Hill, North Carolina) - Employee bonuses and pay raises:

Thanks to tax reform, Advanced Superabrasives of Mars Hill, North Carolina, is creating highpaying jobs, investing in workforce training and growing its operations. But what's even more impressive is it has already given many of the 43 employees not just one, not just two, but three pay raises in 2018. - July 25, 2018, National Associations of Manufacturers article excerpts <u>Aflac</u> (Columbus, Georgia) – increase 401(k) match from 50% to 100% on the first 4% of compensation plus one-time \$500 contribution to every employee's 401(k); \$250 million increase in overall U.S. investment.

"We are pleased that these tax reforms provide Aflac with an opportunity to increase our investments in initiatives that reflect our company values; providing for our employees in the long and short term, ensuring future growth for our company and giving back to the community." -- <u>Aflac Chairman and CEO Dan Amos</u>

Alabama Power (Birmingham, Alabama) – The utility is passing along tax savings to customers:

Alabama Power Company customers will see a reduction in their bills because of the federal income tax cut approved by Congress last year, the Public Service Commission announced at its monthly meeting today.

The reduction in 2018 will be for \$257 million, about a 9 percent cut, the PSC said.

The cut requires no action by the PSC, which regulates Alabama Power.

*The reduction takes effect in July and continues through December.* 

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, signed into law in December, reduced the federal corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent effective Jan. 1, 2018.

The three commissioners, all Republicans, said it was good to see consumers benefit from the tax cuts promoted and signed into law by President Trump.

"This is a great day for Alabama consumers and taxpayers," Commission President Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh said.

The commission approved two requests from Alabama Power related to the income tax cut.

One would allow the company to apply up to \$30 million of excess federal deferred income taxes this year to Energy Cost Recovery, a factor in rate-setting.

The other request from Alabama Power was to make several changes to the PSC's method of setting rates, called Rate Stabilization and Equalization, or RSE. The PSC said the changes would enable Alabama Power "to mitigate the credit quality impacts" resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and preserve rate stability for customers. The changes would allow Alabama Power to increase the equity share of its capital investment, the PSC said.

In conjunction with that second request, Alabama Power committed to no increases in its base rates through 2020 and to credit customers \$50 million next year, the PSC said. – <u>May 1, 2018</u> <u>AL.com article excerpt</u>

Alaska Air Group (Seattle, Washington) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 23,000 employees.

<u>Alaska Electric Light and Power</u> (Juneau, Alaska) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers.

<u>Albanese Confectionery</u> (Merrillville, Indiana) – Up to \$2,000 bonuses annually for as long as tax reform stays in effect, expanded parental leave benefits:

Employees of Albanese Confectionery, an Indiana-based candy manufacturing company, have received up to a \$2,000 Tax Reform Bonus. The bonuses were determined by an employee's length of service but even brand-new hires received \$150. The best part, this bonus will happen ANNUALLY as long as the Tax Reform Bill stays in effect. Employees can expect their ANNUAL Tax Reform Bonus every January.

"Taxes are complicated. With the new tax plan we are able to take a giant leap in investing in the things that matter. You matter. It's just that simple." Officer Tess Albanese said to employees during their meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Albanese Confectionery also expanded their benefits to include new programs such as paid maternity and paternity leave. – <u>Albanese Confectionery press release</u>

Albert Lea Public Warehouse (Albert Lea, Minnesota) – \$2,000 bonuses for all 12 employees:

Albert Lea business leaders said the recently passed tax bill is helping them invest in their organizations.

The tax bill passed in December cut the top federal tax rate to 21 percent from 35 percent, likely putting billions of dollars in the pockets of major Minnesota companies.

Albert Lea Public Warehouse Owner Al Larson gave each of his 12 employees a \$2,000 bonus, which he said would not have been possible without reduced rates. He said he decided to pay the bonuses in January to help the workers pay off costs incurred during the Christmas season.

"I just distributed it back to them," he said.

In addition to bonuses, Larson is installing two roofs and investing in new dock levelers.

*Larson said he prefers investing company revenue locally instead of contributing more of a percentage to the federal government. – <u>Jan. 30 Albert Lea Tribune article</u>* 

<u>Alpha Technologies</u> (South Charleston, West Virginia) - Building a new facility, project expansion:

Prior to McMahon's visit, among efforts by President Donald Trump's administration to tout the benefits of federal tax cuts, Alpha Technologies CEO Doug Tate said the Hurricane-based company is planning to build a new data center in Huntington.

To go along with that facility — expected to be smaller than its South Charleston data center — Alpha is aiming to build 50 miles of fiber from Charleston to Huntington via U.S. 60, said Charlie Dennie, vice president of government relations and special projects. - <u>July 17, 2018, Charleston</u> <u>Gazette-Mail article excerpt</u>

Ally Financial Inc. (Charlotte, North Carolina) -- \$1,000 bonuses:

The company plans to use some of the tax savings to pay a \$1,000 bonus to its employees, and to increase its charitable contributions by around \$6 million. – <u>Jan. 30, 2018 American Banker</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

<u>Almo Corporation</u> (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) – \$1,000 incremental bonus, capital improvement, and purchasing a new operating system:

<u>Almo</u>, the Philadelphia-based appliance, CE, housewares and pro A/V distributor, is investing its savings from the Trump administration's new tax legislation in its employees and infrastructure. President/CEO Warren Chaiken said Almo's newly lowered tax structure will allow it to reward its employees with an incremental bonus of \$1,000, as "they are the greatest asset we have to offer as a business."

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The capital improvements include:

- a new 300,000-square-foot distribution center in Philadelphia to cover the Mid-Atlantic region, plus warehouse relocations in Nevada and Ohio to larger facilities;
- an ongoing headquarters renovation that includes a reconfigured first floor and a new 7,000-square-foot second floor that can accommodate 65 additional employees;
- a new central office in Ft. Lauderdale for the company's global operations and hospitality and new business groups; and a new, larger headquarters office in Baltimore for the Almo Professional A/V division that will allow for expansion and growth. -- <u>March 9 2018, Twice article excerpt</u>

Allsup's Convenience Stores, Inc. (Clovis, New Mexico) -- \$1,000 bonuses:

Workers were feeling so good at a Santa Fe Allsup's convenience store Thursday that you might have thought it was raining cash. And it almost was.

One-time cash bonuses of \$1,000 had appeared that morning by direct deposit in the bank accounts of all full-time, non-executive Allsup's employees who have been with the company at least one full calendar year.

Cashier Cesia Villatoro, who works at the Allsup's store at 305 N. Guadalupe St., said she was happy with the bonus. Then she amended that to "very happy."

"I'm going to help my family," Villatoro said.

Owners of the Clovis-based company said in a news release that the windfall was "a result of the recent Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed in December 2017" — a massive Republican tax overhaul pushed by President Donald Trump.

"The new tax reform legislation provides tax cuts for individuals and companies and should result in positive economic growth," Allsup's said.

The company operates 317 stores in New Mexico, West Texas and Oklahoma and employs 3,200 full-time and part-time employees. It did not say how many of its employees received a bonus this week.

Velia Bojorquez, manager of the North Guadalupe Street store, said the company had mentioned the bonuses would be coming but didn't give an exact date of when workers could expect them. "It's too good to be true," she said. "We were all surprised. Where did this money come from?"

Bojorquez said she plans to use the extra infusion of cash to pay some bills. "It's going to be a big help."

Cashier Maria Rosado was equally enthused. "I really need it," she said of the cash disbursement. "I'm going to help my family and pay some bills." – <u>March 15, 2018 Santa Fe New Mexican</u>

<u>Altria Group Inc.</u> (Richmond, Virginia) – \$3,000 bonus to approximately 7,900 non-executive level employees, a total of \$24 million in bonuses; increased charitable contributions:

Altria Group Inc., one of the Richmond area's largest private employers, says it is giving all of its non-executive employees a one-time \$3,000 bonus, thanks to the corporate tax cut passed by Congress in December.

The Henrico County-based parent company of cigarette maker Philip Morris USA said it also plans to set aside \$35 million over three years for philanthropic programs in the communities where it has operations, focusing particularly on nonprofit programs in youth development and workforce preparedness. The money is in addition to the roughly \$55 million a year that Altria typically donates to philanthropy, a company spokeswoman said.

The bonus to employees is expected to be paid out this month and will amount to a total of \$24 million for the company's approximately 7,900 non-executive employees.

About 3,600 of those employees are in the Richmond area, where the company has a cigarette factory in South Richmond, its headquarters in Henrico, a research center in downtown Richmond and other operations.

"Our employees drive our success," said Marty J. Barrington, the company's chairman and CEO, in a statement. "This bonus is one way we say thank you for everything they do to make Altria a business leader and a leader in our communities."

Altria is not the only company that has announced one-time bonuses since the tax reform bill was passed in late December. Others include Walmart, Comcast, AT&T, Walt Disney Co., Starbucks, American Airlines and Bank of America, with bonuses mostly of \$1,000.

Altria announced the bonus to its employees Thursday afternoon, after the company reported its fourth-quarter and full-year earnings for 2017." – Feb. 1 2018, Richmond Times- Dispatch article excerpt

Amarillo National Bank (Amarillo, Texas) – \$1,000 salary increases for over 300 employees:

Christmas came early for more than 300 employees at Amarillo National Bank when they found out they'd be getting a \$1,000 pay raise.

The bosses at ANB are saying the pay increase is because of the GOP's tax reform bill.

The raises are the highest salary and wage increases in the bank's history.

313 of the bank's 600 full-time, non-salaried employees will get an immediate raise of \$1,000.

ANB says they also plan on investing another \$2.5 million into its downtown properties.

*Executive Vice President William Ware says the bank will be saving a ton of money with the new tax bill so they're investing those savings back into their most valuable asset, their employees.* 

Executive Vice President William Ware said, "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we know with the savings from the tax reform bill, we want to reinvest that back into our bank and the first place we are going to put it is into our employees. That's our most important asset and we feel like that's a great thing to do."

ANB has 18 branches in Amarillo, Canyon, Borger and Lubbock. – <u>Dec. 21, 2017</u> <u>MyHighPlains.com article excerpt</u>

<u>Amboy Bank</u> (Old Bridge, New Jersey) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for nonexecutive employees:

The New Jersey Bankers Association said Amboy Bank was "sharing the benefits of the recent tax reform."

"They are joining the growing group of banks across New Jersey and the country that are rewarding employees with increased wages, special bonuses and enhanced benefits programs as well as increased funding for charitable giving," president and CEO John E. McWeeney, Jr. said in a statement. – <u>Feb. 8, 2018 NJ Advance Media article excerpt</u>

Ameren Illinois (Chicago, Illinois) – the utility requested that tax savings be passed onto customers:

Ameren Illinois electric customers could save an average of \$2.50 to \$3.00 per month in 2018 and natural gas customers could save an average of \$1 per month if the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) approves the company's plan to pass savings from the recently approved federal tax cut legislation back to its customers. Customers using both electricity and natural gas could see a combined savings.

In the proposal filed with the ICC today, the company is seeking approval to pass along federal tax savings to electric customers beginning this year. A similar proposal was filed last week on behalf of Ameren Illinois natural gas customers.

"Under the new tax plan, Ameren Illinois' effective tax rate will decrease by nearly 13%," said Richard Mark, chairman and president, Ameren Illinois. "The plan we have filed with the ICC gives us the ability to expedite the return of these savings to our customers."

The Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2011 provides a mechanism to return these savings to electric customers, but without filing the petition customers would have to wait until 2020 to receive the benefits. If approved by the ICC, Ameren Illinois customers will begin seeing these savings in March. – Jan. 22 2018, Ameren Illinois press release

Ameren Missouri (St. Louis, Missouri) - The utility will pass cut savings to customers:

The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an agreement that reduces the annual electric revenues of Union Electric Company doing business as Ameren Missouri.

The rate decrease of approximately \$166,500.000 reflects a reduction in the corporate tax rate from 35 to 21% as a result of the passage of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. Residential customers using 1,000-kilowatt hours a month will see electric rates decrease by about \$6.21 per month, effective August 1st. - July 6, 2018, KTTN article excerpt

Americollect (Manitowoc, Wisconsin) \$300 - \$500 bonuses for 250 employees:

A Manitowoc-based company will give its roughly 250 employees a bonus following Congress's passage of the tax reform bill the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

In an email to employees Wednesday, Americollect President and CEO Kenlyn T. Gretz said: "Today, Congress passed the tax reform bill; our company will be taxed less because of it. Since we will now be taxed less, I wanted to take this opportunity and utilize this financial benefit to give back to each of you, our teammates, by directly impacting your paycheck in the form of a bonus!"

Gretz said: "We find great joy in being able to provide this bonus to the employees, who really are the heart and soul of what we do. Full-time employees can expect to see as much as a \$500 bonus come 2019 and even part-time employees will be included." -- <u>Dec. 21, 2017 Manitowoc</u> <u>Herald Times article excerpt</u>

<u>American Airlines</u> (Ft. Worth, Texas) -- \$1,000 bonuses for every employee (excluding officers). The bonuses will total \$130 million. AA had 127,600 employees as of Sept. 2017.

"Recent tax reform has received much publicity. While the company does not yet pay cash taxes due to our enormous losses in the past, there is no doubt that our country's new tax structure will have positive long-term benefits for American. We will be able to invest even more in aircraft and facilities, and we will be able to do so with even greater confidence about the future. As we analyze those potential future benefits, our leadership team, backed by our Board of Directors, considered how a portion of that positive impact might be directly shared with the very people who produce the profits at American—all of you.

We are pleased to announce that in light of this new tax structure and in recognition of our outstanding team members, American will distribute \$1,000 to each team member (excluding Officers) at our mainline and wholly owned regional carriers. These distributions will total approximately \$130 million and will be made in the first quarter of 2018." – <u>American Airlines</u> press release

American Bank (Allentown, Pennsylvania) – \$1,000 bonuses for 60 employees

"President and CEO Mark W. Jaindl stated, "Beginning in 2018, we expect to see benefits from the recent tax reform due to lower corporate tax rates. As we celebrate the holiday season and prepare to close out another year of growth at American Bank, the Board of Directors and senior management want to give back to our team members who are directly responsible for our success."

*Mr. Jaindl continued, "We expect the actions taken by Congress and the President will have a material positive impact on growth throughout the country. As a result, we anticipate our hiring efforts will increase in 2018."* – <u>Dec. 22, 2017 American Bank press release</u>

<u>American Community Bank & Trust</u> (Woodstock, Illinois) -- \$500 bonus to each employee; additional employees will be hired

<u>American Express</u> (New York, New York) -- \$200 million additional investments for customer-facing growth initiatives; increased contributions to employee profit-sharing plans; \$200 million higher investment

"Overall, we believe the Tax Act will be a positive development for both the U.S. economy and American Express. Given the momentum in the business and the anticipated benefit of a lower tax rate, we now expect to invest up to \$200 million more in 2018 than we originally planned for customer-facing growth initiatives. We've also made an incremental contribution to our employee profit-sharing plans to support the long-term financial well-being of our employees. And, for shareholders, we expect to use the remaining anticipated benefits to build capital and support earnings growth in 2018. -- Jan. 18 2018, American Express press release

American Family Insurance (Madison, Wisconsin): 11,000 workers will receive a \$1,000 bonus:

"American Family Insurance said Friday it will give 11,000 workers a one-time bonus of \$1,000, becoming the latest U.S. company to pass some of the savings from federal tax reform to employees.

The Madison-based insurer said the reduction in the corporate income tax rate also would help fuel permanent changes to its employee benefits program, such as expanded tuition reimbursement, help paying student loans and scholarships for workers who pursue a post-high school degree.

In addition, American Family said its family leave program now will provide employees with paid leave to care for an ill child of any age or for a spouse or domestic partner.

"Our success rests with our people who are dedicated to helping our customers," Bill Westrate, American Family Insurance president, said in a statement. "These changes demonstrate our commitment to our people, today and into the future, with expanded benefits and educational support, and to the communities where we do business."

American Family said Friday the company will contribute \$10 million to its Dreams Foundation, which supports programs and provides grants to nonprofits. This year, American Family said, the foundation will provide a one-time, two-to-one match for employee and agent donations to qualifying charities, a boost from the one-to-one match in place since the Dreams Foundation was established in 2016. – Jan. 26 2018, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article excerpt

<u>American Proteins Inc.</u> (Cumming, Georgia)— \$1,000 bonuses:

"American Proteins Inc. based in Cumming has 700 employees at its operations in Georgia and Alabama. It announced it would give employees \$1,000 bonuses "in response to the tax reform package signed into law earlier this year."

"President Donald Trump and the Republican Congress have reduced taxes for businesses and individuals and I'm excited what this means for our company and its employees," American Proteins Inc. Chairman Tommy Bagwell said in a statement Feb. 5." – <u>Feb. 26 2018, Atlanta</u> <u>Business Chronicle article excerpt</u>

<u>American Savings Bank</u> (Honolulu, Hawaii)– \$1,000 bonuses to 1,150 employees; base wage increase from \$12.21 to \$15.25

<u>Amgen</u> (Thousand Oaks, California) – Construction of a new \$300 million U.S. manufacturing plant which will employ up to 300 at the facility; \$300 million investment in biotechnology ventures; \$3.5 billion in capital expenditures; \$100 million investment in Amgen Scholars and Amgen Biotech Experience programs; \$100 million in charitable donations, and more:

- Amgen will build a new "Next Generation" manufacturing plant in the U.S. (location TBD by Q2) a \$300 Million investment to implement Amgen's next-generation biomanufacturing capabilities, and manufacture products for the U.S. and export markets. The construction and validation work is expected to add 220 jobs to the local economy. In addition, Amgen expects this new facility to employ up to 300 highly skilled full-time employees.
- We will make product in the U.S. and export it to cover 85% of our international sales.
- An investment up to \$300 Million of growth capital for early-stage, innovative biotechnology companies in the U.S. through the Amgen Ventures fund.
- We expect to invest ~\$3.5 Billion in capital expenditures in the U.S. over the next 5 years.
- We'll also grow our already substantial commitment to our communities with plans for the Amgen Foundation's investments in the proven Amgen Scholars and Amgen Biotech

Experience programs which we expect to reach \$100 Million of commitment within 4 years. We have engaged some 600,000 college and high school students in person through these programs and consider this our commitment to helping to build a pipeline of talented scientists and biologists in the U.S. and beyond.

- Through our Foundation's philanthropic giving we expect to deploy \$100 Million over the next 5 years in the communities where we work and live.
- We estimate that lower personal tax rates combined with investments we are making in enhancing base wages for these staff will create literally thousands of dollars of improvement in the average take-home pay for our typical U.S. non-executive staff member.
- Tax Reform provides us with more flexibility for capital deployment. Since 2011, we have invested more than \$42 Billion in research and development, innovation-based acquisitions, and long-term oriented capital expenditures. We expect to continue making such long-term investments now while also being able to return excess capital to our shareholders in the form of growing dividends and share buybacks.
- Based on our confidence in the long-term outlook for the business, which was enhanced by the benefits of tax reform, we have increased our share repurchase authorization by \$10 Billion. -- Amgen CEO Bob Bradway, Amgen 4th quarter 2017 earnings call

<u>Amicus Therapeutics</u> (Cranbury, New Jersey) – In order to find a cure for a rare disease, the company is building a \$200 million facility in the United States instead of overseas. The facility will employ at least 200 people who will earn an average of over \$100,000 per year:

Specialty drugmaker Amicus Therapeutics, Inc. has decided to spend as much as \$200 million on a new production facility in the U.S. instead of Europe.

At Amicus Therapeutics, the new tax law solved a geographic dilemma. The Cranbury, N.J., company is developing an experimental drug to treat Pompe disease, a rare inherited disorder that causes muscle weakness and can be fatal.

After early results for a new drug proved promising, Amicus wanted to increase production for further clinical testing and potential commercial sales.

Amicus, which has been using Chinese contract manufacturer WuXi Biologics to supply the drug, decided in August to build its own facility. The U.S. was at a disadvantage to Europe, due to its 35% statutory federal income-tax rate for companies. Ireland's corporate tax rate, by contrast, is 12.5%.

Those financial considerations threatened to overshadow other advantages that a U.S. plant would offer, including the ease with which company officials could visit it, and the availability of talented workers in some regions.

"Our strong assumption was that it would be very challenging to establish a new biomanufacturing facility in the U.S.," Chief Executive John Crowley said in an interview.

As the tax legislation advanced in Congress last fall, however, building in the U.S. began to look more attractive. On Dec. 21, a day after Congress passed the final measure, which lowered the statutory corporate rate to 21%, Mr. Crowley recommended to his board the company focus on finding a U.S. site. The company has narrowed its choice to three East Coast cities Mr. Crowley declined to identify, and expects to decide in the next month or two. It expects the plant to cost \$150 million to \$200 million, and to employ at least 200 people at an average pay of \$100,000 a year.

"With the changes in the tax law, it now makes the U.S. competitive with these geographies we're looking at," he said. – Jan. 26, 2018 Wall Street Journal article excerpt

Anamet Electrical Inc. (Mattoon, Illinois) - Increasing employee wages and investing in new equipment:

In oral testimony June 20, 2018, to the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy ANAMET Electrical President Sam McCammon echoed the NEMA survey results citing that ANAMET had made investments in its employees and equipment as a result of tax reform.

"After foregoing pay raises for consecutive years, we were finally able to give our employees a much-deserved wage increase," McCammon said. "Because of the increase in the Section 179 deduction limit from 100 percent of \$500,000 to 100 percent of \$1,000,000, and 50 percent above \$1,000,000, ANAMET is planning to increase our capital expenditures in 2019 by more than 100 percent from normal investment levels, which will better position us among our competition." - June 20, 2018 National Electrical Manufacturers Association press release excerpt

Anchor Electric (Wye, Montana) - Expanding business operations, hiring additional employees:

At Anchor Electric, Rosendale said company owner Paul Lindstrom told him that the tax reform package allowed him to expand his businesses and hire about 10 additional employees. - <u>August</u> <u>9, 2018, Missoulian article excerpt</u>

<u>AndyMark, Inc.</u> (Kokomo, Indiana) – This mechanical and electrical parts supplier will be able to expand the business and hire more employees thanks to tax reform:

Andy Moser, president and owner of AndyMark, which operates from a facility on North Washington Street and manufactures and distributes mechanical and electrical parts for the competitive robotics market, said savings from the tax cut has accelerated his plans to hire more workers. *He said the company currently employs 25 full-time workers and up to 30 part-time and seasonal workers. Now, Moser anticipates doubling his workforce in the next five to 10 years.* 

"I think the tax bill is going to accelerate our growth," he said. "We want more diversity with our business and more vertical integration, which requires more staff, and the tax cut its going to accelerate all that." – <u>Jan. 14 2018, Kokomo Tribune article excerpt</u>

Anfinson Farm Store (Cushing, Iowa) -- \$1,000 bonuses and 5% pay raises for employees:

Anfinson Farm Store, a family business in Cushing, Iowa (population 223), has awarded \$1,000 bonuses and raised wages 5% for all full-time employees as a result of tax reform. The good news was delivered to employees in person just after Christmas.

In an interview with Americans for Tax Reform, store owner John Anfinson said tax reform will boost "money that will be available for the business overall and I want to use it in the right places."

Anfinson has helmed the store for about 45 years. His grandfather started the business as a general store in 1918, so they will soon celebrate 100 years of operation. His customers chiefly grow corn, soybeans, and alfalfa.

"For us, we have a small number of employees. I work every day shoulder to shoulder with everyone," said Anfinson. "When you work every day with a group of people, you know them and their family and you appreciate everything they do. I value them and the interest they take in our customers. They are the most valuable asset in any business." – Jan. 9, 2018 Americans for Tax Reform blog post

Anthem -- \$1,000 in extra 401(k) contributions for 58,000 employees.

<u>Appalachian Power Co.</u> (Milton, West Virginia) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers.

Appalachian Power Company saved \$235 million dollars from the federal tax cuts and the company is proposing passing the money back to its customers in a variety of ways.

The multi-pronged proposal is in a filing with the state Public Service Commission due Wednesday. The PSC is requiring all utilities to tell it their tax cut savings and what they plan to do with it.

West Virginia Consumer Advocate Jackie Roberts told MetroNews the money clearly belongs to the customers.

"They (the utilities) had taxes in their rates and now the taxes in their rates have significantly decreased—so they shouldn't be able to keep collecting and keeping those higher taxes in their rates," Roberts said.

Appalachian Power Company Communications Director Jeri Matheney agrees—the \$235 million Appalachian Power will save belongs to its customers.

"It is customer money. What we propose to do is provide a method to keep rates as stable as possible over the longterm and as much as possible eliminate the need for rate increases," Matheney said.

The Appalachian Power distribution proposal for West Virginia customers includes:

\$131 million to completely offset the company's fuel and vegetation control program funding request that was part of an April filing with the PSC
\$19 million reduction in the company's base rate case filed earlier this month (taking the \$115 million request down to \$96 million)
\$51 million to reduce next year's fuel recovery cost rate case
\$1 million for a pilot economic development grant program
\$30.1 million to return to customers over the next three years – May 30, 2018, MetroNews article excerpt

<u>Apple</u> (Cupertino, California) -- \$2,500 employee bonuses in the form of restricted stock units; \$30 billion in additional capital expenditures over five years; 20,000 new employees will be hired; increased support of coding education and science, technology, engineering, arts, and math; increased support for U.S.

manufacturing:

Bonuses:

Apple Inc. told employees Wednesday that it's issuing a bonus of \$2,500 worth of restricted stock units, following the introduction of the new U.S. tax law, according to people familiar with the matter.

The iPhone maker will begin issuing stock grants to most employees worldwide in the coming months, said the people, who asked not to be identified because they weren't authorized to speak publicly. The move comes on the same day Apple said it would bring back most of its cash from overseas and spend \$30 billion in the U.S. over the next five years, funding an additional technical support campus, data centers and 20,000 new employees.

Apple confirmed the bonuses in response to a Bloomberg inquiry Wednesday. – <u>Jan. 17 2018,</u> <u>Bloomberg News article excerpt</u> Capital expenditures, etc:

Apple expects to invest over \$30 billion in capital expenditures in the US over the next five years and create over 20,000 new jobs through hiring at existing campuses and opening a new one.

Building on the initial success of the Advanced Manufacturing Fund announced last spring, Apple is increasing the size of the fund from \$1 billion to \$5 billion. The fund was established to support innovation among American manufacturers and help others establish a presence in the US. It is already backing projects with leading manufacturers in Kentucky and rural Texas.

Apple works with over 9,000 American suppliers — large and small businesses in all 50 states — and each of Apple's core products relies on parts or materials made in the US or provided by US-based suppliers.

Apple, which has a 40-year history in education, also plans to accelerate its efforts across the US in support of coding education as well as programs focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM). – <u>Jan. 17, 2018 Apple press release excerpts</u>

APPS Portamedic (Bellevue, Washington) – employee bonuses:

"Anything from the 20 percent reduction down to 17.5 percent, we have a lot of equipment in our business so we're going to see a tax break there. I was looking at the numbers just based on our simple tax bracket as my wife and I you know it's about a \$2,500 benefit just for income tax alone," Oakley said in an interview.

So, [owner Ben] Oakley decided to share the tax break, "Yeah, I sat down with my wife two days ago, I'm like 'if this goes, I want to show people that one, Republicans care about the middle class.' My wife and I are middle class, our staff is middle class. – <u>December 20, 2017 KIRO 7</u> <u>News report excerpt</u>

<u>Aquesta Financial Holdings</u> (Cornelius, North Carolina) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 95 employees; base wage hike to \$15 per hour

"We are very happy to share with our valuable team members some portion of the benefits Aquesta will realize by the enactment of Tax Reform. Decreased tax rates will allow Aquesta Bank to continue to grow by accelerating lending to small businesses and hiring additional team members to help with that growth. While almost all of our employees will also pay lower taxes in 2018 due to this new law, we felt that immediate recognition of their importance to Aquesta would send the right message: our people are what makes Aquesta different." – <u>Dec. 21 2017</u>, <u>Aquesta Financial Holdings press release</u> Arnold Packaging (Baltimore, Maryland) - Increasing employee salaries, purchasing new equipment:

According to Mick Arnold, president of Arnold Packaging, the company reinvested its savings by raising salaries by 4 percent for employees in the manufacturing facility and purchasing more equipment to meet demand.

*"We are constantly making reinvestments in our people, not just equipment, not just automation, but in our people," Arnold said. "Our workforce is critical to our success." - <u>May 3,</u> <u>2018, National Association of Manufacturers Shopfloor blog excerpt</u>* 

<u>AR-15 Gun Owners of America</u> (Warner Robins, Georgia) – tax reform bonuses; increased salaries for all employees.

<u>Ariel Corporation</u> (Mount Vernon, Ohio) – increase wages, expand business and increase employee benefits:

Karen Buchwald Wright, the Chairman, CEO and President of the Ariel Corporation, told the NAM that tax reform is helping the company improve the quality of life for their employees and the entire community of Mt. Vernon.

*Ms.* Wright told the NAM that the company is using tax reform the further wages and expand benefits for her employees:

- Tax reform means "reinvesting in the business," Karen said. They plan to further grow Ariel's manufacturing capabilities, provide even better pay and benefits for employees, and continue giving back to the community.
- Last year, before tax reform was even discussed, Karen said that Ariel gave across-the-board pay increases because she had repeatedly read that due to high taxes and an overwhelming regulatory climate, "national wages throughout manufacturing had essentially been flat for 20 years," Karen explained. "So, across the board, we gave everyone a 13% increase in wages," she said.
- Because of tax reduction, Karen reported that Ariel is moving forward with further significant raises in 2018, thanks to additional profits the company can invest in both people and the "tools" they need to do their jobs. Ariel will offer employees performance-based raises of up to 4.25%, on top of what they already received last year. Tax reform also allowed improvements and increases in the company's generous profit-sharing and retirement programs. – <u>April 17, 2018</u> <u>National Association of Manufacturers news article excerpt</u>

<u>Arizona Public Service</u> (Phoenix, Arizona) -- the utility requested a \$119 million bill reduction for customers due to tax reform:

"APS has requested the Arizona Corporation Commission approve a \$119 million bill reduction for customers, based on federal corporate tax cuts, effective February 1, 2018.

If approved, the \$119 million decrease will offset the \$95 million revenue increase that resulted from APS's last rate review. The savings of \$0.004258/kWh will be passed directly to customers through the Tax Expense Adjustor Mechanism (TEAM), a new adjustor mechanism that was included in the company's rate review, and customer savings will vary with actual energy usage. APS customers would receive the credit on their monthly bill. – Jan. 9, 2018 Arizona Public Service press release

<u>Associated Bank</u> (Green Bay, Wisconsin) – \$500 employee bonuses; base wage will rise from \$10 to \$15 per hour:

Associated Bank today announced plans to raise its minimum hourly wage from \$10 to \$15 per hour and to distribute a one-time bonus of \$500 for all hourly, non-commissioned employees once tax reform legislation is signed into law.

The pay increase and one-time bonus are expected to be distributed during the first pay cycle of 2018. This combined investment in the company's workforce will positively impact 55% of its employees.

"Every day our customers share stories of our colleagues delivering a positive customer experience," said Associated Bank President and CEO, Philip B. Flynn. "Our ability to recognize their work in this way is something we are proud to do."

Flynn said the new tax legislation, particularly the reduction in business tax rates, allowed the company to share some of the benefits with its employees. It also helps position the company to further enhance the customer experience and its community investments in the future. -- <u>Dec.</u> 21, 2017 Associated Bank press release

AT&T (Dallas, Texas) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 200,000 employees; \$1 billion increase in capital expenditures:

Today, Congress approved legislation representing the first comprehensive tax reform in a generation. The President is expected to sign the bill in the coming days.

Once tax reform is signed into law, AT&T\* plans to invest an additional \$1 billion in the United States in 2018 and pay a special \$1,000 bonus to more than 200,000 AT&T U.S. employees — all union-represented, non-management and front-line managers. If the President signs the bill before Christmas, employees will receive the bonus over the holidays. "Congress, working closely with the President, took a monumental step to bring taxes paid by U.S. businesses in line with the rest of the industrialized world," said Randall Stephenson, AT&T chairman and CEO. "This tax reform will drive economic growth and create good-paying jobs. In fact, we will increase our U.S. investment and pay a special bonus to our U.S. employees."

Since 2012, AT&T has invested more in the United States than any other public company. Every \$1 billion in capital invested in the telecom industry creates about 7,000 jobs for American workers, research shows. -- <u>Dec. 20, 2017 AT&T Inc. press release</u>

Atlanta Gas Light Co. (Atlanta, Georgia) – The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

Atlanta Gas Light Co. received approval from the Georgia Public Service Commission for a stipulation that allows for \$82 million in customer benefits as a result of the federal tax reform law. – May 16, 2018, SNL Daily Gas Report Excerpt

Atlantic City Electric (Atlantic City, New Jersey) - The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

Atlantic City Electric will provide \$23 million in annual tax savings to its customers. The company made a filing this month with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, which was approved on March 26, 2018. Customers will begin to see reductions on their bills around April 1, 2018. - <u>April 3, 2018, Exelon Utilities press release excerpt</u>

Atlantic Packaging (Wilmington, North Carolina) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 1,000 employees:

Atlantic Packaging, one of North Carolina's largest privately held companies, headquartered in Wilmington, announced today that management is awarding \$1,000 bonuses immediately to fulltime employees. Nearly 1,000 Atlantic employees will receive the bonus payment...

"Our people are what make this organization successful and, though the tax benefit will not come until the end of 2018, we are distributing the bonus dollars now to acknowledge its impact," he said. "The new tax code helps U.S. companies remain healthy and competitive in a global marketplace, and that directly and positively affects the people who work at these companies." ---Jan. 23 2018, Atlantic Packaging press release excerpts

Atlas Air Worldwide (Purchase, New York) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 3,100 employees:

"In appreciation of your significant efforts, the Company will be providing a special one-time bonus payment to all full-time flight and ground staff employees below the officer level. We are pleased to offer this bonus to our flight crew employees as the Union is in agreement. This bonus will be funded by a tax refund that the Company expects as a result of the newly enacted U.S. tax law. The \$1,000 bonus will be provided in early January and is subject to applicable federal, state and local withholding taxes." – Atlas Air Worldwide CEO William J. Flynn in a letter to employees

Atlas Tool Works, Inc. (Lyons, Illinois) – increased 401(k) contributions for employees:

In the wake of the bill's passage, some national companies issued well-publicized bonuses to their employees. Participating companies included AT&T, Bank of America, Comcast and Walmart, as ConservativeActionNews.com reported.

Mottl told Roskam his firm had followed suit, increasing the 401(k) contribution to workers. – June 28, 2018 DuPage Policy Journal article excerpt

Atmos Energy (Owensboro, Kentucky) - The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

"Atmos Energy, which serves western Kentucky, announced in March that it will be cutting the average residential bill by just over 3 percent. Other savings from tax reform will fund infrastructure upgrades across the Commonwealth. Companies in Kentucky have been able to expand their operation because of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act." - <u>May 8, 2018, Rep. Brett Guthrie statement on House floor</u>

<u>AutoNation</u> – doubling of 401(k) match; launch of cancer benefit program:

With the savings, AutoNation said it would double its match of employee savings in the 401-k retirement plan and launch a cancer benefit program that includes medical coverage for employees, spouses, and children up to age 26 diagnosed with cancer as well as a cash payment of up to \$5,000 when diagnosed.

"We are excited about the pro-growth environment for business in the U.S., which includes the recently signed tax reform bill," said AutoNation Chairman and CEO Mike Jackson. "As a U.S.-based company, our employees, customers and shareholders will benefit greatly from a reduction in our corporate tax rates." – Jan. 16, 2018 Sun-Sentinel article excerpt

**AVANGRID** (Orange, Connecticut) – the utility is passing savings from tax reform to customers:

AVANGRID, Inc. (NYSE: AGR), a diversified U.S. energy company, today issued the following statement regarding the impact of the 2017 tax reform act.

AVANGRID's regulated natural gas and electricity companies will pass along to customers the full benefit of any tax savings that the companies realize as a result of the 2017 federal tax reform act.

Among other changes, the tax reform act reduces the federal corporate tax rate from 35 to 21 percent. As a matter of fairness, AVANGRID believes that any resulting tax savings should be extended to customers. – Jan. 10, 2018 AVANGRID press release

<u>Avista Corporation</u> (Spokane, Washington) – the utility will pass federal tax reform savings to customers:

Avista customers could collectively see a \$50 million to \$60 million annual benefit from federal tax reform, utility officials said Wednesday.

The savings on individual customers' bills, however, won't be known until later this year.

Corporate tax rates for the Spokane-based utility dropped from 35 percent to 21 percent effective Jan. 1. Savings from the lower taxes will get passed on to Avista's utility customers in Washington, Idaho and Oregon, said Mark Thies, senior vice president and chief financial officer.

The anticipated \$50 million to \$60 million in annual savings is the result of the lower federal tax rate and changes to Avista's deferred tax liability related to depreciation costs. As the result of the depreciation changes, about \$442 million will be returned to Avista customers over 35 years, Thies said. – Feb. 21 2018, The Spokesman Review article excerpt

AZZ Inc. (Fort Worth, Texas) – Hire 100 new employees, invest \$1.75 million to fund new bonus and incentive programs for existing employees, fund multimillion-dollar facility expansion:

The National Association of Manufacturers recently spoke to AZZ President and CEO Tom Ferguson who outlined exactly how big AZZ's planned expansion will be, thanks to tax reform:

"Because of tax reform, we've decided to move more quickly on capital investment," said Ferguson. "We had a second plant planned for down the road, but we are planning to move that forward into 2018. That's a \$10 million or \$20 million investment. It's a significant increase in our capital outlay, but we're willing to take more risk."

Growing AZZ's facilities also means growing AZZ's workforce. To staff the new facility, Ferguson tells us that it plans to hire 30 to 50 new workers. That's on top of the 50 new workers it plans to add to its existing facility.

"There's no doubt that tax reform creates investment opportunities for AZZ," Ferguson added. "Because of the savings and the extra cash, it makes something like this viable-<u>May 24, 2018,</u> <u>National Association of Manufacturers article excerpt</u>

Ball Corporation (Broomfield, Colorado) - Expanding operations, hiring new employees:

We have also heard from Ball Corporation Senior Vice President and CFO Scott Morrison, who told us that his company is looking to expand its presence in the United States and add 400 more workers to its payrolls. - January 9, 2018, National Association of Manufacturers Shopfloor blog excerpt

Ball Ventures (Idaho Falls, Idaho) – \$100 bonuses for every year of employment.

**Baltimore Gas & Electric** (Baltimore, Maryland) – the utility is passing on \$82 million worth of tax savings, resulting in lower gas and electric bills for customers

Today <u>BGE</u> will file with the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) to pass approximately \$82 million in annual tax savings to customers, resulting from federal tax cost reductions. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which decreased the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, was signed into law on Dec. 22, 2017 and became effective on Jan. 1, 2018. If approved by the PSC, the average BGE residential electric customer can expect to see an estimated \$2.31 decrease on their monthly bill, and the average residential combined natural gas and electric customer can expect an estimated \$4.27 monthly reduction, effective in February 2018.

"Reduced tax costs create an opportunity for BGE customers to benefit from further decreases in their total energy bills," said Calvin G. Butler Jr, chief executive officer of BGE. – <u>Jan. 5, 2018</u> <u>Baltimore Gas & Electric press release</u>

<u>BancorpSouth Bank</u> (Tupelo, Mississippi) – Pay raises for over 70 percent of employees; \$1,000 bonuses for nearly 20 percent of employees:

BancorpSouth Bank (NYSE: BXS) today announced an additional investment in its employees, which includes pay increases and /or one-time bonuses to nearly all non-commissioned employees.

The investment of over \$10 million in 2018 will benefit 96% of the Company's non-commissioned workforce. Pay increases were effective January 1, 2018.

"We are proud to reward our team with this opportunity since the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act should benefit everyone" said Dan Rollins, Chairman and CEO. "BancorpSouth's continued and future success is based on the economic vitality of the communities we serve and taking care of our teammates allows us to provide the very best service to our customers, communities and shareholders." – Jan. 3, 2018 BancorpSouth Bank press release

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The increased compensation overall at BancorpSouth affected more than 70 percent of all employees, and provided a \$1,000 bonus to nearly 20 percent of all employees.

BancorpSouth employs some 4,000 employees in more than 230 locations in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas, plus an insurance location in Illinois. – Jan. 4, 2018 Daily Journal/BizBuzz article

Bank of Advance (Advance, Missouri) -- \$1,000 bonuses to all staff

Bank of America (Charlotte, North Carolina) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 145,000 U.S. employees:

"Beginning in 2018, we will see benefits from the tax reform, too, in the form of lower corporate tax rates.

In the spirit of shared success, we intend to pass some of those benefits along immediately. U.S. employees making up to \$150,000 per year in total compensation – about 145,000 teammates – will receive a one-time bonus of \$1,000 by year-end." – CEO Brian Moynihan

Bank of Colorado (Fort Collins, Colorado) -- \$1,000 bonuses to all full time employees:

Bank of Colorado is paying a special bonus of \$1,000 to each full-time associate to share the benefit of the tax cut passed earlier this month by Congress.

President of Bank of Colorado, Shawn Osthoff said, "We feel strongly that the message should be loud and clear that this is a tax cut that will benefit all Americans." Bank of Colorado has 641 associates in Colorado and New Mexico.

Customers will also benefit from the tax cut as Bank of Colorado has raised interest rates on its Money Market accounts. – <u>Dec. 27 2017, Journal Advocate article excerpt</u>

Bank of Hawaii (Honolulu, Hawaii) – \$1,000 bonuses to 2,074 employees; base wage increase from \$12 to \$15:

"Our employees are, by far, our greatest asset. It's our pleasure to reward our team with this holiday opportunity," said bank Chairman, President and CEO Peter Ho. "We've recently been thinking about increasing our minimum wage level throughout the organization to the living wage level. The adjustments to the corporate tax rate provided further momentum to execute on the plan." – <u>Dec. 22, 2017 Bank of Hawaii press release</u>

**Bank of the James** (Lynchburg, Virginia) – raised base wage to \$15 per hour for employees with more than one year of service

<u>Bank Midwest</u> (Spirit Lake, Iowa) -- \$500 bonuses for full-time employees; \$250 bonus for part-time employees.

Bank of New York Mellon Corp. (New York, New York) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour.

Bank of the Ozarks (Little Rock, Arkansas) – Bonuses of up to \$1,200 for 2,300 employees

"Recently signed U.S. corporate tax legislation has given us the opportunity to enhance current compensation programs for our employees. This bonus plan rewards hard work and performance while promoting our longstanding commitment to excellence which has driven our Company's success for decades." – <u>Dec. 28, 2017 Bank of the Ozarks press release</u>

Bank of the West (San Francisco, California) – Base wage increase to \$15 per hour:

*Bank of the West* announced it will increase the company's minimum wage across the business to \$15 per hour. The change will impact one-quarter of hourly team members, primarily in the Bank's branches and call centers.

The permanent increase will take effect on April 1 and is part of our long-standing commitment to reward our team members and attract the industry's best talent. At more than double the federal minimum wage, the Bank's new minimum wage is the result of a thorough internal review of the Bank's business stemming from the federal tax reform recently completed by the U.S. Congress. – Feb. 8 2018, Bank of the West article excerpt

**<u>Bay Electric Co., Inc</u>** (Newport News, Virginia) – Hiring new employees and purchasing new equipment:

Business owners at the event said the recent tax law has allowed them to increase capital investment, hire more people and give bonuses.

"This year, we are hiring 12 electricians and have added two project managers to our senior team," John Biagas, president and chief executive of Bay Electric Co., told the audience. "Plus, the new tax law accelerated our plan to invest over \$500,000 in new trucks and equipment." – April 17, 2018 Morning Consult article excerpt

**BB&T** (Winston-Salem, North Carolina) – \$1,200 bonuses for 27,000 employees; base wage will rise from \$12 to \$15 per hour; \$100 million in charitable donations

"Overall, BB&T's Executive Management team believes **t**he successful passage of tax reform is very encouraging news that should move BB&T, the financial services industry and the U.S. economy in the direction of stronger growth." – <u>Dec. 22, 2017 BB&T press release</u>

Bean Counter Farm (Fayetteville, Arkansas) - Hiring new employees, new investments:

Additional hiring is in store for bookkeeping franchise Bean Counter Farm, according to Chief Operating Officer Tom Porterfield. "We also plan to invest in target marketing to the franchise industry," he said. - <u>April 17, 2018, @ Our Franchise article excerpt</u>

<u>Beck Manufacturing International</u> (Converse, Texas) - Building a new facility, hiring new employees, doubling company's capacity

Tom Beck, vice president of operations at Beck Manufacturing International in Converse, said he expects his company, which builds cement mixer bodies that mount on trucks, will see a reduction of close to 10 percent in its tax rate.

The savings will flow into Beck Manufacturing International investments, including an under construction manufacturing site that will double his company's capacity in Converse, he said.

"That money that we hang on to ... that's absolutely going directly toward the new facility that will employ more people," Beck said. <u>- February 7, 2018, San Antonio Express-News article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

**Beckett Financial Group** (West Columbia, South Carolina) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all employees; \$1,000 matching funds charitable contributions for all employees:

The most important asset of Beckett Financial Group is our people. As a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and resulting economic growth, our company will be providing bonuses of at least \$1,000 for all full-time employees. In addition, hourly employees will see a wage increase of at least 5% this year.

We recognize that our team members are the best ones to determine how to spend their dollars. This provides an opportunity for each individual to either spend money locally, save it for their retirement, decrease debt, or donate dollars to charity. In addition, we will be increasing our employee matching funds campaign by matching each of their contributions to charities dollarfor-dollar up to \$1,000 per employee.

Beckett Financial Group provides retirement and insurance solutions to businesses and families throughout South Carolina and specializes in income planning for current and future retirees. We live in a world of opportunity and want to help others as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. – Jason (JB) Beckett, Managing Partner, Beckett Financial Group

Benada Aluminum Products LLC. (Sanford, Florida) - Increased production capacity:

"It's given us relief. We're able to get some margins back," said Jim Piperato, president of Benada Aluminum LLC, a Florida-based producer of aluminum framing for patio and pool enclosures.

Mr. Piperato said the company, owned by private equity firms Big Shoulders Capital and ABGB Capital, recently increased production capacity by 50% to expand into the door and window frame market.

"Our business has been extremely strong." he said. "Most of the customers I've spoken to say there's no end in sight." - July 17, 2018, Wall Street Journal article excerpt

<u>Benchmark Auto Sales</u> (Asheville, North Carolina) – thanks to tax reform, 100 percent of the staff now has employer-provided health insurance:

A weight many Americans shoulder everyday is now gone for the people who work in gravel lot filled with cars along Brevard Road near the Blue Ridge Parkway.

We're talking health care.

We had 80 percent of our staff was not insured. We have 100 percent insured now. That's a big feat," Benchmark Auto Sales owner Joe Segrave said.

It was Segrave's decision, but he said it would not have happened without the tax bill that finally passed on Capitol Hill.

"I think all of us share a certain level of disgust with what's going on with politics in our nation, and, really, I like to keep this as an apolitical decision," Segrave said. "The bottom line is I had a chance to pay it forward to my employees." – <u>Jan. 26, 2018 WLOS ABC News 13 report</u>

<u>Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC</u> (Elyria, Ohio) - Invested in new machinery, added new shift rotations:

Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC, an Elyria, Ohio, vehicle-parts supplier, has seen demand for its brakes and other products surge over the past year and a half as the transportation industry has picked up steam. To meet that demand and maximize capacity, the company has increased investment in machinery and has added a rotation that allows it to run full shifts seven days a week. - July 17, 2018, Wall Street Journal article excerpt

**Beneficial Bancorp, Inc.** (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) -- Base wage raised to \$14 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for all AVP Level employees and below; 4.5% employer contribution to 401(k) plans:

Following the passage of H.R. 1 and the anticipated savings from lower future taxes, we announced a special \$1,000 bonus paid to over 600 employees and enhanced our medical

coverage to our entire employee base. We also evaluated the compensation of our hourly employees and raised our minimum hourly rate to \$14.00. -- <u>Feb. 1, 2018 Beneficial Bancorp Inc.</u> <u>press release</u>

**Berkshire Hills Bancorp Inc.** (Pittsfield, Massachusetts) – base wage increased to \$15 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses to over 1,000 employees; investments in employee development and training; \$2 million in additional charitable giving:

Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. (NYSE: BHLB), the parent of Berkshire Bank, today announced additional investments in its employees and communities following the recent passage of federal tax reform legislation.

These investments include:

- Raising Berkshire's minimum wage to \$15 per hour.
- Providing a special, one-time bonus of \$1000 to over 1000 employees. This grant benefits all full-time employees below a certain compensation threshold, covering over 70% of the Bank's workforce, and augments the special \$500 holiday bonus these colleagues received in the fourth quarter.
- Enhancing Berkshire's investment in employee development and training programs to benefit our employees and bolster our current offering at AMEBU American's Most Exciting Bank University.
- Contributing \$2 million to the Berkshire Bank Charitable Foundation which supports charitable organizations, scholarships, and volunteerism across Berkshire's local communities. This will bolster the foundation's endowment and allow for increased local giving. Last year we provided over \$2 million to our local communities, complementing our employee volunteer program which helps our employees contribute over 40,000 hours of volunteer service each year. -- Jan. 4, 2018 Berkshire Hills Bancorp Inc. press release

**Best Buy** (Richfield, Minnesota) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees. Over 100,000 employees will receive bonuses:

Best Buy is the latest major corporation to hand out bonuses to its employees as a result of the recently passed corporate tax reform.

In a letter sent to employees Friday afternoon, CEO Hubert Joly said full-time employees will receive a one-time bonus of \$1,000 and part-time employees \$500.

All permanent employees who are not on an existing bonus plan will receive the additional funds. The bonuses are expected to show up in their paychecks this month. In all, more than 100,000 of Best Buy's 125,000 employees in the U.S., Mexico and Canada are slated to receive the extra payouts.

In addition, Best Buy is making a one-time contribution of \$20 million to the Best Buy Foundation to help further expand its teen tech centers and Geek Squad Academies across the U.S.

"Our goal was simple: to say 'thank you' to more than 100,000 of our employees and help accelerate our work to bring much needed technology training to 1 million underserved teens a year," said Jeff Shelman, a Best Buy spokesman.

In recent days, other major retailers including Lowe's, Home Depot and Walmart have also said they will hand out bonuses, expand benefits, and raise wages of its workers in light of the tax reform.

In Minnesota, U.S. Bancorp and TCF Financial also are handing out bonuses to workers and increasing charitable donations. U.S. Bank also said it would raise the minimum wage of its hourly employees to \$15.

Among other changes, the new tax law cut the top federal tax rate for corporations from 35 percent to 21 percent."—Feb. 2 2018, Minneapolis Star Tribune article excerpt

**Big River Steel** (Osceola, Arkansas) - \$1.2 bill expansion and hiring 500 new employees:

*Big River Steel is investing \$1.2 billion in expansion and creating an additional 500 jobs. That means more opportunity for American workers.* 

A spokesman for the state notes the jobs will pay on average about \$75,000 annually. - <u>June 29,</u> <u>2018 Arkansas Times article excerpt</u>

Billings Flying Service (Billings, Montana) - Purchasing new equipment, investing in research:

*"Billings Flying Service credits the full expensing provision for its decision to purchase new equipment. The company is also investing in new research and development for enhanced firefighting equipment." <u>- June 19, 2018, Rep. Greg Gianforte statement on U.S. House Floor</u>* 

**Bio-Techne** (Minneapolis, Minnesota) -- \$500 bonuses for all 1,650+ employees:

Many of you, particularly in the U.S., have probably been keeping up with the news the past few months on U.S. tax reform. With the passage of the bill in Congress yesterday and the President's signature, the new tax law is now official. How does this affect our company? A lot. Our current corporate income tax levels average between 29% and 31%. With this new tax law, over the next year our tax rates will drop to levels potentially as low as 21%. We don't know the total answer

yet because the law is complicated, and includes tax calculations from other countries where we do business as well. What I can tell you is that we are likely to pay substantially less taxes in the U.S. and overall.

There has been extensive media coverage here in the U.S. on what companies will do with these gains. The U.S. Government's primary goal for the new law is that companies will use the additional monies to invest in growth, and not simply to benefit shareholders through a dividend increase or share buyback. I am happy to tell you that we will use the savings to invest in our company and in you. We will use the funds to continue our investment in the company through expansion and acquisitions. But we also want to invest in our employees. Our board of directors has approved a recommendation to pay a bonus of US \$500 to every employee globally. The bonus will be paid to all employees employed as of December 31, 2017 (other than the Corporate Leadership Team) and will be included in a January 2018 payroll. Management and the Board value each of you and your contributions, and this bonus is one way we wish to show our appreciation for your contributions to our strong business performance and excellent execution.

*I look forward to working with all of you to create great future of continued growth for Bio-Techne. On behalf of the entire management team, thank you.* – <u>Dec. 21, 2017 special message</u> <u>to employees from Bio-Techne CEO Chuck Kummeth</u>

**<u>Biscayne Bay Craft Brewery</u>** (Miami, Florida) – Hiring two new employees and purchasing new equipment:

Consider the story of Jose Mallea, owner of Biscayne Bay Craft Brewery, who participated in President Trump's event. The tax cuts have allowed him to purchase \$100,000 more in equipment and hire two new employees. – April 29, 2018 Tallahassee Democrat article excerpt

Bisso Towboat Co. Inc. (Luling, Louisiana) – tax reform pay increases for employees.

**Blackbaud** (Charleston, South Carolina) -- \$2,000 in stock bonuses for most employees:

"Most Blackbaud employees will receive about \$2,000 worth of stock this month, a bonus the Daniel Island-based company says it's offering because of federal tax cuts approved last year.

Chief executive Mike Gianoni said in a statement that the stock award will ensure that "all employees are owners and can participate in the company's success." Shares will be distributed Feb. 28 to workers who aren't already paid in stock.

Blackbaud is the first Charleston-based company to award a bonus tied to the rewritten tax code, but similar announcements have trickled out of corporate America since Congress approved the measure in late December."— Feb. 7 2018, The Post and Courier article excerpt

<u>Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina</u> (Durham, North Carolina) – \$1,000 bonuses to approximately 4,700 employees; \$40 million in charitable contributions:

"North Carolina's largest health insurer said Thursday its windfall from the new federal tax cut will hold down rate increases in the future, but this year it will use it to give charities \$40 million and pay employees a \$1,000 bonus.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina said it will give away millions this year for health initiatives and give bonuses to about 4,700 employees." — <u>Feb. 22 2018, Winston-Salem Journal</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

Black Hills Energy (Rapid City, South Dakota) – The utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

"Black Hills Energy is currently reviewing the recently approved Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017," spokeswoman Brandy Johnson said in an email. "We will work with utility regulators to develop a plan to provide customers the benefit of the corporate tax rate reduction." – <u>Jan. 13, 2018</u> <u>Lincoln Journal Star article excerpt</u>

**Blackrocks Brewery** (Marquette, Michigan) – Reinvesting tax savings into equipment and personnel:

Blackrocks Brewery in Marquette, Mich. is already working on expanding its operations thanks to the new tax law, said David Manson, co-founder and ambassador of fermentology at the brewery. His brewery is reinvesting the money in equipment and personnel, and looking which he hopes will help get his beer on more store shelves. Blackrocks has an American Brown Ale that sells for \$8.99 per six-pack and a porter that's \$9.99 for a six-pack.

"This will allow us to get over the hump of the high demand in our state, and we probably wouldn't necessarily be able to do it without that tax break," he said. "This will allow us to put up a fighting chance to hold our own." – April 26, 2018 MarketWatch article excerpt

Blue Harbor Resort (Sheboygan, Wisconsin) -- \$1,000 bonuses:

*The Forsythe Family today dedicated a one-time cash bonus of \$1,000 to each eligible Blue Harbor employee.* 

The Forsythe Family's financial dedication to Blue Harbor employees is in direct response to President Trump's Tax Cuts and Job Act of 2017. – <u>Jan. 25, 2018 MySheboygan.com article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Blue Hills Bancorp Inc.</u> (Norwood, Massachusetts) – \$1,000 employee bonuses; total bonuses \$70,000:

"In addition, and as a result of the Tax Act, the Company recorded an expense of \$70,000 in the fourth quarter of 2017 related to awarding a \$1,000 bonus to each employee with a functional title below the Assistant Vice President level. The Company also took action to raise the hourly pay rate to \$15 for a small number of hourly employees not already at that pay level." – Jan. 29 2018, Blue Hill BanCorp Inc. press release

**<u>BMO Harris Bank</u>** (Chicago, Illinois) – base wage raised to \$15 per hour; increased charitable donations:

*"BMO Harris Bank has joined an increasing number of financial institutions in raising its minimum hourly wage to \$15.* 

The bank cited the recent federal tax reform, which lowered the corporate income tax rate, in its decision to boost employee compensation.

The new rate is effective immediately, the company said Tuesday. BMO Harris, which is based in Chicago and owned by Toronto's BMO Financial Group, has more branches than any other bank in Wisconsin.

BMO Harris also said it will increase its level of philanthropic community giving by 10% in 2018.

"We're pleased to share the benefits of the strong economic conditions, and the effects of the recent tax reform changes, with our employees and communities," David Casper, president and chief executive of BMO Harris Bank, said in a statement. "Our success is tied directly to the communities we serve, and we're proud of the exceptional job our employees do in providing a great customer experience." – Jan. 31 2018, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article excerpt

**<u>BNB Bank</u>** (Bridgehampton, New York) – Base wage raised from \$13 to \$15; additional pay raises:

Separately, Bridgehampton-based BNB Bank said it was increasing its minimum wage from \$13 to \$15 in light of the lower corporate tax rate. The bank added that it was also increasing wages for employees in the tier above that. About 100 employees, or 20 percent of the bank's workforce, will see an increase, BNB said. – Jan. 30, 2018 Newsday article excerpt

**Boeing Company** (Chicago, Illinois) -- \$100 million in charitable donations; \$100 million for workforce development; \$100 million for infrastructure and facilities:

Boeing [NYSE: BA] Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Dennis Muilenburg praised the tax bill passed by Congress and about to be signed into law as a critical driver of business, economic growth and innovation for the United States and for Boeing.

"On behalf of all of our stakeholders, we applaud and thank Congress and the administration for their leadership in seizing this opportunity to unleash economic energy in the United States," said Muilenburg. "It's the single-most important thing we can do to drive innovation, support quality jobs and accelerate capital investment in our country."

The simpler tax code and lower tax rate are closer to those enjoyed by Boeing's global competition and will have a clear and direct benefit to Boeing, its employees, and other stakeholders.

"For Boeing, the reforms enable us to better compete on the world stage and give us a stronger foundation for the investment in innovation, facilities and skills that will support our long-term growth," Muilenburg said.

While Boeing is still studying all of the provisions of the new legislation, Muilenburg announced immediate commitments for an additional \$300 million in investments that will move forward as a result of the new tax law:

- \$100 million for corporate giving, with funds used to support demand for employee gift-match programs and for investments in Boeing's focus areas for charitable giving: in education, in our communities, and for veterans and military personnel.
- \$100 million for workforce development in the form of training, education, and other capabilities development to meet the scale needed for rapidly evolving technologies and expanding markets.
- \$100 million for "workplace of the future" facilities and infrastructure enhancements for Boeing employees.

"Each of these investments benefits Boeing's most important strength – our employees – and reflects the real-time impact and economic benefit of the reforms," said Muilenburg. – <u>Dec. 20,</u> <u>2017 Boeing Company press release</u>

<u>Breckenridge Landscape LLC</u> (New Berlin, Wisconsin) – Pay raises, investment in office and equipment purchases:

Breckenridge Landscape LLC, a landscaper based in New Berlin, Wisconsin, anticipates saving around \$75,000 this year, or 15 percent of its annual revenue. In addition to investing in a larger office space and equipment, the company, which landed atop the <u>Inc. 5000 list at No. 1895 in</u> 2017, plans to boost pay for its 35 workers by around \$3 an hour. "We are bullish on the new tax reforms," says Breckenridge president Eric Weishaar, though he acknowledges that the retained revenue number could depend on seasonal factors. – <u>Feb. 2, 2018 Inc.com news article excerpt</u>

<u>Broadridge Financial Solutions</u> (Lake Success, New York) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; \$1,750 bonuses to non-management employees, additional vacation days, expansion of paternal leave benefits:

Broadridge Financial Solutions on Wednesday said it was boosting workers' pay, **delivering bonuses and expanding employee benefits as a result of strong company growth and the recent federal tax law changes.** 

Lake Success-based Broadridge said its minimum hourly wage will increase to \$15 per hour. It will also pay a \$1,750 bonus to hourly, nonmanagement associates.

Broadridge added that it was enhancing employee benefits, including adding vacation days for employees who have been at the firm at least five years. It was also expanding paternal leave benefits.

Daly said about 1,000 employees on Long Island would earn the bonus. He said about 50 employees in the region would see a pay increase because of the higher minimum.

"The vast majority on Long Island already are over \$15," Daly said, adding that the company's minimum "had been as low as \$12 in some places."

The bonuses will be paid around midyear while other benefits will be phased in throughout the year, the company said.

Broadridge has more than 10,000 employees in 16 countries, including about 1,800 in Lake Success and Edgewood. – Feb. 7 2018, Newsday article excerpt

<u>Brown-Forman Corporation</u> (Louisville, Kentucky) – \$120 million contribution to the employee pension fund; creation of a charitable foundation with an initial \$60 - \$70 million contribution.

Paul Varga, Chief Executive Officer of Brown-Forman, said, "These capital deployment actions underscore the strength of the company's balance sheet and health of our business, and are augmented by the **anticipated benefits due to tax reform.** – <u>Jan. 23, 2018 Brown-Forman</u> <u>Corporation press release</u>

Bruns General Contracting (Tipp City, Ohio) – investment in equipment; enhanced retirement benefits:

U.S. Ohio Senator Rob Portman (R) made a stop in the Miami Valley for his Middle-Class Tax Reform Tour.

Portman visited and took a tour of Bruns General Contracting in Tipp City Monday and talked to the employees.

The company said it is investing in more equipment and strengthening its retirement benefits because of the money it expects to save in the next tax reform bill. -- <u>Jan. 15, 2018 WDTN news</u> <u>report</u>

Buhrmaster Baking Co. (Yakima, Washington) - Equipment upgrades:

"The ability of businesses to write off the full value of equipment and other assets will help Buhrmaster Baking Company in Yakima plan for equipment upgrades."

"The ability of businesses to write off the full value of equipment and other assets will help Buhrmaster Baking Company in Yakima plan for equipment upgrades." - <u>July 9, 2018, Rep. Dan</u> <u>Newhouse statement on the House floor</u>

<u>Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation</u> (Houston, Texas) – \$1,600 bonuses for employees.

Cacchiotti Orthodontics (Moses Lake, Washington) - Employee raises:

"Cacchiotti Orthodontics announced hourly raises for their Moses Lake employees thanks to tax reform." - <u>July 9, 2018, Rep. Dan Newhouse statement on House floor</u>

<u>Cadence Bancorporation</u> (Houston, Texas) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; increased company 401(k) contributions; new employee stock purchase plan; merit pool increase; enhanced employee benefits:

*In an announcement to its employees, the company shared it will introduce the following changes effective April 1, 2018:* 

- An increase in the company's matching 401k contribution
- An increase in the company's contribution to employee healthcare costs
- A pay increase for non-exempt, non-commissioned associates to a base wage of no less than \$15 an hour
- A merit pool increase for eligible associates

In addition, Cadence executives announced an employee stock purchase plan with a 15% discount, pending approval by Cadence Bancorporation shareholders. "Our employees deliver exceptional service and value to our clients every day, and we want to reward them for their dedication," said Paul B. Murphy, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of Cadence Bancorporation. "Investing in our employees allows us to attract and retain top talent, which directly correlates to sound operating and financial performance and a better return for our shareholders." – February 14, 2018, Cadence Bancorporation press release excerpt

<u>California Water Service</u> (San Jose, California) – The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers

California Water Service (Cal Water) submitted a filing with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) yesterday to decrease revenue needed in its service areas by almost \$18 million, due to changes in federal tax laws and CPUC-authorized capital equity and debt financing costs. If approved as submitted, new rates reflecting the lower tax rates and financing costs will be effective July 1, 2018. – May 30, 2018 GlobeNewsWire article excerpt

<u>Camden National Bank</u> (Camden, Maine) – permanent salary increases forthcoming; also \$1,000 bonuses to all non-executive full-time employees; \$750 bonus to part-time employees; total bonuses: \$620,000

Camden National Bank said Thursday that next week it will give one-time bonuses of \$1,000 to all non-executive full-time employees and \$750 to all part-time employees in response to the recently enacted corporate tax cut. The total cost of those bonuses will be \$620,000, it said.

Camden National also said it plans to give permanent raises to employees, but that it will first bring in a consultant to help it determine the appropriate amounts of those raises. – <u>Jan. 11,</u> <u>2018 Portland (Maine) Press Herald article excerpt</u>

Burgund & Associates, Inc. dba Anchor Medical Staffing (Cleveland, Ohio) – \$500 bonuses to staff, \$250 bonuses to field employees.

<u>Camp Construction Services</u> (Houston, Texas) – This Houston-based full-service general contractor awarded its employees \$500 tax reform bonuses in December 2017:

In a note to employees, CEO Roger C. Camp wrote:

Campers,

I'm sure you have heard of the new tax reform that Congress just passed. Because of the reduction in Corporate taxes we, as will all businesses, benefit from this tax cut. We believe that YOU are the reason for our success. And now that we will be giving less of our hard earned income to the federal government, we can share some of it with you. Please look for a \$500 "tax cut" bonus in your next payroll run. Merry Christmas!

Canal Coffee Shops (Bossier City, Louisiana) - Opening new locations:

"Starting in 2016, Mr. James and his partner, Pricilla Mayfield, opened their anchor store in downtown Kinder – small-town Louisiana. Remarkably, he built his business from the ground up and never took a loan. He went out and was a risk-taker, an entrepreneur, and it worked. He expanded his business to include shops in Oberlin and Shreveport which is our largest metro area in the district," Johnson explained. "And now, with the implementation of our tax reform and our pro-growth, pro-business policies, Mr. James tells me he plans to open a fourth and now a fifth location in the very near future. This is a great success story, and this is the kind of thing we are seeing all around the country." - <u>June 21, 2018, Bossier Press article excerpt</u>

<u>Canary LLC</u> (Denver, Colorado) – Due to tax reform, the company will hire more employees and increase capital spending.

"There are two components. **One is ordering more capital equipment, which is what the expensing provision of the new tax reform bill allows us to do. And the second leg of that is hiring more people which we are furiously working on right now.**"

"So what the tax reform package is allowing us to do is really dial up our capital spending even more, so we are going to try to achieve 50 percent revenue growth next year in 2018 over 2017." – CEO Dan Eberhart

<u>Capital One</u> (McLean, Virginia) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour. The news was announced to associates on Tuesday January 9, 2018.

<u>Cardinal Manufacturing Company, Inc.</u> (Indianapolis, Indiana) - bonuses, raises and profit sharing distributions:

Cardinal is the leading manufacturer of Interior Signage in the Midwest. We are pleased and proud to announce our small business is rewarding our (17) Team Members at this time in 2018: Profit sharing Bonuses for those enrolled in the plan, bonuses for those new employees that are not yet eligible to enroll, and an average pay increase of over \$1.00 per hour, across the board, to our fantastic team. Cardinal will also use the additional funds available from the new tax cuts to invest in our Company's growth and development. - August 13, 2018, Laura Mulligan, President of Cardinal Manufacturing Company Inc.

Carl Black Automotive Group (Kennesaw, Georgia) – bonuses to over 500 employees.

CarMax Inc. (Richmond, Virginia) – \$250-\$1,500 bonuses depending on length of service:

"The nation's largest retailer of used cars, announced plans to provide one-time bonuses to most hourly and commissioned full-time and part-time associates as a result of the recently passed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. Bonus amounts will vary from \$200 up to \$1,500 based on length of service with the company." – Feb 23. 2018, EPR Retail News article excerpt

<u>Carpenter Technology</u> (Reading, Pennsylvania) – \$100 million investment in new technology and a new facility accelerated because of tax reform:

The company announced Monday that it will invest \$100 million in soft magnetics capabilities and a new, precision strip hot rolling mill in Reading. The new mill, officials said, will allow

*Carpenter to meet the increasing demand for aerospace, consumer electronics, and electric vehicle manufacturing customers.* 

"With more than 90 percent of our products manufactured in the U.S., this type of capital investment will strengthen our foundation for long-term sustainable growth, provide goodpaying jobs and increase value for shareholders for years to come," said Tony Thene, Carpenter Technology's president and CEO. "Today's announcement demonstrates the benefits of an effective partnership between public policy and U.S business."

Carpenter said it estimates the company will save as much as \$100 million in taxes over the next five years as a result of the recently enacted <u>Tax Cuts and Jobs Act</u>. The company said those savings will allow it to increase investment in its manufacturing operations over the same time period. – <u>March 26, 2018 WFMZ News article excerpt</u>

<u>Carter's, Inc.</u> (Atlanta, Georgia) – Bonuses for non-executive employees: Full-time employees will receive a bonus of approx. 5% of base salary and part-time employees will receive a bonus of approx. \$100 per year of service to the company; increased retirement fund match:

"The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 is expected to have a significant and positive impact on our Company's future earnings, cash flow, and ability to invest in its growth strategies. In 2018, we plan to reinvest approximately half of the \$40 million benefit from the lower corporate tax rate in brand marketing and improved eCommerce capabilities.

"Given the significant and unexpected benefit in 2017 of the historic tax reform legislation, we are also announcing today that our Board of Directors has approved \$20 million in special compensation awards to all of our Company's eligible full-time and part-time employees provided through enhanced retirement plan contributions and bonuses.

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The Company's provision for income taxes in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2017 includes a net tax benefit of \$40.0 million related to the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. This net tax benefit consists of a \$50.4 million benefit related to revaluation of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities and a \$10.4 million provisional estimate for additional tax expense related to accumulated earnings outside of the United States.

Fourth quarter fiscal 2017 results also include pretax expense of \$21.2 million for special compensation and related payroll taxes awarded as a result of this tax reform legislation. The nature of the special compensation includes:

- Cash bonuses to full-time and part-time global employees with one year of service, with full-time employees receiving a bonus of approximately 5% of base salary and part-time employees receiving approximately \$100 per year of service with the Company. The Company's leadership team will not receive these special bonuses.
- A 100% match of employee voluntary contributions to Company-sponsored retirement programs, subject to certain statutory thresholds and limits. -- <u>Feb.</u> <u>27, 2018 Carter's, Inc. statement excerpts</u>

<u>Cedar Rapids Toyota</u> (Hiawatha, Iowa) – \$500 bonuses to each full-time employee:

The car dealership off Boyson Road in Hiawatha expects to see a savings on its taxes under the federal tax reform bill that taxes effect next month. Instead of investing in the facility or new equipment, the company invested in its people.

Owner Scott Ryan decided to give each full-time employee a \$500 tax break. The company sees the bonus checks as a way to give back to both the employees and the community, thinking many of the employees will spend the extra money around town. – <u>Jan. 19, 2018 KCRG TV9 news</u> <u>report</u>

<u>Centaur Gaming LLC</u> (Indianapolis, Indiana) – \$500 bonus:

Centaur Gaming is reinvesting some of the money it will be saving under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act back into its employees by giving them a \$500 bonus.

The president of the company, Jim Brown, announced at a meeting Wednesday morning that all full, part and seasonal employees would be receiving a one-time check for \$500. The company will also be paying all taxes and the employee and company 401K portions of those bonus checks. – March 7 2018, WRTV article excerpt

<u>CenterState Bank</u> (Davenport, Florida) – \$1,000 bonuses to non-officer employees:

CenterState also finds itself competing more with major regional banks for customers and employees, so — following in the footsteps of other leading financial institutions — it is **giving \$1,000 bonuses to its non-officer employees as a result of the new tax law.** About 700 workers, or 60 percent of the company's employees as of Dec. 31, will receive the bonus, CenterState said in a Jan. 19 filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. – <u>Jan. 19 Tampa Bay</u> <u>Business Journal article excerpt</u>

<u>Centennial Bolt</u> (Denver, Colorado) – Tax reform bonuses, hiring new employees, updating facilitates, increasing paychecks, increasing community giving, and business expansion:

Mark Cordova, President of Centennial Bolt and a longtime champion of American manufacturing is part of the National Association of Manufacturers' Executive Committee, is hailing the recently signed legislation...

"I'm mapping out putting in a new plant in the Midwest," Cordova said. The new product line he plans to launce from that facility "is something right now that's being manufactured primarily in China. We're actually going to be at a competitive level to build it in the United States again."

Other advances Cordova attributed to tax reform include:

- New hiring: To staff Centennial Bolt's new facility, Centennial Bolt plans to increase the size of its workforce between all its partner companies by 30 percent, growing overall from 50 employees to 65 employees.
- New upgrades: The company plans to completely overhaul production at his existing facilities in Colorado and California.
- New investments: Over the next two years, Cordova plans to "pour all of his profits back into the business," and setting Centennial Bolt up to be competitive as technology continues to advance. "In our industry, there are people using 1940s equipment because it still works," Cordova said. But the big savings from tax reform will "really allow companies that weren't willing to make those kind of capital investments to modernize their facilities."
- New bonuses: Last year, soon after the tax reform was signed into law, Centennial Bolt gave its hourly workers an unexpected bonus as a "Christmas gift," totaling about 5 percent of their annual salary. Cordova stressed that the windfall for his employees was made possible solely because of the benefits of tax reform. Centennial Bolt intends to offer another similar-sized bonus sometime in mid-2018, also as a result of tax savings.
- Increased paychecks: Because Centennial Bolt has generous profit-sharing with their employees, much of the increased profits from Centennial's expansion and capital investments will also go directly into the paychecks of their workforce.

"Tax savings aren't just for me," said Cordova. "It's so people can have a better life. It's always been a family motto: our goal is that people will do better for themselves so they can improve their lives and take care of their own." Centennial Bolt's new equipment will not just allow the firm to increase production and make work easier for employees—but Cordova said it'll give the men and women on his shop floor a new reason to be hopeful, rather than watch more and more of their manufacturing jobs go overseas. In addition, Centennial Bolt is using some of its tax savings to give back to the community namely, its efforts to combat homelessness in its native Denver. At the end of last year, Centennial Bolt supported the opening of a new, 150-bed women's shelter—helping an important group of people that have long been overlooked. Centennial Bolt also plans to expand its charitable giving to California, where it also has a sister facility, Cordova Bolt, Inc. where he is also the President of the family business. – <u>April 24, 2018 National Association of</u> <u>Manufacturers article excerpt</u>

<u>Central Bancompany, Inc.</u> (Jefferson City, Missouri) – Bonuses to 2,500 employees: \$1,000 bonuses for full time employees; \$500 bonuses for part time employees:

In December 2017, U.S. Congress passed a comprehensive tax reform package to encourage economic growth across the nation. As a result of the federal tax reform, Central Bancompany plans to distribute a special bonus to its more than 2,500 employees residing across four states – Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, and Oklahoma. Full-time employees will receive a \$1,000 bonus and part-time employees will receive a \$500 bonus.

"The economic development that should ensue as a direct result of the new tax reform legislation will positively affect the more than 66 communities we serve," said Bryan Cook, Chairman and CEO of Central Bancompany, Inc. "We are excited for the opportunity to reward our dedicated and hard-working employees with this special bonus as a token of our gratitude for all that they do for our customers, businesses, and communities." – Jan. 5, 2018 Central Bancompany press release

<u>Central Maine Power Company</u> (Augusta, Maine) - the utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

CMP will decrease distribution rates by \$16,429,187 to reflect distribution revenue requirement savings associated with the Tax Act. The decrease associated with the Tax Act -4- includes the one-time deferral of Tax Act benefits of \$5,641,368 associated with the period January 2018 – June 2018. - June 21, 2018, State of Maine Public Utilities Commission Central Maine Power Company Annual Compliance Filing

<u>Central Pacific Bank</u> (Honolulu, Hawaii) – all 850 employees will receive \$1,000 bonuses; base wage will rise from \$12 to \$15.25

"We are delighted to have this opportunity with the lowering of the corporate tax rate to take care of our hard-working employees, who are our most important asset, and give them an extra special holiday this year." -- Central Pacific President and CEO Catherine Ngo

<u>Charles Schwab Corporation</u> (San Francisco, California) – \$1,000 bonus for about 9,000 non-executive employees:

President and CEO, Walt Bettinger commented, "In 2017, anticipating the tax law change and in response to the company's strong financial performance and our employees' unwavering commitment to clients, Schwab provided a special \$1,000 bonus for about 9,000 non-executive employees. Based on the favorable environment, we also continued hiring staff across the firm's geographic locations, adding over 1,200 net new employees, and we allocated part of our 11% overall spending increase to support client service efforts and continue to build out new business centers in Austin and Dallas that will allow us to house over 4,000 new employees in the next two years. Additionally, we expanded parental leave benefits for all Schwab employees and increased the annual corporate contribution to philanthropy to benefit our local communities." – Jan. 25 2018, The Charles Schwab Corporation press release

Charlie Bravo Aviation (Georgetown, Texas) -- \$1,000 bonuses to all six employees

<u>Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company</u> (Charlotte, North Carolina) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all 1,400 employees:

Charlotte Pipe and Foundry joined the growing list of companies to deliver pay bonuses to their employees after the Republican-led tax cut dropped corporate and individual income taxes for most Americans. Charlotte Pipe will give all associates \$1,000 each on March 15.

"We are excited to share the benefits of our associates' diligent efforts, loyalty, and dedication to Charlotte Pipe, and the benefits that will accrue from The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act," said Roddy Dowd, Jr., CEO of Charlotte Pipe and Foundry. The company is based in Charlotte with seven plants across the U.S. making cast iron and plastic pipe fittings. The majority of their 1,400 employees are in North Carolina. – Jan. 17, 2018 North State Journal article excerpt

<u>Charter Communications, Inc.</u> (Stamford, Connecticut) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; commitment to hire over 20,000 employees by 2020:

With the resources and investment confidence resulting from historic tax reform legislation and the FCC's removal of the 1930's era regulatory framework for internet service, Charter is increasing our investment in our workforce by ensuring all employees are paid a minimum wage of at least \$15 per hour, including target commissions, within the next year.

In addition, the reforms in Washington are allowing Charter to increase its capital investment including in its broadband network. Last year, given the general deregulatory environment and anticipating the Administration, Congress, and the FCC enacting these pro-growth policies, we announced we would hire 20,000 employees and invest \$25 billion in infrastructure.

Today, with tax reform and the removal of the Title II statutory framework both a reality, Charter will continue the capital investment program we started last year and will complete it by 2020.

In 2017, we extended the reach of our high-speed broadband network in rural areas like Meeker, CO, Lakeview, OR, Hawthorne, NV, as well as to more than 42,000 underserved and unserved homes and businesses in New York State. Charter remains steadfast in our commitment to continue to bring our broadband service, with a minimum speed of 100 Mbps, to more communities across the country. – Feb. 2 2018, Charter Communications Inc. statement

<u>Chipotle Mexican Grill</u> (Denver, Colorado) – Bonuses ranging from \$250 to \$1,000; increased employee benefits; \$50 million investment in existing restaurants:

With regard to the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Jack Hartung, Chief Financial Officer, said, "We're pleased that the lower income tax rate from the tax law change will result in savings of approximately \$40 to \$50 million in 2018. We plan to invest more than one-third of these tax savings in our people, including by making all of our restaurant managers and crew eligible for a one-time cash bonus, awarding one-time stock bonuses to a broad group of staff employees, and enhancing a number of other benefits such as parental leave and short term disability, all to help position Chipotle as the employer of choice in the restaurant industry. We're excited to share further details about these programs in the coming days." – <u>Feb. 6, 2018</u> <u>Chipotle Mexican Grill statement excerpt</u>

Chukar Cherries (Prosser, Washington) - Business expansion:

"Chukar Cherries in Prosser has announced a \$1.8 million, 12,000-square-foot expansion, in large part due to tax reform." - <u>July 9, 2018, Rep. Dan Newhouse statement on the House floor</u>

<u>Cigna Corporation</u> (Bloomfield, Connecticut) – Base wage raised to \$16 per hour; increased 401(k) matches:

Global health service company, Cigna (NYSE: CI), today announced that the net financial benefits of United States tax reform will allow the company to further accelerate investments in our employees, our capabilities and our customers, clients, partners, and communities.

Through a series of moves, Cigna is reaffirming the critical role of employees, further fueling the company's commitment to be champions for its communities, and continuing its investments in innovation and capabilities that drive differentiated value for customers and clients.

"It is because of our employees that Cigna continues to deliver on our mission to improve the health, well-being and sense of security of those we serve," said David Cordani, Cigna President and Chief Executive Officer. "Reinvesting a portion of savings from tax reform in our employees is a reinvestment in our mission." Effective today, Cigna is establishing a minimum wage across its U.S. employee base of \$16 an hour, substantially exceeding the national minimum wage in the United States as well as the hourly rate paid at many global corporations.

*Cigna will also provide salary increases above the \$16 an hour level, largely to front line employees. These investments in employee wages will total more than \$15 million.* 

Additionally, Cigna is adding \$30 million to its 401(k) program to match an additional one percent of employee compensation contributed to the 401(k) in 2018. This match will benefit the retirement accounts of over 30,000 employees. – Jan. 31, 2018 Cigna Corporation press release

<u>Cintas Corporation</u> (Cincinnati, Ohio) -- Bonuses for 38,000 employees; \$1,000 for employees of at least a year, \$500 for employees of less than a year.

<u>Circuit Interruption Technology Inc. -- CIT Relay & Switch</u> (Rogers, Minnesota) – One week of extra pay added to final 2017 paycheck; hiring of new employees, growing the staff by 10 percent:

Circuit Interruption Technology Inc. dba CIT Relay & Switch manufactures and distributes electromechanical relays and switches to the electronics, security, HVAC, appliance and automotive industries. **Employees were notified just before Christmas of one extra week pay added to their final year end check as a result of the new tax reform measure.** Due to the positive atmosphere created by the passage of the tax bill Company profit sharing combined with normal 401K contributions amounted to an additional 5% per employee for 2017. CIT has added 10% to our staff thus far in January 2018 and more additions are expected. – Rick Hampton, CIT Relay & Switch

<u>Citizens Bank of West Virginia</u> (Elkins, West Virginia) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all 66 employees:

Citizens Bank of West Virginia issued a bonus of \$1,000 to each of their 66 employees, joining a number of U.S. companies to pass along savings from the federal tax reform to its staff. The announcement was made in a surprise staff meeting by the bank's president & chief executive officer.

"One of the best investments we can make is in our employees who are dedicated to making sure our customers have great banking experiences at Citizens," said President & CEO Nathaniel S. Bonnell. "This \$66,000 investment demonstrates our thanks and appreciation to our team for their tireless efforts and commitment to the bank."

The bank's board of directors said it was an easy decision to reward the dedicated and hardworking employees of Citizens Bank. "There are several ways we will put the tax savings to work for Citizens," stated Board Chairman Max L. Armentrout. "However, we are most excited about paying this bonus to the great employees we have working at our bank, serving our customers and shareholders."

*Employee reaction was overwhelming as they were excited to have \$1000 checks arrive the same day as the announcement.* 

"This was totally unexpected!" said Assistant Trust Officer Crystal Kimbleton as she choked back tears. "This check will definitely help with upcoming high school graduation and college expenses."

"It's the best day ever!" exclaimed Alec Rader, Deposit Operations Administrative Assistant. "One thousand dollars, a pizza luncheon – this is not how I was expecting this day to go; what a great surprise!"

Head Teller Amanda Riffle stated she was totally speechless and shocked. "This money is going to go a long way in helping me pay down my college loan. It's greatly appreciated!"

"I'm so grateful and it's so amazing!" stated teary-eyed Mortgage Loan Processor Anita Jones. "I am going home to Indonesia this summer and this money will help tremendously with the cost of that trip!" Anita has not been home in nine years.

Lisa Plum, Deposit Operations Administrative Assistant II, says the employees of Citizens couldn't ask to work for a better organization. "This was just wonderful news. I'm now going to be able to take a vacation this year that was not going to happen. We are so fortunate to work for a bank that cares so much for their employees."

*The overall sentiment of the employees throughout the bank was shock and gratitude.* – <u>*Citizens</u></u> <u><i>Bank of West Virginia statement*</u></u>

<u>Citizens' Electric Company of Lewisburg</u> (Lewisburg, Pennsylvania) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to

address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

<u>Citizens Financial Group</u> (Providence, Rhode Island) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 12,500 employees and \$10 million for charitable donations

"Corporate tax reform provides us with an opportunity to recognize the role our colleagues have played in delivering better results for customers and shareholders, and to positively impact the communities where we live, work and play," said Bruce Van Saun, chairman and chief executive officer of Citizens Financial Group. – Citizens Financial Group press release

<u>Clayton Distillery</u> (Clayton, New York) - facility upgrades:

*Mr.* Aubertine, who co-owns the Clayton Distillery, pays about \$40,500 in excise taxes annually for the 3,000 gallons of spirits he produces at \$13.50 per proof gallon. The tax reform, however, will reduce his expense to about \$8,100 when it takes effect in 2018, which encouraged him to install upgrades to his facility at 40164 Route 12.

"We're basically investing back into the business," he said. "The tax plan — it also lets us write off some of the supplies a little bit differently." - <u>December 28, 2018, Watertown Daily Times</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

<u>Cleco Corporation</u>. (Pineville, Louisiana) – the utility will pass tax savings to customers:

"Cleco confirmed it will pass along savings to customers related to the recent tax reform.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law on Dec. 22, 2017 and became effective on Jan. 1, 2018, decreased the federal corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, reducing the amount of federal income tax Cleco will have to pay.

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"In an effort to promptly provide our customers with the benefits of the federal tax reduction, Cleco will deliver a plan to the LPSC outlining customer savings," said Taylor. "We have anticipated these savings and are prepared to pass them along to our customers at the direction of the LPSC." – Feb. 22 2018, Cleco Corporation press release excerpt

**<u>CMC Steel</u>** (Cayce, South Carolina) - Pay and benefit increases:

"Many businesses in South Carolina have already announced pay and benefit increases, like CMC Steel Company" - <u>Feb. 12, 2018, Rep. Joe Wilson Press Release</u> **Coach, Truck & Tractor, LLC** (Conneaut, Ohio) -- Higher Christmas bonuses thanks to tax reform for this family business with seven employees. Bonus amounts determined by length of service:

"We are a small (7 employees) family business that was contemplating what to give for Christmas bonuses and when the tax bill passed, we decided to give much more than we ever did in past. We gave various amounts based on length of time with us. \$500 to two-year employees, \$300 and \$100 to those who were less than a year." -- Dick Elliott, Coach, Truck & Tractor, LLC

Cogent Building Group (Point Clear, Alabama) – \$2,000 bonuses for all four employees.

<u>College of the Ozarks</u> (Point Lookout, Missouri) -- \$204 bonuses for employees:

College of the Ozarks has decided to issue a check to each College employee in the amount of \$204 as a result of savings from the recent U.S. Tax Code revision.

"We were expecting to have to pay the extra amount in Obamacare costs," said College President Jerry C. Davis. "We are grateful for this savings and want to pass it along to our hardworking employees. It is a simple, but tangible, way to express our appreciation to them. We hope other organizations will consider doing the same."

Among the changes in the recent revision was the elimination of the "Obamacare" mandate provision, which will reduce the College's 2018-19 Blue Cross Blue Shield premiums by about 2.7 percent. This one-time premium savings is being passed on to all permanent, full-time employees, each of whom will receive a check near the end of January. – <u>Jan. 18, 2018 College of the Ozarks press release</u>

College Utilities (Fairbanks, Alaska) – The utility will pass tax cut savings along to customers:

In December, Congress passed new tax law that included a major cut to the corporate tax rate — to 21 percent from 35 percent. That will likely mean major savings for the small number of Alaska utilities that aren't cooperatives or municipally owned.

Those utilities include Enstar Natural Gas, which serves Anchorage, the Kenai Peninsula and Mat-Su; Alaska Electric Light and Power (AEL&P) in Juneau; and Golden Heart Utilities and College Utilities, water and sewer utilities in Fairbanks. – <u>March 7, 2018 Anchorage Daily News article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Colling Pest Solutions</u> (Idaho Falls) -- Tax reform bonuses for employees:

Representatives from an Idaho Falls-based pest control and lawn care company are traveling to Washington, D.C., this week to meet with President Donald Trump after the company gave its employees bonuses after Congress enacted tax cuts.

Colling Pest Solutions is sending six employees, including its owner, to the "American Workers for Tax Reform" event scheduled for Thursday afternoon at the White House.

The event recognizes small businesses throughout the country that have used tax cuts to benefit employees, whether through salary hikes or additional benefits. The company is paying for the employee's travel to the event.

Over the past year, employees at Colling Pest Solutions have seen an 8 percent quarterly bonus due to anticipated benefits from recent tax cut legislation. Eligible employees also can receive child care assistance, where the company will pay 50 percent of costs for parents at a local child care center.

*Tim Colling, owner of Colling Pest Solutions, believes it is his duty as an employer to pay added income from the business forward to his employees in order to maintain a competitive workforce. And he proposes other small businesses follow his company's lead. -- <u>April 9, 2018</u> <u>Post-Register article excerpt</u>* 

<u>Comcast</u> (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 100,000 employees; at least \$50 billion investment in infrastructure in next five years

"Based on the passage of tax reform and the FCC's action on broadband, Brian L. Roberts, Chairman and CEO of Comcast NBCUniversal, announced that the Company would award special \$1,000 bonuses to more than one hundred thousand eligible frontline and non-executive employees." – <u>Dec. 21, 2017 Comcast press release</u>

<u>Comerica Bank</u> (Dallas, Texas) -- \$1,000 to 4,500 non-officer employees; base wage increase to \$15 per hour:

This increase in minimum wage and one-time bonus are made possible by the tax reform bill that was passed by the U.S. Congress, then signed by the President on Dec. 22, 2017. – <u>Dec. 29, 2017</u> <u>Comerica Bank press release</u>

Comfort Inn (Cambridge, Maryland) (Neema Hospitality Franchise) - Renovations:

\$400,000 investment in renovation and upgrades due to tax reform - August 3, 2018 phone call with Americans for Tax Reform

**Comfort Inn** (Mechanicsburg , Pennsylvania) (<u>Neema Hospitality Franchise</u>) - Acquired hotel, renovations:

\$400,000 investment in renovation and upgrades due to tax reform - August 3, 2018, phone call with Americans for Tax Reform

<u>Commerce Bancshares, Inc.</u> (Kansas City, Missouri) – 3,450 employees will receive bonuses -- \$1,000 for full time employees and \$250 for part time employees; \$25 million in charitable donations:

"The new tax reform legislation should be very positive for economic growth and capital investment which will benefit the banking industry. This new law makes the banking industry more competitive and allows us to reward our core employees who work hard every day to provide superior service to the people and the companies we serve while building long term customer relationships so important to our communities and shareholders. In addition, we are very pleased to provide significant additional funding to The Commerce Bancshares Foundation which will strengthen our ability to continue to support the communities where we do business and whose prosperity is so important to our business." – Jan. 2, 2018 Commerce Bancshares, Inc. press release

<u>Commonwealth Edison</u> (commonly known as ComEd) (Chicago, Illinois) – the utility will pass tax savings to customers:

The recent annual formula rate filing also included an advancement of \$205 million from anticipated savings in 2019 as a result of the federal tax cut and jobs act.

"In this filing, we have proposed to the ICC that we advance into 2019 with savings that customers would realize through the lower tax rates. The formula ratemaking process allows for such timely distribution of savings. It also would help to extend the stable rate environment that we have had for some time since before the smart grid program came and launched," said Gomez. – <u>April 25, 2018 The Chicago Citizen press release excerpt</u>

<u>Community Trust Bancorp</u> (Pikeville, Kentucky) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full time employees and \$500 bonuses for part-time employees (exact number receiving bonus unknown at this time):

"The bonus will be paid to employees as soon as the new tax tables are released in 2018 so that employees may receive the full benefit of the reduction in tax rates.

"Management and the Boards of Directors continue to believe that our most valuable assets are our employees and are pleased that changes in the tax laws facilitate our ability to recognize their hard work and dedication to the success of CTBI." – <u>Dec. 22, 2017 Community Trust</u> <u>Bancorp press release</u>

<u>Community Valley Bank</u> (El Centro, California) – \$500 bonus for all employees; increased charitable donations:

In consideration of the expected benefit from the corporate tax reduction, the bank awarded each employee a \$500 bonus. The bank has also enhanced employee education and training opportunities for 2018 and expanded its community contribution budget toward local non-profit services. — Jan. 29 2018, Community Valley Bank press release

<u>Complex Chemical Company Incorporated</u> (Tallulah, Louisiana) - hiring more workers, raising wages and making critical new investments:

Thanks to tax reform, Complex Chemical Company Incorporated of Tallulah, Louisiana, is hiring more workers, raising wages and making critical new investments that will help grow its business.

Travis Melton, Complex Chemical's vice president of sales and marketing, said that his company's first order of business after tax reform passed was to give an immediate raise to every single one of its 120 employees. It's the first time in several years that the company was able to give such substantial, across-the-board pay increases.

Melton also explained that tax reform is helping Complex Chemical reinvest in its business and accelerate its expansion plans.

"We've had an expansion in the works for two years," Melton said. "Because the corporate tax rates have been reduced, it's easier for us to move forward with this expansion and another one we have around the corner. Tax reform helps move these investments." - <u>July 18, 2018, National</u> <u>Association of Manufacturers article excerpt</u>

<u>Computer Services, Inc.</u> (Paducah, Kentucky) – \$1,300 cash bonuses for non-executive full-time employees with more than 12 months of service; \$650 for part-time employees; additional contribution to employee retirement plan:

As a result of the reduced corporate tax rate effective with the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act (TCJA), <u>Computer Services, Inc.</u> (CSI) (OTCQX: CSVI), a provider of end-to-end financial technology solutions, is using its financial savings to reinvest in its employees and infrastructure.

Recognizing the opportunity brought about by the TCJA, CSI is investing a portion of its corporate tax savings with its employees. Non-executive full-time employees with the company more than 12 months will receive a one-time \$1,300 cash bonus in March. Part-time and other employees with the company less than 12 months will receive a one-time cash bonus of \$650 also in March. The company also stated that all eligible employees will receive an additional one-time contribution to their retirement plan. – <u>March 5, 2018 Computer Services, Inc. statement</u>

Connection (Merrimack, New Hampshire) -- \$1,000 bonuses:

Connection (PC Connection, Inc.; NASDAQ: CNXN), a leading technology solutions provider to business, government, and education markets, today announced that it will pay a \$1,000 cash bonus to each employee in consideration of their efforts for the year ended December 31, 2017.

"We are pleased to be able to provide this special reward to our valued employees for their hard work and commitment to excellence," said Timothy McGrath, CEO and President.

The Company is still evaluating all the provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act enacted on December 22, 2017, which effected numerous changes in existing tax law, including a permanent reduction in the federal corporate income tax rate. The rate reduction takes effect on January 1, 2018, and the Company currently anticipates that the net impact on its tax provision and cash taxes paid will be beneficial. -- <u>Feb. 7, 2018 Connection press release</u>

**Consumers Energy** (Jackson, Michigan) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

"Consumers Energy today issued the following statement from President & CEO Patti Poppe:

'Today, Consumers Energy was pleased to submit a proposal to the Michigan Public Service Commission that would lower customer bills starting in 2018 by approximately \$200 million, as a result of the recent federal tax reform changes. We are thrilled to be able to pass along 100 percent of the savings from tax reform to the people we are privileged to serve. This underscores our commitment to people, planet and prosperity for all of Michigan.'"—Jan 19, 2018 Consumers Energy press release

<u>Continental Rail</u> (Ft. Lauderdale, Florida) – \$500 bonuses for approximately 20 employees at Continental Rail's Delta Southern Railroad in Tallulah, Louisiana:

President Donald Trump, his administration and Congress recently passed a bill that overhauls the U.S. tax code. One of the biggest changes it makes is slashing the corporate tax rate to 21 percent from 35 percent.

Beginning in 2018, we will see benefits from this tax reform, in the form of lower corporate tax rates. We are excited about the benefits it will provide for our country's economy, our Company, and our employees, In the spirit of shared success, we will pass those benefits along to employees. Each employee will receive a \$500 bonus (before taxes) in their paycheck next Friday, February 2, 2018. We believe this is the right thing to do! – Excerpt from Jan. 24, 2018 letter to employees from John Marino, President & CEO

<u>Control Automation Technologies Corporation</u> (Providence Forge, Virginia) - Expansion doubling current facility size, hiring new employees, purchasing new equipment:

Control Automation Technologies Corporation (CATC) has announced the expansion of its Virginia Laboratory as it plans to double the size of its existing facilities in New Kent County, VA.The expansion will include offices, laboratories, and a logistics warehouse to accommodate its growing customer base as well as new equipment, services and employees.

With the recent economic boom, expansion was inevitable", said Mike Watson, the company's founder and CEO. Watson also touted regulation and tax reform as key catalysts for its decision to expand now. - <u>August 1, 2018, Control Automation Technologies Corporation press release</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Cooperstown Environmental</u> (Andover, Massachusetts) – Doubled the company-paid retirement contribution for all employees.

**Copperleaf Assisted Living** (Stevens Point, Wisconsin) – \$200 - \$600 bonuses for 175 employees:

An assisted-living business will give its 175 employees bonuses up to \$600 as a result of the tax reform package passed by Congress and signed by President Trump on Friday.

Krista Mendyke, who owns Copperleaf Assisted Living with her husband, Jim, said they will give away all of the company's estimated tax savings as a result of the legislation.

Copperleaf, which is based in Stevens Point, also has facilities in Schofield, Marathon City, Ripon and Adams.

"It's really to bring awareness to what's going on in our country and how it impacts them ... and that businesses and corporations do want to do the right thing," Mendyke said Friday.

Every employee will receive a bonus, which will start at \$200 and be tiered based upon the worker's status of casual, part-time or full-time. About 60 full-time employees will receive the maximum bonus of \$600, she said.

Mendyke said she and her husband will visit each facility on Tuesday to hand out the bonus checks.

In total, they are giving away \$60,000 in bonuses, "our entire tax savings" estimated for 2018 based on changes to business income tax rates, she said.

"I called (our accountant) yesterday and I said, what does this mean for us, a company our size?" Mendyke said Friday. "They sent us a projection and we're going to go ahead and pass that on." – <u>Dec. 22, 2017 Stevens Point Journal article excerpt</u>

**Cornerstone Holdings** – tax reform bonuses for employees.

<u>Costco</u> (Issaquah, Washington) -- Costco is raising its starting wage to \$14.00 or \$14.50 per hour, depending on location:

*Costco Wholesale Corp. said Thursday it would raise its minimum wage and boost pay for 130,000 U.S. store staff, intensifying the battle for workers in a tight U.S. job market.* 

The retail chain, second only to Walmart Inc. in terms of U.S. sales, said it would increase its starting hourly wages by \$1 to \$14 or \$14.50 an hour. Other hourly workers will receive raises of between 25 cents and 50 cents. The new wages take effect on June 11.

Executives said the company was using some of its savings from last year's U.S. tax overhaul to invest in its workforce. The legislation lowered the corporate tax rate, a boon for companies like Costco with large U.S. operations.

Richard Galanti, Costco's finance chief, estimated the annual cost of the wage increases will be between \$110 million and \$120 million pretax. However, he said the company expects an effective tax rate of 28% this fiscal year, compared with about 35% last year. -- <u>May 31, 2018</u> <u>Wall Street Journal article excerpt</u>

Cox Enterprises (Atlanta, Georgia) -- \$2,000 bonuses to be paid on Tax Day:

Georgia's largest privately owned company is reportedly joining the tax reform bonus parade.

Fox Business <u>reported</u> that Cox Enterprises said earlier this week that the most of the company's nearly 60,000 employees will receive bonuses of \$1,000-\$2,000 because of the \$1.5 trillion tax bill. Cox employs more than 8,700 workers in Atlanta.

The bonuses will be distributed on Tax Day to employees who have worked at Cox Enterprises for at least a year and are not part of an executive incentive plan, according to Fox.

Phoenix Business Journal <u>reports</u> the bonuses will go to all Cox Enterprise employees, which includes Cox Automotive, Ready Transport, AutoTrader, Kelly Blue Book and Cox Media Group, which has reportedly been <u>taking bids</u> to sell some of its biggest remaining newspapers.

"Cox Communications continues to invest in new businesses such as telecom infrastructure and health care, in building its own infrastructure to better power the smart homes, smart businesses and smart cities of the future — \$10 billion in capex the next five years — in the communities it serves via corporate giving — approximately \$70 million per year — and in its greatest resource, our employees," said John Wolfe, senior vice president and regional manager for Cox in Arizona. -- March 9, 2018 Atlanta Business Chronicle article excerpt <u>Cox Manufacturing</u> (San Antonio, Texas) - Increased business, hiring new employees, speed up new facility construction:

For Cox, those savings may give the manufacturer some much-needed relief as it adds staff and equipment necessary to handle the increased orders the company's been receiving over the last month or so, President Bill Cox said.

"The biggest benefit I think is not the tax savings, but the activity that's going on. It's just like crazy," said Cox, whose company employs 150 and makes machined and other parts. "I had some older machines that we wanted to phase out and I just couldn't believe how quickly they sold. I'm getting pressure to release them sooner than I wanted to."

Demand has picked up dramatically since the bill was signed into law, he said. His backlog of orders has grown from six to eight weeks in December to 10 to 12 weeks now, and he's having to move up construction of a new 8,000-square-foot manufacturing plant by at least a year in order to meet the growth.

"We needed it yesterday," he said of the new facility.

Cox said his backlog of orders is starting to cost him work. The new factory and equipment — which he hopes to bring online this year — will cost at least \$1.5 million, create 15 jobs and would add to his 54,000 square feet of existing manufacturing space. - <u>February 7, 2018, San</u> <u>Antonio Express News article excerpt</u>

<u>Crete Carrier Corporation</u> (Lincoln, Nebraska) - Increase employee pay, invest in new equipment, expand operations:

Executives and employees from Werner Enterprises Inc., Crete Carrier Corporation and TCW Inc., were in attendance to share how the tax cuts have enabled the carriers to increase employee compensation, invest in new equipment and expand operations.

TCW was represented by President Dave Manning, chairman of ATA, and driver David Livingston; Werner was represented by President & CEO Derek Leathers and driver Quinton Ward, driver Marvin Fielder, and associate Kathryn Oswald; and Crete was represented by CEO & Chairman Tonn Ostergard, Vice Chair Holly Ostergard, and driver Jeff Tetzloff. - <u>April 12, 2018 American</u> <u>Trucking Association press release excerpt</u>

Crowley Maritime Corporation (Jacksonville, Florida) - Employee bonuses:

Hill, a Crowley employee for more than 24 years, extolled real-world benefits of the tax cuts, including helping her pay for her sons' college expenses.

Crowley Maritime "used its benefit from tax reform to pay employees bonuses," Hill said.

"Crowley Maritime is a fantastic company," she added. "I've been there 24 years. I'm very honored to work for such a great company and for the company to benefit from such a great tax opportunity, which they were able to give back to the employees." - <u>May 29, 2018, Florida</u> <u>Politics article excerpt</u>

<u>Cummins</u> (Columbus, Indiana) – Acceleration of pay raises and benefit enhancements, plus a \$1,000 Health Savings Account contribution.

Memo is below:

Cummins is accelerating several compensation and benefits programs that have been under consideration for some time. And, in the U.S. specifically, those results combined with the recent tax legislation have allowed us to bring those programs to fruition even more quickly that we had originally planned. For example, I hope you saw that at the beginning of the year we decreased the out-of-pocket maximums in our U.S. medical plans for all employees earning under \$60,000 per year. And, for our employees in our U.S. medical plans whose base salary is \$40,000 or less per year, we will provide a one-time additional \$1,000 employer-seed contribution in their 2018 Health Savings Account (HAS). This is on top of the increased HSA employer contribution that was announced for the 2018 plan year. In addition, we are looking at opportunities in the coming year, and as our collective bargaining agreements expire, to:

Establish a U.S. entry-level wage of \$15.00 per hour;
 And, implement an enhanced U.S. Parental Leave policy that provides additional paid time off for new parents.

More information about these programs will be shared in the coming months. And, rest assured that we are also evaluating how Cummins can improve compensation and benefits globally to support our employees in the best possible way. Maintaining a strong compensation and benefits program enables Cummins to remain competitive in the marketplace, and provide sustainable growth for employees throughout their career.

I want to thank you for all of your work to make our company successful in 2017, and providing a strong foundation for a great 2018.

**Rich Freeland** 

President & Chief Operation Officer

**<u>CUNA Mutual Group</u>** (Madison, Wisconsin) – \$20 million in charitable contributions:

"CUNA Mutual Group said Tuesday the company is making its largest contribution ever to its philanthropic foundation, a \$20 million donation made possible in part by federal tax reform." – <u>Feb. 13 2018, Journal Sentinel article excerpt</u>

Custom Truck & Body Works (Woodbury, Georgia) - Expanding, hiring more workers:

"Two that I will highlight at some point tonight will be Shred-X in Griffin, Georgia, and Custom Truck and Body Works in Woodbury. Both of these businesses are expanding and hiring more workers, and this is a great story for the State of Georgia and the Third District. We are awfully proud of them." - <u>March 20, 2018, Rep. Drew Ferguson statement on the House floor</u>

<u>Customers Bank</u> (Wyomissing, Pennsylvania) – increased charitable contributions of \$1 million:

Customers Bank will also increase its charitable giving by \$1 million in 2018, and will continue to invest in its talent, who all already earn at least \$15 per hour – a rarity in banking. "By increasing our charitable giving and investing in our talent, we're investing in the growth of the communities we serve," said Sidhu. "These tax savings will ensure that we can put more money in the hands of communities, families, and small business owners. We expect that this bill will be positive for growth." – Jan. 5, 2018 Customers Bank press release

<u>CVS Health</u> (Woonsocket, Rhode Island) -- Base wage raised to \$11 per hour, and other pay ranges adjusted accordingly; company will absorb increases costs of health insurance premiums; creation of new parental leave program:

In a continuing commitment to investing in the growth and success of its employees, CVS Health (NYSE: CVS) today announced three major programs that will enable employees to share in the tax savings created by the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The improvements in employee wages and benefits, which are long-term and sustainable compensation investments, total \$425 million annually and create continued growth opportunities for the company and its employees. The programs announced today include the following employee-focused investments:

- CVS Health will increase the starting wage rate for hourly employees to \$11 an hour, effective April 2018. As part of this change, the company also plans to adjust pay ranges and rates for many of its retail pharmacy technicians, front store associates and other hourly retail employees later in the year to ensure a competitive compensation structure that supports the company's plans to evolve its retail stores into a health care destination.
- As part of ensuring access to affordable health care, CVS Health will not increase employee premiums for the 2018-2019 plan year. While medical and prescription

costs have increased 5% year-over-year, CVS Health will absorb the entire increase for the 100,000 employees who have elected to enroll in the company-sponsored health plan.

• The company is also creating a new paid parental leave program. Effective April 1, 2018, full-time employees who welcome a new child into their home can take up to four weeks away from work at 100% of their pay to ensure the newest addition to their family gets off to a strong start in life.

"As part of our ongoing commitment to the patients, customers and communities we serve, we said that we would invest our tax savings back into our business, and that's exactly what we're doing," said Larry Merlo, CVS Health president and CEO. "Today, we're building on the investments we've been making in our employees, in their wages, benefits and career development. It's our employees who drive our performance and we appreciate how hard they work every day to deliver on our purpose of helping people on their path to better health." -- <u>Feb.</u> *8, 2018 CVS Health press release* 

<u>Danko Arlington Inc.</u> (Baltimore, Maryland) - Employee wage increases, hiring new employees, renovating company facilities, purchasing new equipment:

Danko Arlington and its employees have also benefited from the tax cuts. Just in the past few months, the company purchased and fully depreciated a new 3-D sand printer in December 2017, provided higher wage increases in January, renovated its seventy-five-year-old pattern shop into a state-of-the-art additive manufacturing center in February, and hired six more workers in March.

Overall the company is looking forward to the expanding economy — including increased funding for defense. Danko Arlington is not alone. According to a recent survey from the National Association of Manufacturers, optimism among manufacturers registered its secondhighest level ever recorded (93.5 percent) in the 20-year history of the survey. - <u>April 12, 2018,</u> <u>Danko Arlington release excerpt</u>

Data Sales Co., Inc. (Minneapolis, Minnesota and Scottsdale, Arizona) – \$1,000 bonuses for all 80 employees:

Data Sales Co., Inc. announced today that the Company will celebrate the recent passage of tax reform legislation by distributing to all 80 plus employees a special bonus of \$1,000 each. Data Sales Co. will benefit from the new tax law lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent:

"Our hard-working employees make this company succeed, and we wanted them to share in the savings the company will see and also help grow our economy. Today I'm announcing that every employee will receive a cash bonus of \$1,000 each," said Paul Breckner, President of Data Sales Co. "I also want to thank our local Congressman, Jason Lewis, for his consistent advocacy of tax reform and seeing it through to becoming law. With the majority of our 80+ strong workforce here in Burnsville, I'm pleased that the benefits of tax reform will be felt at home."

Background on tax reform bonuses and Data Sales Co.:

All employees, whether full-time or part-time, hourly, salaried, commission or non-commission will receive the bonus to show our appreciation and heartfelt thanks for their service. We believe this tax reform will be good for Data Sales, spur economic growth, continue to grow jobs and keep unemployment at an all-time low. – Jan. 22, 2018 Data Sales Co., Inc. press release

**Davis Trust Company** (Elkins, West Virginia) – 3% across the board pay raises (on top of existing compensation structure.)

Dayton T. Brown Inc. (Bohemia, New York) -- \$400 bonuses for each of the 210 employees:

A small Bohemia company is following the lead of large corporations that are passing on some expected savings from tax reform to employees in the form of bonuses.

Dayton T. Brown Inc., an engineering and testing company, is giving each of its roughly 210 employees a \$400 bonus, Steve Marini, chief financial officer, said Friday.

*President Donald Trump signed the tax overhaul bill into law Friday. The bill lowers the corporate tax rate in 2018 to 21 percent from 35 percent.* 

All of Dayton T. Brown's full- and part-time employees will receive the bonuses, likely in January, Marini said.

"We're going to save a significant amount of money on this new tax law and . . . certainly, we're nothing without our employees," Marini said.

The inspiration for the bonus was AT&T's announcement Wednesday that it was giving its employees \$1,000 bonuses, Marini said.

Dayton T. Brown, founded in 1950, is a private company that primarily serves the aerospace and defense industry. Its largest customers are the U.S. Navy, Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. and Northrop Grumman.

It has 170 employees in Bohemia. The rest work in Shelton, Connecticut, and Lexington Park, Maryland. -- <u>Dec. 22, 2017 Newsday article excerpt</u> <u>Deckscapes</u> (Catharpin, Virginia) - Employee pay raises, new bonus structure, starting employee IRAs, purchasing new equipment:

"With repealing of regulations and renewed optimism, business has grown considerably over the last year and now with this tax cut, gee-whiz, just the other day we went out with a minimum of 7 percent pay raise to our employees, some of them got higher. We changed our bonus structure, we're starting IRAs for all the employees, and went out and purchased a bunch of trucks." - <u>April 17, 2018 Tax Talk Roundtable, Gary Desilets, Owner of Deckscapes</u>

Delaware Supermarkets Inc. (Wilmington, Delaware) -- \$150 extra bonuses to 1,000 non-management personnel.

"Our ability to provide bonuses and training to our employees demonstrates the far-reaching implications of this tax reform. We have a renewed optimism for the local and the national economy, and this important legislation better positions us for future growth." – Christopher Kenny, CEO

"This legislation benefits those of who count on Main Street budgets for our livelihoods, and it's a privilege to share the benefits with the men and women who work so hard at ShopRite. It makes it possible to succeed in a very competitive industry." -- Melissa Kenny, director of sales and marketing

Delmarva Power (Newark, Delaware) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Tax cuts passed by Congress in December have effectively caused Delmarva Power to reduce its power rate increase request in Delaware by \$26 million, the company announced on Friday. – February 9, 2018 Delaware Online excerpt

**Dempsey Wood Products** (Orangeburg, South Carolina) – Creating new jobs, purchasing new equipment, and expanding the business:

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Signed into law by President Donald Trump in 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act has contributed to the expansion of his company, Ronny Dempsey said.

"We've got a big expansion going on now, and we wouldn't be able to do it without the tax situation and the accelerated depreciation," he said. That depreciation is a part of the law and is being offered at 100 percent in 2018 but is subject to yearly change. "We were able to put some cash aside, then put it right back in the business to get the business back growing again. There really wasn't much growth for four or five years. In 2014, we started growing again," Dempsey said.

*He again credited the depreciation, this time as a catalyst for a \$15 million project the company has launched.* 

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"In other words, we'll have new equipment and have the best technology," he said. "The plan is to get it up and going and start a second shift, and probably add another 40 jobs. We're in position to grow the business some more, and have been since about 2014." – <u>May 2, 2018, The Times and Democrat article excerpts</u>

DePatco, Inc. (St. Anthony, Idaho) – Tax reform employee bonuses.

**Dime Community Bancshares, Inc.** (New York, New York) -- \$1,000 bonuses for non-executive employees.

**Discover Financial Services** (Riverwoods, Illinois) – Base wage raised to \$15.25 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for more than 15,000 non-executive employees; additional investments and charitable donations to be announced:

Discover today announced plans to raise its minimum hourly pay rate to \$15.25 for virtually all of its full-time U.S. employees as a result of the recent corporate tax reductions after granting a \$1,000 bonus to more than 15,000 non-executive employees earlier this month.

The new minimum rate will take effect later this year and ultimately will impact more than 7,000 employees.

The company plans to make additional investments in its people and will increase corporate responsibility efforts in the communities in which it operates. – <u>Jan. 24, 2018 Discover Financial</u> <u>Services press release</u>

Dixon Valve (Chestertown, Maryland) – \$1,000 bonuses:

A Maryland manufacturer will pay \$1,000 bonuses to full-time employees as a result of the Republican tax cuts, a move cited by House Speaker Paul Ryan's press office Wednesday as an example of the tax law working.

Dixon Valve, a company in Chestertown that makes hose fittings and accessories, said the bonuses were a "direct result" of the tax overhaul and regulatory relief.

Hundreds of companies have announced bonuses, raises or other benefits for workers tied to the tax overhaul, according to the anti-tax group Americans for Tax Reform.

Dixon Valve's announcement stands out, though, because it is one of the companies that Ryan visited in October as he was trying to build support for the massive legislation. – March 28, 2018 Washington Examiner article excerpt

**Dohrn Transfer** (Rock Island, Illinois) -- \$1,000 bonuses for approximately 1,200 employees; increased capital expenditures:

At least one Quad-Cities company is already giving out **bonuses due to the recent federal taxcut savings.** 

Dohrn Transfer, with its corporate headquarters for trucking and a company warehouse in Rock Island, has mailed out \$1,000 bonuses to all of its approximately 1,200 employees in six Midwest states. About 350 of those work here.

*"It was from the tax plan," Heather Dohrn, vice president of a sales and marketing, said Wednesday, referring to the tax cut signed into law Dec. 22 by President Donald Trump.* 

*"It generated tax savings for our company, and we wanted to share it with our employees," she said. "Even our part-time employees (received the entire bonus)."* 

Employees began receiving the checks in the mail Monday.

"They were pretty excited," Ms. Dohrn said. **"One thousand dollars goes a long way with hardworking people.** It's exciting to hear what they are doing with it, and that they feel appreciated.

"It's important for us to make sure we are compensating them and passing on those savings to them, because they are the ones that make us successful," she added. "Our secret sauce is our employees, so we want to make sure that we are compensating them."

*Ms.* Dohrn also said the tax reform was done to stimulate the economy, "so let's get it into the hands of the people that can use it and get it back in the economy and drive things in the right direction."

The money in bonuses is in addition to the increases that the company will be doing for employees in 2018, she said.

*"It's not like this is a one-time thing," Ms. Dohrn said. "We are going to continue to reinvest in our employees."* 

Ms. Dohrn said additional money from the tax cut savings will be reinvested in equipment and infrastructure by the company to help it continue to grow in 2018. Ms. Dohrn said the company expects about a 10 percent growth this year." – <u>Jan. 31 2018, The Dispatch/The Rock Island</u> <u>Argus article excerpt</u>

**Dollar Bank** (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) - \$2,000 permanent raises for employees making \$60,000 or below:

Four months after most banks moved to give employees some of the anticipated savings from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the \$8.3 billion-asset Dollar is giving workers with annual salaries at or below \$60,000 a \$2,000 raise. About 60% of Dollar's 1,300-person workforce will get raises, Senior Vice President Joseph B. Smith said Monday.

CEO Jim McQuade announced the raises May 2 in an in-house video message. They went into effect May 1. - <u>May 7, 2018, American Banker article excerpt</u>

**Dollar Tree, Inc.** (Chesapeake, Virginia) – \$100 million investment in raising base wages, enhanced benefits including maternity leave for qualifying employees, and employee training:

As noted previously, the Company benefited in the fourth quarter and fiscal 2017 with respect to the TCJA. The Company expects to continue to benefit going forward and currently estimates the benefit to be approximately \$250 million for fiscal 2018. As a result of the estimated cash benefit, the Company plans to invest approximately \$100 million through the following actions:

- Invest in stores with more hours, including training for associates,
- Invest in people with increased average hourly rates,
- Add Family Dollar eligible associates to the Defined Contribution Plan starting in fiscal 2017 and increase contributions in fiscal 2018, and
- Establish paid maternity leave for eligible associates? -- March 7 2018, Dollar Tree, Inc. press release excerpt

**Dollywood** (Pigeon Forge, Tennessee) – \$500 bonuses to employees:

As Uncle Sam takes his cut today on those still filing their 2017 taxes, nearly 1,200 employees of Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., are getting a tax-induced bonus today based upon cuts in the 2018 tax rate for the amusement park near the Great Smoky Mountains.

Dollywood hosts who worked at least 1,000 hours last year and are still employed with the amusement park are each getting \$500 checks today, thanks to the recent federal tax cuts.

"Dollywood strives to be a great place to work for great people," Dollywood President Craig Ross said in a statement announcing the first-of-the-kind employee bonuses. "We're grateful for the memories our Hosts create for our Guests by working hard every day, and this bonus is just one way we plan to share our appreciation throughout the year." – <u>April 17 2018, Times Free Press article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

**Dominion Energy, Utah** – The utility will lower rates for customers because of tax reform:

As a result of federal tax cuts, Dominion Energy is passing on \$17 million in savings to its consumers.

The Utah Division of Public Utilities announced that the energy company filed January 31, 2018, for the multi-millions in adjustments that enables customers to get a break on their gas bills.

According to the Division of Public Utilities, Utah utility customers will begin seeing savings from federal tax reform over the next few months.

A press release stated that the first wave of cuts should take effect in the next 30 days, providing \$2.5 million in savings on infrastructure.

"Ever since federal tax reform legislation was passed, our Division of Public Utilities has been working closely with the Public Service Commission and utilities to determine the best method to pass on tax savings to Utah customers. Consumers should begin seeing lower gas bills soon and our Division will continue to ensure other tax cuts reach customer bills as quickly as possible," stated Chris Parker, Division Director, in a press release.

Additional reductions will follow Dominion Energy's gas cost filing later this spring. The Division is working with other agencies to immediately reduce base rates to customers by \$14.5 million more, the press release stated. -- Feb. 5, 2018 KUTV CBS Salt Lake City article

**Don Ramon Restaurant** (West Palm Beach Florida) -- Bonuses; pay raises; expansion of restaurant:

As the owner of Don Ramon Restaurant in West Palm Beach, I know the positive impact of small business better than most.

Because of the recently passed Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, we will pay lower taxes and qualify for higher deductions, leaving Don Ramon in a better position than ever before. We plan to open a takeout window and set up a customer bar, which would generate up to eight new jobs. We will also install new refrigerators and coffee machines, in addition to making much-needed renovations to better serve our customers.

Perhaps most important, all of our key employees received generous bonuses in December, and they will also see pay increases in the coming weeks. We take great pride in rewarding our

*workers, and the new tax code makes it much easier to do so. -- <u>Feb. 3, 2018 Palm Beach Post</u> <u>op-ed excerpt</u>* 

Dong-A Hwa Sung (Martin, Tennessee) - Building new manufacturing facility with 220 jobs:

"Additionally, in my district, a <u>South Korean manufacturer</u> announced a \$13 million investment in Martin, Tennessee, and 220 job opportunities at the company's first United States-based location." - <u>May 8, 2018, Rep. David Kustoff statement on House floor</u>

Doss Enterprises (Jane Lew, West Virginia) – Hiring new employees and purchasing new equipment:

The benefits of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act are evident just from looking around the Doss facility, Capito said.

"When I saw their board of (new) hires, there must have been 20 or 30 names on there, just April and May," she said.

The company has chosen to reinvest its tax savings in its employees and into new equipment, Capito said.

"All of the employees are seeing (it) in their paychecks," she said. "(Doss) has also bought some new equipment with his money, which is a great investment. He's going to be hiring at least another 30 people." – <u>May 2, 2018, WVNews.com article excerpt</u>

Dot Foods (Mount Sterling, Illinois) -- \$500 bonuses for 4,800 employees:

A Mount Sterling company is joining the growing ranks of businesses sharing the benefits of a tax overhaul with its employees.

All of Dot Foods' nearly 4,800 full-time workers will get a \$500 bonus.

The food industry redistributor said the bonuses will go to employees at all 12 Dot locations in the United States and both Dot Foods Canada locations. The one-time bonus will be paid in mid-March to those who were employed with Dot and Dot Transportation at end of 2017.

"We're really happy to be able to give this bonus to our employees," Dot Foods CEO Joe Tracy said. "We surprised them by announcing the bonus during our National Business Meeting in St. Louis in late January. Our people are Dot's greatest asset, and the tax reform bill offered a great opportunity to reinvest in our employees." The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act lowered the federal corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent when President Trump signed it onto law in December. The bill also changed the way companies operating internationally are taxed.

"The tax legislation is good news for Dot and many other companies," Tracy said. "It's going to put us in a better position to compete internationally and continue to invest in our business. We owe our continued growth and success to our employees. Their hard work every day makes it possible, so it was an easy decision to recognize their efforts with this bonus when the opportunity arose." – <u>Feb. 17, 2018 Jacksonville Journal Courier article excerpt</u>

**Dry Fly Distilling** (Spokane, Washington) - Hiring new employees, plant expansion, and facility investments:

The reform that went into effect January 1, 2018 is helping Dry Fly Distilling save some money that the company is using to pump right back into a planned expansion, special projects, and other additions.

The Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act reduced the federal excise tax on distilled spirits producers. Dry Fly Distilling owner Don Poffenroth said the change has saved Dry Fly about \$1.50 on every bottle, which cuts down production costs.

"Now that \$1.50 really is allowing us to add additional personnel, to put more money back into our plant and then we are embarking on a fairly aggressive expansion plan as well. So, we are going to build a new facility. So, we are 100% reinvesting kind of everything we get out of that," Poffenroth said.

That saved money also can go toward special projects, like the Dry Fly Single Malt Whiskey, which has been aged for the last ten years. - <u>February 16, 2018, KXLY article excerpt</u>

**DTE Energy** (Detroit, Michigan) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

DTE Energy issued the following statement regarding the impacts of H.R.1, the Tax and Jobs Act.

"The recent passage of the Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will offer benefits to energy customers across the country – including DTE's utility customers here in Michigan. The reduction of the corporate tax rate will result in lower bills for DTE's 2.2 million electric and 1.3 million gas customers.

"In 2018, a savings of nearly \$190 million will be passed along to customers.

*"As this tax reduction works through the regulatory process, our average electric and gas customers will see a reduction in their rates of about 3 percent. The reduction in rates due to the* 

tax law change will be a significant infusion into the Michigan economy as our customers will enjoy this benefit for years to come." – <u>Jan. 23, 2018 DTE Energy press release</u>

**DTI Partners Inc.** (Mobile, Alabama) -- \$1,000 bonus to full-time employees; \$300 bonus to part-time employees:

"The tax bill was the primary reason we were able to do this as a company. The bonuses were a great morale booster. We are a very small company but we believe this will help us grow in the long run." -- Message from CEO Tom Busby

**DTN** (Burnsville, Minnesota) -- DTN an independent provider of information and actionable insights in the areas of agriculture, transportation and energy, and publisher of The Progressive Farmer, gave \$1,000 bonuses to nearly 700 employees.

Duck Inn Pub (Hyannis, Massachusetts) -- \$500 bonuses for full-time employees; \$200 bonuses for parttime employees. Together with affiliated restaurants The Gateway Tavern, The Stowaway, Sail Loft, and Speedwell Tavern, the bonuses went to 93 employees.

All of the partners expressed the same reasoning for the bonuses, according to the release. They were happy to be able to share the tax savings by investing in their workforce. They recognize their people as their most important asset. They viewed the payouts as a way of giving back to their staffs, thanking them for everything they contribute to their organization's success. The thought process was that the bonus checks will also benefit the local communities through employees spending more, boosting the area economically, according to the release. – <u>Feb. 16</u>, 2018 Wicked Marion Local article excerpt

Duke Energy Carolinas and Duke Energy Progress (Charlotte, North Carolina) – The utilities will pass along tax savings to customers:

Duke Energy today outlined its proposal to **pass along savings from the new federal tax law** to its North Carolina customers in ways that will lower bills in the near term and help offset increases in the future.

Duke Energy Carolinas (DEC) and Duke Energy Progress (DEP) offered the proposal in a filing with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) today. Duke Energy has maintained customers' rates significantly below the national average for many decades while providing safe, reliable and increasingly clean energy for North Carolinians.

"This is a unique opportunity that allows us to reduce customer bills in the short term while also helping to offset future rate increases," said David Fountain, Duke Energy's North Carolina president. "With a balanced approach, our customers can benefit from a reduction in the corporate income tax rate, while we continue to make smart investments on behalf of our customers." – <u>Feb. 1, 2018 Duke Energy press release</u>

Duke Energy Florida (St. Petersburg, Florida) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

Duke Energy Florida today announced that customers will **directly benefit from the new federal** tax law and avoid a rate increase for power restoration costs associated with the company's response to last September's Hurricane Irma.

Instead of increasing customer rates, the company plans to apply federal tax reform savings toward those storm costs.

On Dec. 28, 2017, the company had filed for recovery of \$513 million – \$381 million for power restoration costs and \$132 million to replenish the storm reserve fund. Residential customers would have seen an increase of \$5.20 per 1,000 kWh of electricity on a typical monthly bill over a three-year recovery period – an average of \$187.20. Commercial and industrial customers were expected to see an increase of approximately 2.5 to 6.6 percent, though bills would have varied depending on a number of factors.

*Like many companies, Duke Energy has been working to analyze the benefits of tax reform.* 

"We are pleased that this solution will prevent a rate increase for our customers," said Harry Sideris, Duke Energy Florida state president. "Hurricane Irma was the worst storm to ever hit Duke Energy Florida and impacted many lives. Redirecting the tax reform savings against the storm costs ensures that our customers will reap the benefits of this new law." – Jan. 24, 2018 Duke Energy Florida press release

Duke Energy Indiana (Plainfield, Indiana) -- the utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

Plainfield-based Duke Energy Indiana has reached a settlement with the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor and other parties regarding the disbursement of savings to customers from the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. The utility says customers will receive approximately \$142 million in annual savings.

The OUCC says when the legislation went into effect in January, the federal tax rate for most investor-owned utilities fell from 35 percent to 21 percent. As a result, the average residential customer will see their monthly bill reduced by about 5 percent, or \$7.33, in 2018.

"The federal tax act is an opportunity for us to lower customer bills and help offset future rising costs," said Duke Energy Indiana President Melody Birmingham-Byrd. "We've reached an agreement to pass along tax savings embedded in our electric rates over the next two years. It's a constructive agreement that reduces rates while still preserving our credit quality, which is important for keeping customer bills low."

Duke Energy says it began reflecting the lower federal tax rate in customers' bills earlier this year. The settlement, which included the Indiana Industrial Group and Nucor Steel, also proposes reducing base rates in September to reflect the lower tax rate. It also includes refunds of accumulated deferred taxes in 2018 and 2020. - June 28, 2018, Inside Indiana article excerpt

**Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.** (Cincinnati, Ohio) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Across the Ohio River in Kentucky, state regulators continue to review the company's proposals that recommend allocating more than \$15 million of tax act benefits to Duke Energy Kentucky customers. – <u>April 13, 2018, Duke Energy Press Release</u>

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Cincinnati, Ohio) – The utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Duke Energy Ohio customers will receive approximately \$20 million in annual tax savings on their electric bills beginning this month. The bill reduction is a result of the recent Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which federal lawmakers passed in late 2017.

"The tax act provides a unique opportunity for us to reduce customers' bills by millions of dollars," said Jim Henning, president of Duke Energy Ohio and Kentucky. "And that's exactly what we're doing here – delivering real savings to our customers."

Duke Energy Ohio also plans to lower its customers' natural gas bills by about \$3 million beginning in May – subject to the approval of proposals filed with state regulators.

"The tax act reduced our corporate tax rate – and that's a benefit we are pleased to pass along to our customers," said Henning. "However, the impacts on our business and customers go far beyond the reduction in the corporate tax rate. While some of the changes reduce our federal tax liabilities over time, others could actually increase our tax obligations.

"We considered all of these scenarios as we determined the best ways to pass along the benefits of the tax act to our customers. And we continue to work through various regulatory proceedings in our efforts to ensure that our customers receive the benefits of this new law." – April 13, 2018, Duke Energy Press Release

**Dumpster Depot** (Aiken, South Carolina) - Expanding business operations:

Norman Dunagan, owner of Whiskey Alley restaurant and Dumpster Depot in Aiken, announced they are expanding as well. - <u>February 21, 2018, The Lexington Ledger article excerpt</u>

Dyer Capital Management, Inc. (Marion, Massachusetts) – Base wage raised 3.5% to \$22 per hour; hourly employees also received a special one-time bonus:

In keeping with the economic prospects of the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act of 2017, Dyer Capital Management Inc. (DCM) has announced a special one-time bonus payable this month to each of its hourly employees. Also, the company is increasing the minimum hourly rate 3.5% to \$22 an hour. President Timothy H. Dyer said: "In the spirit of shared success, we are pleased to reward our hourly workers with this good news now, as we anticipate brighter, future conditions for our economy and our country." – Dyer Capital Management, Inc. press release

**Dyersville Die Cast** (Dyersville, Iowa) - \$200 bonus for all eligible full-time employees; \$50 monthly bonus for at least twelve months for all eligible full-time employees; \$150,000 in total on bonuses:

*"Dyersville Die Cast employees will be getting bonuses thanks to the recently passed tax reform bill.* 

*Full-time employees who were with the company prior to Oct. 1, 2017 will receive a \$200 bonus on March 9. But, that's not all.* 

All full-time, hourly employees will also be receiving \$50 monthly bonuses for at least the next 12 months.

In addition, employees will still receive their regular "profit bonus" in June, according to General Manager Bob Willets.

The big news is thanks to that fact that Dyersville Die Cast is slated to save approximately \$200,000 thanks to the new tax law, and have decided to dole out \$150,000 of that to its workers" – Feb. 21 2018, Dyersville Commercial article excerpt

**Dynamic Fastener** (Raytown, Missouri) – employee bonuses of up to \$1,000; the company will also open a paint shop, buy new equipment and hire more employees:

As workers across the nation anticipate taking home more money in their pay next month as a result of federal tax reform, a company here is joining a growing number of businesses in paying its employees a tax cut bonus.

Tax reform benefits are reaching ordinary workers at Dynamic Fasteners.

The company sells sheet metal screws and rivets for metal buildings. And the owner anticipates more metal structures being built as the economy takes off.

More than a hundred people work for Dynamic Fasteners, and though it's not a pass through LLC or a corporation that will see the biggest benefits of a 21 percent tax rate, Owner Kevin Perz says he believes the tax cuts will be so good for the economy that he wanted to make sure he rewarded his employees for their loyalty.

"We are giving a maximum of \$1,000 per full time employee," Perz said. "It's \$200 for each year or partial year that you've been here. If you've been here four years and a day you get the thousand dollars. Part time employees get half of that."

Workers will receive their bonus on February 15. That's about the same time workers also should notice a boost in their checks from lowered federal tax rates. Perz says taxes taken from his workers' checks are being reduced by about two and a half percent.

Warehouse workers like Solomon Essex say news of the \$1,000 bonus he's getting caught him off guard.

"We all benefit from the economy being better," said Essex, who's worked for the company for 12 years. "For the simple fact that it improves life. It improves everybody's life at the same time. The boost in the economy is a great thing. It is appreciative to I'm sure many people, especially me because it will help me."

The company says it also now will open a paint shop in Las Vegas because of the tax savings it's receiving. That will mean hiring more workers and spending money on new equipment. All good news for an economy that Perz says is starting to boom. -- Jan. 24, 2018 Fox 4 News article

e-Cycle (Hilliard, Ohio) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all 55 employees:

"I'm pleased to announce that e-Cycle paid out our largest bonus in company history this past Friday. One-hundred percent of all of our hourly and salaried employees participated in this bonus program of over \$350,000. In addition, due to the greatest tax reform package just passed in U.S. history, we're celebrating with an additional \$1,000 tax reform bonus for all of our 55 employees." – Feb. 5, 2018 statement by Chris Irion, e-Cycle CEO

**Eagle Manufacturing** (Wellsburg, West Virginia) – Creating new jobs and purchasing new equipment:

The company traditionally has sought to buy used equipment at low prices when replacement of machinery was necessary, according to Trimmer.

"Because of that tax break, we can invest and buy our next machines," he said. "My department is now looking to buy a \$2 million machine, rather than a 1990 classic. It will pay for itself in a short manner of time." Trimmer said the company is about to sign some government contracts that will put Eagle cabinets and metal products on the next generation of U.S. naval destroyers.

This could result in as many as 25 jobs being created, he said. – <u>May 3, 2018, The Intelligencer</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

Eagle Ridge Ranch (Island Park, Idaho) – tax reform bonuses for employees.

**Eagle Telephone System, Inc. & Eagle Valley Communications** (Hells Canyon Snake River Corridor, Oregon) -- \$1,000 bonuses; together the companies have 19 employees:

Though our Companies are small in comparison to Boeing and AT&T and others on this list, our hearts are none the less just as big or bigger, said Mike Lattin, President and CEO of Eagle Telephone System, and Eagle Valley Communications, dba Comco Construction.

Mike announced that both Eagle and Comco **employees will be receiving \$1000.00 bonuses by the holidays, this is due in large part to the recent tax reform bill having been passed** and also the fact that President Trump has worked very hard to lessen the regulatory burdens that had been put on our industry by the previous administration. Combined these companies employ 19 people in a very rural part of Eastern Oregon; Richland. Our services include providing telephone and broadband, cellular and wireless, as well as construction services of all types. Our services are critical to the Rural market we serve. A sample of our market is Hydro Production along the Hells Canyon stretch of Snake River, Ranchers, Cattle Producers and Farmers, providing everything from beef, lamb, soy, alfalfa, hay, dairy products and more, Forest Production Practices and in large part Recreation in all four seasons.

Mike stated that he believes that this administration is looking out for us, for Rural America and that is what we need to keep our industry competitive world wide. He finished by stating that this administration and the tax reform bill just passed have been a god send to Rural Eastern Oregon. – Statement by Rusti Lattin, for Mike Lattin, President and CEO.

**Eastman Chemical** (Kingsport, Tennessee) - Investing in innovation programs, increased capital expenditures to expand manufacturing:

*Kingsport, Tenn.-based Eastman Chemical said it was investing savings in research and development, innovation programs and capital projects to expand manufacturing. - <u>June 29,</u> <u>2018, Tennessean article excerpt</u>* 

EastIdahoNews.com (Idaho Falls, Idaho) -- Tax reform bonuses to employees.

**Eberle Communications Group, Inc.** (McLean, Virginia) – increased 401(k) match from 25% to 50% for all 45 employees

Ecolab Inc. (St. Paul, Minnesota) – \$25 million in charitable donations:

In response to the passage of the new U.S. tax law, Ecolab announced its intent to make a \$25 million contribution to the Ecolab Foundation. Since 1986, the Ecolab Foundation has contributed more than \$100 million to communities in which we do business by providing basic needs, including hunger relief and affordable housing; supporting education, the arts and environmental conservation; as well as providing support to global relief organizations during times of natural disasters. – Jan. 23, 2018 Ecolab Inc. press release

ecUtopia (San Diego, California) – Tax reform bonuses to employees:

ecUtopia, the largest provider of EDI services within the Home Furnishings Industry, announced today bonuses for all its employees. The employee bonus is attributed to the new tax law. Under the new tax bill, corporate tax rate will drop from 35% to 21%.

*Phil Kenney, CEO & President of ecUtopia, explains "we had great news from our accountants and wanted to pass that to our employees." – <u>May 3 2018, Furniture Today article excerpt</u>* 

Eli Lilly (Indianapolis, Indiana) - Opened a new research facility:

The latest tax reform win comes from Indiana, where pharmaceutical manufacturer Eli Lilly and Co. recently opened a new \$75 million research facility in Indianapolis. The company's CEO credited tax reform and other pro-growth policies that helped make it possible.

"Congress and this (presidential) administration have enhanced our ability to acquire and develop U.S.-born innovation," Dave Ricks, chairman and CEO of Lilly, said in a statement. "The tax reforms they've adopted place U.S. companies like Lilly on a level playing field with our global peers." - July 9, 2018, National Association Of Manufacturers Shopfloor blog excerpt

Elite Roofing Systems (Idaho Falls, Idaho) – Tax reform bonuses to employees.

Elite Clinical Trials, Inc. (Blackfoot, Idaho) – Tax reform bonuses to employees.

**Ellwood Group** (Ellwood, Pennsylvania) - Facility expansion:

The tax reform is incentivizing the Ellwood Group to invest \$10 million into the plant, including an expansion that will house a massive robot.

Ellwood Group CEO David Barensfeld says 500 people currently work at the plant; 200 of them making military equipment. "Two-thousand-pound capacity to automatically transfer unfinished bombs, so that they can be finished and sent to the Air Force... And, we expect to expand

employment by, perhaps, 10 percent in the next short while, because of the increased demand for bombs." - <u>August 9, 2018, YourErie.com article excerpt</u>

<u>Elmer Smith Oil Company, Domino Transports, Inc. and Domino Food & Fuel, Inc.</u>(Oklahoma) -- Tax reform bonuses for more than 300 employees:

Elmer Smith Oil Company, Domino Transports, Inc. and Domino Food and Fuel, Inc. employees will receive a bonus before the end of the year, President Martin Smith said on Wednesday.

Smith said the **bonuses are being paid from expected tax savings in 2018** and a very successful 2017. "Our employees have worked really hard the past year growing our company, we opened 3 new stores in the past 12 months and grew the size of Domino Transports, Inc. by more than 35%."

The bonus will be paid to more than 300 employees. Smith said that he believes Congress passed the tax reform legislation to allow companies to have more cash to invest and grow the economy. "We are excited about the future of our business, we are **simply reinvesting part of the expected tax savings** in our most important asset, our people."

Elmer Smith Oil Company, Domino Transports, Inc. and Domino Food and Fuel, Inc. have locations in Clinton, Elk City, Canute, Weatherford, Binger, Blanchard, Shawnee, Blackwell, Woodward, Seiling, Watonga, El Reno, and Yukon. They have employees in each of these towns and surrounding communities as well as the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandle. -- <u>Dec. 29 2017</u>, <u>Shawnee News-Star article</u>

**<u>El Paso Electric Company</u>** (El Paso, Texas) – the utility will give refunds to customers due to tax reform:

*El Paso Electric (EPE) was one of the first utilities in the state of Texas to address and identify a mechanism to refund Texas customers due to the reduction in the federal income tax rate.* 

On December 14, 2017, the unopposed settlement approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) included a provision to refund EPE's Texas customers for the reduction in the federal income tax rate.

EPE is currently calculating the changes and impacts of the new tax law to determine the amount of the refund to be filed in mid-April. EPE expects Texas customers will begin to see the refund as a credit on their bills by mid-year 2018 following PUCT approval of its refund filing. – Jan. 23 2018, El Paso Electric Company press release

<u>Emerson Electric</u> (St. Louis, Missouri) - Increasing employee bonus contributions, expanding family leave benefits, growing retirement funds:

Wage patterns at Ferguson, Missouri-based Emerson, a Fortune 500, diversified manufacturer, illustrate Farr's point: Pay increased an average of 2.5 percent in 2016, by another 2.9 percent in 2017, and are on their way to increasing by an average of more than 3 percent this year. Plus, the company is boosting its contributions to bonuses and retirement funds and enhancing its family-leave program. - <u>August 6, 2018, ChiefExecutive article excerpt</u>

<u>Emkay, Inc.</u> (Itasca, Illinois) -- Emkay is a fleet management company that gave \$1,000 bonuses to 150 employees

"EMKAY, Inc. has announced that all full-time employees will receive a \$1,000 bonus in response to the tax reform that was just signed by President Trump. EMKAY, a privately-owned fleet management company, wasted no time in taking action to pass the benefits of this reform on to their team.

"With a brighter future for EMKAY and more profitable growth, naturally we are hopeful that these tax changes will become permanent. And then, if so, we will be able to share even more of the tax cut benefits with you – our employees and most valuable asset," EMKAY President Greg DePace said in a statement to EMKAY employees." – <u>Jan. 2018 Emkay Inc. statement</u>

**Empire Recycling** (Utica, New York) - Employee quarterly bonuses increased by 50%:

Congresswoman Claudia Tenney (NY-22) toured Empire Recycling to see firsthand the important work Empire Recycling has done for our community over the past 100 years. On the tour, the Kowalsky brothers informed Rep. Tenney that as a direct result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Empire Recycling's quarterly bonus given to their employees increased by 50%. - <u>May 2, 2018,</u> <u>Rep. Tenney press release</u>

<u>Empire National Bank</u> (Islandia, New York) – salary increases; 401(k) match increases; \$1,000 bonuses for non-executive employees:

Empire National Bank is increasing salaries by 5 percent, upping its 401(k) match program and giving all nonexecutive employees \$1,000 bonuses as a result of the benefits derived from the recent federal tax overhaul. – Jan. 30, 2018 Newsday article excerpt

<u>Employers Mutual Casualty Insurance</u> (Des Moines, Iowa) -- \$1,000 bonuses for employees with the exception of Vice Presidents and above.

EnerVest (Abingdon, Virginia) - Employee bonuses:

EnerVest, an oil and gas company with a presence in Southwest Virginia and around 95 employees in the Commonwealth, paid more in bonuses at the end of 2017 and provided a larger

average pay increase to its employees than it had in prior years. The company attributed part of its decision to the lift provided by tax reform. - <u>April 13, 2018, Augusta Free Press article excerpt</u>

Ennis, Inc. (Midlothian, Texas) -- \$500 bonuses to 2,200 non-management employees:

Keith S. Walters, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Ennis, Inc. (NYSE: EBF), a manufacturer of business forms and other business products headquartered in Midlothian, Texas, announced today that in conjunction with the signing of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, the Ennis Board of Directors has approved a special one-time bonus to more than 2,200 non-management employees in the amount of \$500.00 each. This payment will take place with the first payroll period in January 2018.

In addition, in response to this landmark act the Board of Directors has declared a special onetime cash dividend of \$0.10 a share of our common stock. The dividend will be paid on February 9, 2018 to shareholders of record on January 12, 2018.

"Congress and the President by their passage of this historic law have improved the prospects of the American worker and American company success. We recognize this historic opportunity for our Company, our employees and our shareholders," said Mr. Walters. – <u>Dec. 22, 2017 Ennis,</u> <u>Inc. press release</u>

Enstar Natural Gas Company (Anchorage, Alaska) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers.

Entergy Arkansas (Little Rock, Arkansas) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers:

*If approved by the APSC, the multi-million dollars in tax savings will benefit customers in the following ways:* 

- Customer bill credits will begin in April so customers will begin to benefit almost immediately and prior to summer when usage is typically higher.
- Residential customers will see a savings of an estimated \$20 per month for every 1000 kWh consumed from April 2018 to December 2019.
- Business customers also will see significant bill reductions, allowing them to reinvest those savings into their business in 2018 as they deem appropriate.
  - Other effects of the TCJA are being considered in a docket opened by the APSC, and we expect those customer benefits to be reflected in future rate changes. -<u>Feb. 28 2018, Entergy Arkansas press release excerpt</u>

Entergy Louisiana (Baton Rouge, Louisiana) - The utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers

Entergy Louisiana customers will see a series of rate reductions over the remainder of 2018 under an agreement approved today by the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

The first of the reductions will occur in May as a result of \$210 million in federal tax reformrelated savings, \$105 million of which will be returned to customers over the next eight months, with the remaining half of these savings returned to customers over the following four years. As a result, a typical residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month will see a roughly \$4.20 decrease on monthly bills from May through December of this year.

A second reduction of approximately \$2 per month on residential bills will occur in September 2018 as a result of additional credits tied to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act approved by Congress in late 2017. At the same time, Entergy Louisiana will begin realizing approximately \$130 million in annual tax savings to offset the cost of upgrading infrastructure.

"Along with customer refunds, tax reform also helps provide us the ability to invest in modernizing our system for the benefit of customers while maintaining some of the lowest rates in the country," Phillip May, president and CEO of Entergy Louisiana, said. – April 18, 2018, Entergy Louisiana Press Release

Entergy Mississippi (Jackson, Mississippi): the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers:

*"If approved by the MPSC, the multi-million dollars in tax savings will benefit customers in three ways:* 

- short-term bill credits,
- long-term rate reductions and
- alleviation of some future rate increases.

These are projected to begin this summer, when usage and bills are typically at their highest. Based on its plan, Entergy Mississippi expects residential customer bills to drop more than \$30 per month during July, August and September, from a combination of lower-rates and short-term bill credits.

Without the tax reform, which reduced the corporate tax from 35 percent to 21 percent, substantial projects undertaken by Entergy to strengthen and modernize the grid would have required significant rate increases.

"We intend to ensure that our customers receive timely benefits from the new tax reforms," said Haley Fisackerly, Entergy Mississippi president and CEO. "The tax reduction will allow us to reduce rates, provide substantial bill credits and lower our customers' bills during the high-usage summer months." – Feb. 26 2018, Entergy Mississippi press release excerpt

Entergy New Orleans (New Orleans, Louisiana) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers

Entergy New Orleans filed with the New Orleans City Council Monday its proposal for implementing the benefits of the recent federal tax reform legislation. If approved by the council, customers would realize approximately \$47 million annually in near-term tax savings and an additional \$71 million in savings over the longer term.

"We're working to ensure that our customers receive timely benefits from the new tax reform legislation," said Charles Rice, president and CEO of Entergy New Orleans, LLC. "We're glad to pass on these additional savings by reducing rates below what they otherwise would be, especially during the hot summer months when energy usage rises along with the thermometer." – April 11, 2018, Entergy New Orleans Press Release

Entergy Texas (The Woodlands, Texas) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

`Entergy Texas is also passing substantial savings from federal tax reform directly to customers. These tax savings, along with investments in infrastructure to reduce outages and improve service, will result in more reliable and affordable energy to customers.

Following the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the federal corporate tax rate was lowered, and Entergy Texas will flow back more than \$200 million to customers over the next two years. This sum represents funds that Entergy Texas had collected from customers according to IRS rules to pay future taxes at the higher tax rate that is no longer in effect. Additionally, Entergy Texas' new rates will reflect the lower tax rate going forward. - <u>May 15, 2018, Entergy Texas</u> <u>Press Release excerpt</u>

Environmental Construction Group, Inc. (Albion, New York) -- \$500 bonuses for 50+ employees:

Environmental Construction Group, Inc. a small company from Albion, NY gave every one of their 50+ employees a \$500.00 bonus. Employees were notified of this bonus the Friday before Christmas and bonuses where paid the Friday before New Years. ECG appreciates the work this administration has done to promote such a positive outlook on this nation, and will try just as hard to continue to help our employees. Robert Gibbs, Environmental Construction Group, Inc.

**EPCOR USA** (Phoenix, Arizona) - The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

More than 57,000 EPCOR wastewater customers will receive more than \$1.1 million in federal corporate tax cut savings, reducing the amount of their monthly wastewater bill starting with the July 2018 billing cycle.

Today, the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) approved EPCOR's request to refund \$1,106,392 in tax reform savings to all of the company's residential and commercial wastewater customers.

Residential customers will receive a monthly credit of \$1.26 until new rates are determined in a future rate case. Because wastewater service is billed at a flat rate, all residential customers will receive the same monthly credit. Residential customers will also receive a one-time credit of \$7.56 on their July 2018 bill, refunding corporate taxes collected through June 2018 at the previous tax rate before today's ACC approval of EPCOR's application.

"We are extremely pleased to help our wastewater customers save more than \$1 million each year, and it's important to us that we put this into effect as soon as possible," commented Joe Gysel, President of EPCOR USA, Arizona's largest regulated water utility. "All our customers deserve to share in the savings generated by federal tax reform. It's positive for them, for their communities and for our state." - <u>June 12, 2018 EPCOR press release</u>

<u>Erie Insurance</u> (Erie, Pennsylvania) – \$1,000 bonuses; \$1,000 contribution to employees' 401(k) accounts:

*Erie Insurance CEO Tim NeCastro called an all-employee meeting Wednesday to deliver a bit of good news — a few million dollars worth of good news, in fact.* 

*Like many corporations, the company was expected to benefit from the new tax code that President Donald Trump signed into law in December.* 

NeCastro has announced that the company will share those benefits with its employees by giving a \$1,000 cash bonus to permanent full-and part-time employees.

In addition, the company will contribute \$1,000 to the account of any employee who has a 401 (k) retirement savings plan. – March 23 2018, Go Erie article excerpt

**<u>ES Bancshares, Inc.</u>** (Newburgh, New York) -- \$500 bonuses to non-executive full-time employees; \$250 bonuses to part-time employees; creation of at least ten new jobs; further business expansion:

ES Bancshares., Inc the parent company of Empire State Bank, announced December 21, 2017 that **due to the signing into law the tax reform legislation which provides a reduction of corporate tax rates from 35% to 21% , it will be investing into its most valuable asset, its**  *employees. Empire State Bank has provided a one-time bonus of \$ 500.00 to its full time and \$ 250.00 to its part time employees. Executive management was excluded.* 

'We are happy to share the benefit with our employees who continue to provide outstanding service to our customers, as well as our shareholders who will see this benefit fuel the continued growth and bottom line results,' said Philip Guarnieri, CEO. 'We will be adding at least 10 new jobs and expanding our footprint in the Staten Island and Brooklyn communities,' said Thomas Sperzel, President and COO. – Jan. 2 2018, ES Bancshares, Inc. press release

**Evans Bancorp Inc.** (Hamburg, New York) -- \$1,000 bonuses to non-senior level employees; increased charitable donations:

Evans Bancorp, Inc. (the "Company") (NYSE American: EVBN), a community financial services company serving Western New York since 1920, today announced a number of investments, continuing a pattern of support for its employees and the communities it has served and invested in for almost a century. **These investments are being made in conjunction with expected improvements in after-tax income as a result of Federal tax reform in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.** 

Aligned with Evans Core Principles is Valuing Others, which leads the Company to commit to the following initiatives:

Evans will provide all of its non-senior level associates a \$1,000 bonus in recognition of their superior efforts on behalf of the Company and as part of an ongoing focus on providing excellent career opportunities and top-tier employment.

The Company recently made a \$300,000 contribution to its Foundation, the largest such contribution in its history. Disbursements from the Foundation are invested in not-for-profit entities to enhance the quality of life within Western New York.

Benefits provided by tax reform will also allow the Company to increase its returns to shareholders and provide additional investment in our community. Evans is currently researching initiatives that will be impactful and make a difference in the fabric of the community that is responsible for our success.

"With a nearly 100-year record of serving our communities, employees, customers and shareholders, these actions will expand our efforts even further," stated David J. Nasca, President and CEO of Evans Bancorp. "**As we will be directly benefiting from the tax reform**, we believe that it is our obligation to share it with all of our stakeholders for the advancement of Western New York."—Jan. 31 2018, New York Business Journal article excerpt

**Eversource Energy** (Boston, Massachusetts) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

"The newly passed federal tax law reduces the amount of taxes Eversource will be paying by millions of dollars and today the energy company has informed the Department of Public Utilities of its decision to voluntarily pass those savings along to customers.

"We believe it's important that our customers reap the benefit of a lower tax rate," said Eversource Massachusetts Electric Operations President Craig Hallstrom. "As a regulated power company our rates are based on our costs, including federal taxes, so if taxes are reduced ultimately costs are reduced and that benefits our customers."

For example, customers in the company's Eastern Massachusetts service territory will see a reduction in taxes of \$47.6 million. This will cause a rate reduction of approximately \$35.4 million, rather than the approved increase of \$12.2 million (per the rate case decision Nov 30th). For Western Massachusetts, customers will benefit from a reduction in taxes of \$8.3 million, reducing the approved increase of approximately \$24.8 million to \$16.5 million. -- Jan. 4 2018, Eversource Energy press release

**Everett J. Prescott Inc.** (Gardiner, Maine) – \$1,000 bonuses for employees with more than a year of service, \$250 for employees with less than a year:

A Maine company says 300 employees will receive bonuses following changes to the federal tax code enacted at the end of 2017.

Everett J. Prescott Inc., a Gardiner-based waterworks materials company, says the bonuses will arrive Monday. The Kennebec Journal reports CEO Peter Prescott said Friday that many employees will receive a \$1,000 bonus.

He says employees with less than a year of service will still receive a \$250 bonus.

The family-owned company employs about 300 people across 26 locations in New England, New York, Ohio and Indiana. Prescott says the average tenure of an employee is 20 years. – <u>March 5</u> 2018, WABI article excerpt

Excel Boat Company (Ridgely, Tennessee) - Opening a new manufacturing plant:

"In Lake County, Excel Boat Company announced they will be opening a manufacturing plant that will bring 200 good-paying jobs and a total economic development investment of \$9 million." - <u>May 8, 2018, Rep. David Kustoff statement on House floor</u>

**Expanded Technologies, Inc.** (Marietta, Georgia) – Minimum bonuses of \$500 for each employee, additional cash depending on length of service:

*Expanded Technologies, Inc. (ETI) is a privately held corporation based in Marietta, GA which specializes in the manufacture of light gage expanded metal used in the support of HVAC filtration.* 

As a result of the Tax Cut and Job Act recently enacted by the Trump Administration, we are pleased to announce that ETI will give each of its 77 employees a bonus of \$500 cash along with an additional sum for each year of service." -- Statement by Jean-Luc Liverato of Expanded Technologies, Inc.

**Express Employment Professionals** (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) -- \$2,000 bonuses to more than 200 non-executive employees:

*Express Employment Professionals nonexecutive employees in Oklahoma City each will receive a \$2,000 bonus before the end of the year, CEO Bob Funk said Tuesday.* 

Funk said the bonus is in part because of the company's expected savings from the tax reform legislation Congress passed last week.

"We wanted to show our appreciation for our employees for doing such a good job this year," Funk told The Oklahoman on Tuesday. "It's our privilege to be able to give back to our employees."

The bonus will be provided to the more than 200 non-executive employees at Express Employment Professionals' Oklahoma City headquarters.

*Funk said he expects hiring to increase throughout the country because of the new lower corporate tax rate.* 

"I think we are going to be required to find a lot more people jobs more quickly because at most corporations — including ours — when they have extra cash available, they put it into the industry they know best, which is their own," Funk said. "Especially for medium and small businesses, they usually try to expand their business." – <u>Dec. 27, 2017 The Oklahoman article excerpt</u>

**Express Scripts** (St. Louis, Missouri) – \$500-\$2,000 bonus depending on length of service; creation of education fund for employees' children; charitable contributions:

"Express Scripts employees will receive a one-time bonus thanks to the federal tax reform bill, executives told investors Wednesday morning during a conference call.

The average bonus will be about \$1,200, Tim Wentworth CEO of Express Scripts said. The company will also create a \$30 million education fund for employees' children.

The fund will assist with paying for college and vocational training.

Bonuses for non-executive employees will range from \$500 to \$2,000 depending on an employees' tenure with the company

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Wentworth said additional funds will be donated to charitable programs in the communities the company serves." – Feb. 28 2018, St. Louis Post-Dispatch article excerpt

**Exxon Mobil** -- \$35 billion in new U.S. investments over five years:

*Exxon Mobil, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, on Monday said it plans to invest an additional \$35 billion in the United States over the next five years.* 

Darren Woods, chairman and CEO of Exxon, said in a blog post that the investment is partly due to recently passed corporate tax cuts. The announcement puts Exxon on the board with a number of other companies that have announced employee bonuses and investments following President Donald Trump and GOP lawmakers' tax overhaul.

"These investments are underpinned by the unique strengths of our company and enhanced by the historic tax reform recently signed into law," Woods said in the blog post.

"These positive developments will mean more jobs and economic expansion across the United States in a myriad of industries." – <u>Jan. 29, 2018 CNBC article excerpt</u>

**Fairfield Inn & Suites** (Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania) (<u>Neema Hospitality Franchise</u>) - New location acquired, renovations

\$700,000 investment in renovation and upgrades due to tax reform. - August 3 2018, call with Americans for Tax Reform

Family Express (Valparaiso, Indiana) -- Base wage raised to \$11 per hour:

Valparaiso-based Family Express, which has 70 convenience stores across Indiana and is in the process of building 10 more, is bumping its starting wage to \$11 an hour.

The 43-year-old convenience store chain is raising entry-level pay by \$1 an hour, after preempting national retailers like Walmart with above-market starting wages in April 2015. Family Express said it was boosting pay because of the tax cuts that reduced the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent and as a bid to recruit quality employees and reduce turnover. "We feel obligated to pass on a significant portion of the tax savings to our staff," Family Express President and CEO Gus Olympidis said. -- <u>Feb. 5 The Times of Northwest Indiana article excerpt</u>

**FedEx** (Memphis, Tennessee) – commits more than \$3.2 billion in wage increases, bonuses, pension funding due to the recent tax cuts. Pay raises, bonus increases, pension plan increases, and at least \$1.5 billion in capital expenditures:

*"FedEx Corporation is announcing three major programs today following the recently enacted U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act:* 

- Over \$200 million in increased compensation, about two-thirds of which will go to hourly team members by advancing 2018 annual pay increases by six months to April 1st from the normal October date. The remainder will fund increases in performance- based incentive plans for salaried personnel.
- A voluntary contribution of \$1.5 billion to the FedEx pension plan to ensure it remains one of the best funded retirement programs in the country.
- Investing \$1.5 billion to significantly expand the FedEx Express Indianapolis hub over the next seven years. The Memphis SuperHub will also be modernized and enlarged in a major program the details of which will be announced later this spring.

## FedEx believes the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will likely increase GDP and investment in the United States.

The company has made no change to its fiscal 2018 earnings or capital expenditure guidance as issued on December 19, 2017 as a result of these actions." – Jan. 26 2018, FedEx press release

Fiat Chrysler (Auburn Hills, Michigan) -- \$2,000 bonuses for 60,000 employees; \$1 billion investment in U.S. plant in Warren, Michigan; 2,500 new jobs

"It is only proper that our employees share in the savings generated by tax reform and that we openly acknowledge the resulting improvement in the U.S. business environment by investing in our industrial footprint accordingly," Chief Executive Officer Sergio Marchionne said in a statement. – <u>Jan. 11, 2018 Bloomberg News article excerpt</u>

First Sentinel Bank (Richlands, Virginia) – \$750 cash tax reform bonus:

A tax reform bill signed by Pres. Donald Trump in December 2017 has resulted in a local company giving employees a one-time bonus.

Called a Tax Cut Bonus, First Sentinel Bank, based in Richlands, Va., is sharing its savings from tax reform with employees.

The board of directors of First Region Bancshares and its subsidiary, First Sentinel Bank, made the announcement Friday that "all employees of the bank will receive a one-time cash bonus of \$750 each in recognition of their continued hard work, dedication, and contributions to the ongoing success of the bank." – <u>March 26 2018, Bluefield Daily Telegraph article excerpt</u>

**F&M Bank (Timberville, Virginia)** – Tax reform bonuses of up to \$1,100:

Employees of F&M Bank were surprised on Tuesday to learn they would receive a bonus, which the institution attributes to additional earnings expected as a result of the GOP tax plan.

"This is an opportunity we haven't seen during my career, as far as cuts in corporate tax rates," said Executive Vice President Neil Hayslett. "Rather than just banking all that, so to speak, we wanted to share it with the employees."

The GOP tax plan cut the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent.

Those who work more than 30 hours a week were given a one-time bonus of \$1,100 and those who work less were handed \$750. – Feb. 20 2018, WHSV 3 article excerpt

**Fidelity Bank** (Dunmore, Pennsylvania; *not to be confused with Fidelity Investments*) – \$1,000 bonuses for all full-time employees making less than \$100,000; \$500,000 in charitable donations:

Fidelity Bank is pleased to announce additional investments in its Bankers and communities made possible by the passing of the recent tax reform bill. Fidelity Bank's Board of Directors and Executive Management Team have decided to share in the benefits of the lower corporate tax burden by:

- Providing a one-time cash payment of \$1,000 to all full-time Fidelity Bankers. This bonus was paid to all Fidelity Bankers below \$100,000 in annual compensation.
- Taking a \$500,000 contribution to the newly created Fidelity D & D Charitable Foundation that will support the local philanthropic and community needs. The newly formed and funded foundation creates a sustainable way to give back to the communities Fidelity Bank serves.

"The tax reform law creates an opportunity to reward our most valuable asset, our Bankers, who are working hard each day to serve our clients, building strong relationships in our communities, and creating long term shareholder value. The Fidelity Bankers put forth perfect effort to position Fidelity Bank as the best bank," said Daniel J. Santaniello, President & Chief Executive Officer. -- Jan. 2 2018, Fidelity Bank press release <u>Fidelity Bank</u> (Leominster, Massachusetts; not affiliated with the Dunmore, Pennsylvania-based Fidelity Bank, and not affiliated with Fidelity Investments) – base wage increase to \$14.25 and to \$15 by 2020, increasing community contributions through LifeDesign Community Dividend, hiring new employees, investing in new technology tools and equipment, and new facility projects:

"Fidelity Bank headquartered in Leominster with 10 full-service offices in central Massachusetts, is sharing the benefits it receives from the corporate rate going from 35 percent to 21 percent with its employees, clients, and community. In doing so, Fidelity Bank is leading the way for smaller, local community banks in Central Massachusetts to use tax savings in positive ways.

*"We see tax reform as an opportunity to show our deep commitment to our three key constituencies –our valued employees, our community, and our clients" says Edward F. Manzi, Jr. Chairman and CEO of Fidelity Bank.* 

The local community bank will give all staff below the Vice President level a bonus of \$500. Officials have decided to increase the minimum wage at Fidelity Bank to \$14.25 per hour with a commitment to reach \$15 per hour by 2020. Fidelity Bank is also allocating additional funds to its annual LifeDesign Community Dividend, investing the additional money in specific causes that support their community and the markets in which they operate. Examples include mental and physical health care; affordable housing; children's education and support; and cultural organizations. Further, the bank's 2018 plan includes investing in the hiring of new employees, new technology tools and equipment, and several facility projects including new LifeDesign Banking locations in downtown Worcester and Gardner – all to bring the value of the LifeDesign promise more effectively to more current and future clients." – Feb. 14 2018, Fidelity Bank press release excerpt

<u>Fifth Third Bank</u> (Cincinnati, Ohio) – \$1,000 bonuses for 13,500 employees; base wage raised to \$15 per hour:

Newly passed tax legislation includes a reduction in corporate tax rates designed to spur economic growth. **Carmichael said the tax cut allowed the Bank the opportunity to reevaluate its compensation structure and share some of those benefits with its talented and dedicated workforce.** 

Carmichael said the higher wage is an important step to help support individuals, their families and the communities in which we operate. Fifth Third has a history of investing in its 18,000 employees.

Once the legislation is signed into law, nearly 3,000 hourly employees will see their pay increase to \$15 an hour. The one-time \$1,000 bonus is expected to be distributed by the end of the year,

assuming the president signs the bill before Christmas. Senior managers and executive leadership are excluded from this compensation.

"It is good for our communities, employees and Fifth Third Bank," [President and CEO Greg] Carmichael said. – <u>Dec. 20, 2017 Fifth Third Bancorp press release</u>

Financial Institutions, Inc. (Warsaw, New York) – \$500 bonuses:

"Recent tax reform will reduce our federal income tax rate in 2018 and provide opportunities to strengthen relationships with our most valued partners our employees, our customers and the communities in which we operate. The first action taken was a one-time award of \$500 to employees not covered by certain incentive programs. Approximately 70% of our employees will receive this award, and they will also be eligible to participate in a new profit-sharing program to be based on the Company's 2018 performance." – Jan. 29, 2018 Financial Institutions, Inc. filing

**FireBird Bronze** (Damascus, Oregon) – Thanks to tax reform this full-service foundry with nine employees is able to offer health insurance for the first time. They are also upgrading equipment and hiring, and building a new facility in Troutdale, Oregon with plans to be up and running by the Spring.

We are a small manufacturing business casting artwork for artist in bronze we have 9 employees and because of the tax cuts and the current business friendly climate we are for the first time offering employees health care insurance costing our company 40k per year. – Rip Caswell, <u>FireBird Bronze</u>

<u>FirstBank</u> (Longmont, Colorado) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees; base wage raised; salary increases.

First Bank and Trust Company (Abingdon, Virginia) – base wage raised to \$15 per hour.

FirstCapital Bank of Texas (Midland, Texas) – \$500 bonuses to 197 employees.

First Commonwealth Bank (Indiana, Pennsylvania) – \$1,500 tax reform bonuses to employees.

First Communications, LLC (Akron, Ohio) – \$1,000 bonuses and a \$3 million capital investment:

When Julia Mueller learned her employer is going to give \$1,000 bonuses to her and her coworkers this year, she had an immediate reaction: Tears.

"It means a lot to me. Things are a little tight," said Mueller, 55, a staff accountant the last three years at First Communications in Fairlawn. The Mogadore resident said she recently divorced, is making payments on foot surgery from last year and also needs new tires for her SUV. *"It's the only way I'm going to get tires. And I won't have to keep paying for my surgery," Mueller said.* 

Mueller and all other full-time employees of the telecommunications company will get \$1,000 bonuses in April that the business says stem from recently enacted federal tax reform.

First Communications said lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 to 21 percent is allowing the company to better invest in employees, in product development and in the local community. The company offers data networking, cloud, voice and managed services throughout the Midwest.

The company will use the tax cuts to make a \$3 million capital investment that will allow it to better compete against much larger companies such as Comcast, AT&T and Spectrum, said Mark Sollenberger, chief financial officer.

All of the money generated from the tax cut will go to employee bonuses and to capital improvements, Sollenberger said. First Communications needs to continually invest in its people and products to remain competitive, he said.

"Without the tax cut we would have had to limit ourselves on our new product initiates, but the tax cuts give us the operating room to make sure we have all the latest services our customers need to operate their businesses," Sollenberger said.

First Communications has 83 Akron-area employees and more than 70 in the Chicago area.

"Being a small business the bonuses are a significant cost to the company," Sollenberger said. "We have about 150 employees so the board had to give special approval due to the size of the expenditure."

Other companies have also announced employee bonuses that are tied to the federal tax changes. Among the more widely known companies are Apple, AT&T, Walmart, Chipotle, CVS, Home Depot, JPMorgan Chase, Boeing, Lowes, Starbucks, U-Haul, Verizon and Disney.

Also locally, Orrville-based food company J.M. Smucker Co. said it will pay \$1,000 bonuses to nearly 5,000 employees, plus make a \$20 million payment to employee pensions and donate \$1 million to charities.

Other First Communications employees said they're happy to be getting extra money.

"It was a very pleasant surprise, to say the least," said Craig Larkins, 37, a cost analyst who has been at the company 12 years. "It's like being able to breathe a little bit better." Larkins said he is his family's breadwinner, with his wife staying at home in Akron's Firestone Park neighborhood with their two children ages 5 and 3.

"We own our home," Larkins said. The \$1,000 bonus likely will be used to pay off home improvements and other expenses, with some money going to other family needs and put into a rainy day fund, he said.

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Mueller, meanwhile, already has plans for any money left over from paying off her surgery bill and buying tires — she will host a party for her children and grandchildren.

*"I will probably have a make-your-own pizza night," she said. -- <u>March 11, 2018 Akron Beacon</u> <u>Journal article excerpts</u>* 

<u>First Farmers Bank & Trust</u> (Converse, Indiana) – minimum bonus of \$750 to each full time employee; base wage will rise by \$2.50 per hour:

*In response to the recently passed legislation affecting corporate tax, Gene Miles, President and CEO of First Farmers Bank & Trust recently announced a new corporate wage and community support program that commits to four points of emphasis.* 

- 1. Raise the minimum hourly starting wage by \$2.50 for all new FFBT employees.
- 2. Provide a minimum year-end bonus of \$750 annually to all full time FFBT employees.

3. Invest a minimum of \$250,000 annually to community development and support of local branch markets.

4. Invest a minimum of \$150,000 annually to FFBT employee development and education.

"With this special opportunity, we are pleased to further our commitment to our community and to our people. Since 1885, First Farmers has prided itself in supporting the communities in which we serve and our employees are the primary reason for our corporate success and growth", Gene Miles, President and CEO, First Farmers Bank & Trust. – First Farmers Bank & Trust statement

<u>First Federal Community Bank</u> (Dover, Ohio) – \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees; increased charitable contributions.

First Financial Bancorp (Cincinnati, Ohio) -- Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; \$3 million charitable contribution:

First Financial Bancorp (Nasdaq: FFBC) will raise the starting wage for all new and existing hourly associates to \$15 an hour effective immediately. Additionally, the bank has made a \$3 million

contribution to its newly established charitable foundation. **This announcement comes as a result of the recently passed tax legislation, which includes a reduction in corporate tax rates.** 

First Financial strives to provide fair and competitive salaries and benefits to its associates. Approximately 1,335 associates are employed throughout the First Financial footprint in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. The increase will affect 220 of these associates. – <u>Jan. 3, 2018 First</u> <u>Financial Bancorp press release</u>

<u>First Financial Northwest, Inc.</u> (Renton, Washington) – \$1,000 bonuses to all 138 non-executive employees:

First Financial Northwest, Inc. (the "Company") (NASDAQ:FFNW), the holding company for First Financial Northwest Bank (the "Bank"), today reported that it has given all of its non-executive employees a special \$1,000 after-tax bonus, regardless of role or tenure with the Company. **The one-time bonus comes in response to the signing of the U.S. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 which provides a lower tax rate for companies like First Financial Northwest, Inc. – a portion of the expected tax savings was shared with its approximately 138 non-executive employees.** 

Joseph W. Kiley III, President and Chief Executive Officer, included a handwritten note with the surprise payments thanking the team for its efforts in 2017 and looking forward to a great 2018. "Our employees drive the success of our Company, delivering unique, innovative solutions to our customers and building long-term banking relationships in our communities," said Kiley. "We pride ourselves on providing excellent benefits, competitive salaries and the opportunity for participation in the Company's long-term success. **The expected tax savings give us an opportunity to invest even more in our team."** – First Financial Northwest Inc. press release

<u>First Hawaiian Bank</u> (Honolulu, Hawaii) – \$1,500 bonuses to 2,264 employees; base wage increase to \$15.

First Horizon National Corp. (Memphis, Tennessee) – \$1,000 bonuses to 4,000 employees:

"And as a result of this outstanding performance and because of recent tax reform efforts that we believe will benefit First Horizon, we are happy to offer bonuses to our people who work hard every day to maintain First Horizon's reputation as one of the best companies to work for and one of the most trusted banks in the country." – First Horizon National Corp. press release

<u>First Merchants Corporation</u> (Muncie, Indiana) – \$1 per hour wage increase for hourly employees; \$500 bonuses for full-time employees, excluding senior management; pro-rated bonus for part-time employees:

First Merchants Corporation (NASDAQ:FRME) announced today that it will **raise the wage paid** to hourly employees by \$1 per hour as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 signed by President Trump in Dec. 2017.

Additionally, as a reward for the company's strong 2017 performance, all associates, excluding senior management, will receive a \$500 one-time cash bonus. Part-time associates will receive a pro-rated share.

The compensation investments will impact nearly 90 percent of First Merchants' 1,700 employees and will be in addition to the company's existing incentive programs and annual merit increases.

"My colleagues at First Merchants provide superior service to our clients and devote themselves to the communities we serve every day," said First Merchants President and CEO Michael C. Rechin. **"We are proud to share the savings provided by the tax reform package to reward their hard work and dedication with an increase in compensation."** – Jan. 16, 2018 First Merchants Corporation press release

<u>First Midwest Bancorp, Inc.</u> (Itasca, Illinois) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; \$1,035 bonuses for 85% of employees; \$2 million in additional charitable contributions:

First Midwest Bancorp, Inc. ("First Midwest") (NASDAQ:FMBI), the holding company of First Midwest Bank, announced today expanded investments in its colleagues and communities. These investments include the following:

- An increase in our minimum pay rate to \$15 for hourly employees;
- A special bonus up to \$1,035 to nearly 85% of our colleagues; and
- A \$2 million contribution to the First Midwest Charitable Foundation.

"As we celebrate 35 years as First Midwest, our continuing investment in our colleagues, communities and business stands at the core of our success. I am therefore very pleased to take these important actions," said Michael L. Scudder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of First Midwest. "The growth of our Company as well as the expected benefits from tax reform position us to reward our colleagues for their commitment and hard work as well as expand our investment in the communities in which we live and work." -- Jan. 11, 2018 First Midwest Bancorp, inc. press release

First National Bank (Spearman, Texas) -- \$1,000 bonuses for its 44 employees.

<u>First Northern Community Bancorp</u> (Dixon, California) -- Base pay raised by \$2 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for all non-executive employees; increased charitable donations.

<u>First Solar</u> (Perrysburg, Ohio) -- Plant expansion, new workforce of 500 associates, and an annual payroll of \$30 million:

First Solar cited two reasons for the expansion, more than doubling the company's output: along with higher solar demand, it pointed to changes in the corporate tax rate. Combined with the tariff decision six months ago, the solar company has benefited from the Trump Administration's decisions.

The expansion will cost \$400 million, with a workforce of approximately 500 associates and an annual payroll of approximately \$30 million. The company said via a statement it "has options for potential further manufacturing expansion in the future," depending on domestic demand for panels.

First Solar says it has invested approximately \$3 billion in Ohio since the company's inception, and state and local officials have worked with the company to create a "business-friendly environment." - <u>June 13, 2018, Utility Dive article</u>

<u>First Southwest Bank</u> (Alamosa, Colorado) – Base wage raised to \$14 per hour which will include full benefits:

While some long-standing businesses leave our rural Colorado towns, for more urban options, First Southwest Bank stands committed to growing and investing in the people of our Western communities.

As part of this commitment, starting team members at First Southwest Bank are immediately benefitting from the recent tax law changes, as the bank raises its starting wage to \$14 an hour plus full benefits.

"We're excited to take advantage of the tax reform and give the positive impact it has on First Southwest Bank right back to our team members and the rural Colorado community," says Kent Curtis, First Southwest Bank CEO. "By being able to provide a higher living wage to our starting employees, and invest in our team, we can be a catalyst for economic growth, and reaffirm our commitment to a better quality of life in all of the rural Colorado communities our branches serve."

The increased starting wages are effective immediately across their six branches in rural Colorado. – <u>Jan. 22, 2018 First Southwest Bank press release</u>

Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber engineering (Grand Rapids, Michigan) -- \$1,500 to all 400 full-time and part time employees:

A local architecture engineering firm has issued bonuses to all of its employees following tax reform.

Grand Rapids-based Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, or FTCH, said yesterday it issued \$1,500 bonuses to all 400 of its full- and part-time employees, effective Dec. 29.

Jim Susan, president of FTCH, said the company decided to give out the bonuses as a result of the firm's tax savings following passage of the federal tax bill on Dec. 22.

"We just decided it was a little windfall for the firm in general, and we decided we would share that with all our staff members," he said. "Everyone got the same amount, regardless of position.

"It was in keeping with the spirit of the tax cut and trying to move a little more money back into the economy, so we decided for those few reasons we would do that." – <u>Jan. 16, 2018 Grand</u> <u>Rapids Business Journal article excerpt</u>

<u>Five Senses Spa, Salon and Barbershop</u> (Peoria, Illinois) -- \$500 bonuses for 20 employees; the company is also looking into additional employee benefits in 2018.

Paola Hinton's hands were shaking in December as she pulled out bundles of cash and gave each of her 20 employees a \$500 bonus. No one in the crowded back room at Five Senses Spa, Salon and Barbershop in Peoria had ever seen \$10,000 in cash, and Hinton had it all in a little briefcase.

The employees' faces lit up, recalled Hinton, who launched the business almost 12 years ago. She has never been able to give bonuses like this before, but the new federal tax law passed late last year made it possible, she said.

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Hair stylist Breitanya Williams spent part of her bonus fixing the taillights on her Buick Rendezvous — the only vehicle she and her husband own that will fit all four of their young children.

Another portion of Williams' extra money went toward subscribing to a workout program. "That's like my life-changing part," said Williams, 25. "I just had my fourth child in five years ... (and I'm) trying to make my family and myself healthier."

Williams' colleague Laura Naven also put her bonus toward her family. She paid down hospital bills left over from when she gave birth to her 4-month-old and put some money into savings.

"I have two kids, so building up the savings is key right now," said Naven, 33, general manager at Five Senses. -- <u>Jan. 26, 2018 Chicago Tribune article excerpts</u>

<u>Fleet Advantage</u> (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) – New options for customers thanks to expensing in the tax bill:

The changes to the tax law for 2018 as a result of Tax Cuts and Job Act of 2017 have led more fleets to consider vehicle leasing, and many of those are smaller fleets and owner-operators who may have only sought out equipment on the used market previously.

James C. Griffin Jr., COO & CTO of Fleet Advantage, said the company has launched new flexible leasing programs in response to the tax changes to help fleets achieve more balance-sheet benefits.

"We got ahead of the tax changes and have some new lease products that take advantage of the tax changes," Griffin said. Leases now hit the balance sheet at "net present value," he said.

In addition to the depreciation aspect of the tax plan, Griffin said the flat 21% tax on corporations has also allowed Fleet Advantage to "do a little more predictable planning for our customers.

"A lot of organizations are looking at this as an opportunity to upgrade their fleets," he noted. "[And] our model is really starting to resonate, so we've seen a huge uptick [in business]." – April 30, 2018 FreightWaves article excerpt

Flemington Car & Truck Family of Brands (Flemington, New Jersey) -- \$500 employee bonuses

The new tax reform law is giving some benefits to New Jerseyans. <u>The Flemington Car and Truck</u> <u>Country Family of Brands</u>, a new and used car dealership in Flemington, is awarding each of its full-time employees a \$500 bonus because of the recently passed federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

As a result of the corporate tax rate cut under the new law to 21 percent from 35 percent, the company will also look to upgrade its facility and hire additional workers. The dealership is 41 years old and has 17 brands in eight different locations.

"We believe this is the right thing to do," said company chairman Steve Kalafer, in a written statement. "Reinvesting tax savings in our employees and our businesses will make our communities and America stronger. We call on all of the auto manufacturers we work with to help drive economic growth by giving back to the communities where they employ and invest with appropriate employee bonuses and by creating new jobs with their new capacity for additional capital expenditures." – Jan. 8, 2018 NJ Biz article excerpt <u>Florida Concrete Unlimited</u> (Miami, Florida) – Higher year-end bonuses due to tax reform, and pay raises for all employees:

"My father and I decided, once this tax bill passed, the first thing that we should do is reinvest in the company. So we have extra cash available to give back to the employees instantly before we even felt the effects of the tax bill, we increased the bonuses for the year-end. So everybody got a little bit more in their paycheck at the end of the year for their Christmas bonus, about 20 percent more. And everybody got a raise based on tax reform." – <u>Feb. 2018 statement by</u> <u>President and COO Jason Goff</u>

<u>Flushing Financial Corporation</u> (Uniondale, New York) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees:

Flushing Financial Corporation (the "Company") (NASDAQ:FFIC), the parent holding company for Flushing Bank (the "Bank"), announced that the Company's Board of Directors approved a plan to increase the dividend in 2018 by two cents per share per quarter and **provide each full-time and part-time employee with a one-time bonus, of \$1,000 and \$500 respectively, as a result of the benefits derived from the recent tax reform.** – <u>Jan. 22, 2018 Flushing Financial Corporation</u> <u>press release</u>

**FMS Bank** (Fort Morgan, Colorado) – increased 401(k) contributions.

**F.N.B.** Corporation (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) – extra 401(k) contributions to employees totaling \$1 million; base wage raised to \$15 per hour; increased charitable donations:

F.N.B. Corporation (NYSE:FNB) today announced a **significant financial commitment to both its employees and the communities it serves relating to the signing of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.** 

As an investment in its workforce, FNB plans to raise the minimum hourly wage for its employees to \$15 by the end of 2019, accelerating an ongoing initiative to elevate hourly wages. Paying competitive wages will continue to be a focus for the Company in attracting and retaining the highest caliber employees to serve customers, which translates into strong financial performance and benefit to its shareholders. FNB will also provide a discretionary, one-time 401(k) contribution, totaling \$1 million, to the vast majority of employees based upon analysis of compensation levels and eligibility.

During the first half of 2017, FNB also made a \$5 million contribution to its Foundation, which was established to provide grants for a variety of non-profit entities throughout its multi-state footprint. Moving forward, these funds will be utilized to support causes within its service area. This contribution was also part of a broader community benefit plan focusing on charitable

giving, community development investments and lending efforts serving financially-vulnerable and historically underserved populations.

"We are pleased that the current tax law changes present the opportunity for substantial benefits for our clients, employees, communities and shareholders," said Vincent J. Delie, Jr., Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of F.N.B. Corporation. "Increased investment in our employees and in improving the quality of life within our communities creates an enhanced experience for our clients and superior long-term shareholder returns." – Jan. 18, 2018 F.N.B. Corporation press release

<u>Fontainebleau</u> (2755 Las Vegas Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada): Plans to resume the resort project which had previously committed to creating over 10,000 jobs.

Fort Ranch (Promontory, Utah) - Tax reform bonuses for employees.

Franklin Savings Bank (Franklin, New Hampshire) – \$1,000 bonuses:

"Franklin Savings Bank announced today that it will use a portion of its tax savings to provide employees with a special bonus in recognition of their contribution to the continued success of the bank. FSB will benefit from the reduction in corporate tax rates, and has chosen to share the savings with its employees. All employees will receive a \$1,000 bonus.

"Our employees consistently go 'above and beyond' for our customers and the communities we serve," said Ron Magoon, President & CEO. "This bonus is another opportunity to thank them for their outstanding commitment, dedication and service." – Feb. 26 2018, Franklin Savings Bank press release excerpt

<u>Fulton Financial Corporation</u> (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) – base wage raised to \$12 per hour; bonuses in the form of an additional week of pay for 75% of the 3,700 employees; \$2 million in increased charitable donations:

Fulton Financial Corporation (NASDAQ: FULT) ("Fulton") announced today that during 2018, it will invest an additional \$2 million in the communities it serves as part of its Fulton Forward initiative; and the company will raise the minimum wage paid to employees in addition to providing an additional week of pay at year-end to employees who do not participate in an incentive plan.

"At Fulton, we understand that our future is connected to the communities where we operate and the employees who serve them," said E. Philip Wenger, Chairman and CEO of Fulton Financial. **"It makes sense for us to share the benefits of tax reform**, and we're very pleased to be able to give back to our communities and employees." As a result of the recently enacted Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, Fulton will commit an additional \$2 million as part of its Fulton Forward Initiative, which broadly supports communities across the company's footprint. The initiative was designed to support underserved communities to create affordable housing, provide financial literacy and education programs, and to accelerate economic development.

In addition to expanding its community support, Fulton also will raise its minimum wage to \$12 per hour. The company also plans to provide an additional week of pay in 2018 to employees, who are not participants in other variable-award plans. It is expected that 75% of Fulton's approximately 3,700 employees will receive this additional week of pay.

"Giving is a cornerstone of our culture, and we already provide thousands of volunteer hours and millions of dollars of existing support to community organizations," said Wenger. **"I am thrilled that our communities and employees will benefit from the savings we will realize from the changes in our corporate tax rate."** – <u>Jan. 18, 2018 Fulton Financial Corporation press release</u>

Gardner Company (Boise, Idaho) – Tax reform bonuses to employees.

<u>Gate City Bank</u> (Fargo, North Dakota) -- \$1,000 hand-delivered bonus checks to 538 non-management personnel; \$500,000 higher charitable giving; \$500,000 worth of free home appraisals.

**"This new tax reduction enables us to make decisions that benefit our customers, communities and team members** in a significant way which has been our culture for decades. Gate City Bank is making a commitment to reinvest an additional \$1.6 million in 2018."

"As a thank you for our employees' hard work and dedication, we will be providing our 538 employees with \$1,000 each, giving back over \$625,000. Every employee will be hand-delivered a check for a net amount of \$1,000 on January 15th. Executive Leadership, Regional Leaders, Office Managers and Department Managers are not eligible. This is above and beyond general compensation."

GetFoundFirst.com (Idaho) – Tax reform bonuses to employees.

<u>Georgia Power</u> (Atlanta, Georgia) – Thanks to the tax cuts the utility will provide \$1.2 billion in benefits for customers:

Georgia Power has completed an assessment of the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act for the company – including approximately \$1.2 billion in benefits for customers. The benefits were confirmed as part of an agreement with Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) Staff and include approximately \$130 million in reduced taxes on financing costs for the Vogtle nuclear expansion; \$330 million in direct credits to customers as a result of lower federal income tax rates over the next two years and approximately \$700 million in future benefits to be addressed

in the company's next base rate case in 2019, which also includes the benefits of last week's reduction in state of Georgia income tax rates. If approved by the Georgia PSC, the typical residential customer using an average of 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month could receive approximately \$70 in refunds over the two-year period.

"We are committed to offering the highest customer value with rates below the national average, and we're pleased to be able to continue to pass the benefits of the new tax laws on to our customers," said Paul Bowers, chairman, president and CEO of Georgia Power. "We appreciate the collaborative effort with Georgia PSC Staff to evaluate the new tax laws and reach a joint agreement, which we hope the Commission will review and approve as the best way to deliver benefits to customers as quickly as possible."

Today's announcement marks the second substantial, positive impact for Georgia Power customers tied to the new tax laws. In January, Georgia Power announced that customers would pay \$139 million less than expected in 2018 for the Vogtle nuclear expansion currently under construction due to changes in federal tax laws and full receipt of the Toshiba parent guarantee payments. Beginning in April, the typical residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month will pay \$2.70 less than expected per month in financing costs for the Vogtle project. Additionally, Georgia Power bill credits totaling \$188 million were approved by the Georgia PSC as part of its order to continue construction of Vogtle 3 & 4 as a direct result of the Toshiba parent guarantee payments for the Vogtle project. The credits, amounting to \$75 per individual customer, will be distributed across three separate Georgia Power bills in 2018, with the first \$25 credit appearing in the coming months. – March 6, 2018 Georgia Power article excerpt

## Georgia Tire Company (Vidalia, Georgia) - Employee bonuses:

"I would like to share the story of Georgia Tire Company, a 72-year-old business located in Vidalia, Georgia. In 1946, two brothers, after World War II, decided to buy a small gas station. One of their sons, Rusty, began working alongside his father and uncle during the summer of 1965, and then began working full time at the family business in 1972, with a third generation of workers not far behind. Now they are known as a reputable business selling tires across the district and providing automotive repairs in Toombs County. The Moses family has built their business through hard work; treating customers fairly; a little bit of luck; and, most importantly, through their employees, who are treated like part of their family.

"When I had the opportunity to speak with Rusty Moses about the success of his family business, he told me that his employees are hardworking, honest, law-abiding people, but high taxes and complex laws continued to stifle their income. Mr. Moses promised his employees that if the tax laws were changed, they would share in the business tax savings through performance bonuses and salary increases. Thanks to tax reform, this promise has become a reality. Georgia Tire Company has seen an increase in take-home pay, and it plans to issue employee bonuses at the end of this fiscal year. There are so many family businesses like Georgia Tire Company that are truly the lifeblood of our communities. Before tax reform, these businesses were struggling to make ends meet and unable to provide their employees with well-earned benefits." - <u>March 20,</u> 2018, Rep. Rick Allen statement on the House floor

<u>Ghostface Brewing</u> (Mooresville, North Carolina) – Hiring new employees, purchasing more equipment, and increasing distribution:

*Mike Cuddy, owner of Ghostface Brewing in Mooresville, N.C., said his company also used the tax break to buy more equipment, hire more people and focus on distribution to local grocery stores and restaurants.* – *April 26, 2018, MarketWatch article excerpt* 

<u>GKM Auto Parts Inc.</u> (Zanesville, Ohio) – Providing healthcare benefits to employees:

"Under the Affordable Care Act, our company has faced double digit increases in health care costs year after year, causing us to drop coverage in 2016," **said Kelly Moore, owner of GKM Auto Parts.** "Because of the cost savings from tax reform, we are reinstating this important benefit for our employees..." – Kelly Moore, owner of GKM Auto Parts, article excerpt

Glass & Sons Collision Center (Reading, Pennsylvania) – \$1,000 tax reform bonuses to employees.

<u>Glier's Meats</u> (Covington, Kentucky) - New hires, wage increases, increased benefit packages, new equipment:

Tax reform means big things for Glier's Meats of Covington, Kentucky—including multiple wage increases for its employees since the law was passed.

Dan Glier, president of Glier's Meats, explained the impact on his employees.

"We put in some rather nice wage increases since the first of the year," he said, explaining how he was handing much of the company's tax savings back to the 29 employees who help make the company strong.

Glier also added that, for the first time in six years, Glier's Meats was successful enough to offer comprehensive health benefits to its employees—something it had offered since the 1950s, but had to roll back in recent years due to the economic climate and burdensome health care regulations.

But Glier plans to use his tax savings not just to reward his employees, but to grow and expand his business. Glier's Meats plans to invest in critical new equipment that will help better position the company for the future—including a \$250,000 sausage-stuffing machine that Glier said wouldn't have happened in 2018 without the savings from tax reform. More machines, which will double productive capacity while shortening the workday for employees, are also being purchased. Glier also plans to replace all the piping in its Kentucky facility with stainless steel—which Glier said isn't cheap but will last virtually forever.

These projects are made possible because of the savings Glier's Meats will see under the tax reform bill. "We had a number of projects that were seen as something we could consider doing down the road," Glier told us. "But because of tax reform, it's possible to reinvest in the plant and in new equipment now."

The big investment in the business also means more hiring: in 2018 alone, Glier's Meats has grown from 25 employees to 29 employees—and still plans to hire another five in the coming months. That's an increase of 36 percent.

"Tax reform has changed the economics," Glier said. "With the ability to recoup taxes, big changes are now possible." - <u>June 13, 2018 National Association of Manufacturers Shopfloor</u> <u>Main article</u>

<u>Goad Company</u> (Independence, Missouri) – \$1,000 bonuses to employees.

Golden Heart Utilities (Fairbanks, Alaska) – The utility will pass tax cut savings along to customers:

In December, Congress passed new tax law that included a major cut to the corporate tax rate — to 21 percent from 35 percent. That will likely mean major savings for the small number of Alaska utilities that aren't cooperatives or municipally owned.

Those utilities include Enstar Natural Gas, which serves Anchorage, the Kenai Peninsula and Mat-Su; Alaska Electric Light and Power (AEL&P) in Juneau; and Golden Heart Utilities and College Utilities, water and sewer utilities in Fairbanks. – <u>March 7, 2018 Anchorage Daily News article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

Gray Skies Distillery (Grand Rapids, Michigan) -- Expanding production:

Gray Skies has been in business for around two and a half years and has recently been able to expand production because of one specific aspect of the GOP tax law. It's called the Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act, which was an amendment to the big picture bill Trump signed into law in December.

There's a lot to the law, but here's why it matters to Gray Skies and other distilleries like it: excise taxes are much, much lower for them now. 80% lower to be exact.

"The instant a drop of alcohol is produced, tax is owed on that," said Steve Vander Pol, who cofounded Gray Skies and serves as the head distiller. The law reduces excise taxes on producers from \$13.50 per proof gallon for the first 100,000 gallons produced to \$2.70 per proof gallon.

"We're talking thousands of dollars every quarter that we're saving," Vander Pol said, "and obviously for someone on this sized scale to write a check that's reduced by 80% is pivotal. It's been huge for us." - <u>June 4, 2018, WZZM article excerpt</u>

<u>Great Southern Bancorp, Inc.</u> (Springfield, Missouri) -- 1,200 employees to receive a bonus: full time employees receive \$1,000 and part time employees receive \$500

"The recently passed tax reform package should have positive implications for the U. S. economy, which we expect will benefit the banking industry, including Great Southern. **We are pleased to take advantage of the unique opportunity presented by the tax reform legislation by rewarding our associates with this special bonus."** – Great Southern Bancorp, Inc. press release

<u>Great Southern Wood Preserving, Inc.</u> (Abbeville, Alabama) -- Significantly increased employee benefits: lower healthcare costs, more paid time off, scholarships, and more:

Great Southern Wood Preserving, Incorporated, has begun an active and ongoing process to increase employee benefits by reinvesting its tax savings in its people, the company has announced. The company expects full implementation to take place in 2018.

In late 2017, Congress passed and the President signed into law legislation providing significant tax breaks for corporations. Across America, many companies have chosen a variety of options for applying these savings, such as providing one-time bonuses to employees, increasing charitable giving and reinvesting in facilities upgrades.

For its part, Great Southern Wood will make investments on an ongoing basis to lower healthcare costs for eligible employees, allow employees to accrue more paid time off based on length of service, develop scholarships for dependents of employees and enhance other benefits going forward.

"I'm very pleased that every employee across the company will see the results of the change in tax laws," said Jimmy Rane, Great Southern Wood's founder, president and CEO. "The success we've enjoyed as a company comes from every one of us working hard and doing our part, and I can't think of a better way to apply our tax savings than by further investing in benefits programs for our employees. We strive to be an employer that draws the best and brightest to our company, and we believe that providing stronger benefits is essential to this continuing effort." Great Southern employs almost 1,200 at locations in eleven states. [Texas, Missouri, Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Florida] -- <u>March 29,</u> 2018 Great Southern Wood Preserving, Inc. press release

<u>Great Western Bancorp, Inc.</u> (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) – base wage raised to \$15; \$500 or wage increase for 70% of workforce; doubling of grants to community investment program

Great Western Bancorp, Inc. (NYSE: GWB) the parent company of Great Western Bank (www.greatwesternbank.com), announced investments today in its employees and community reinvestment as a result of the tax reform package. The investments include:

- Raising the minimum wage to \$15;
- A special one-time \$500 bonus or wage increase for nearly 70% of its workforce;
- Enhancements to employees' health care offerings effective for the 2018 enrollment period; and
- The doubling of its annual contribution to its Making Life Great Grants community reinvestment program.

"We want to kick off 2018 by investing in our people and communities," said Ken Karels, Chairman, President and CEO of Great Western Bancorp, Inc."We are proud of our people and their commitment to our mission to Make Life Great. We felt it was important to reward their hard work and dedication with this special bonus, the minimum wage hike and the health care enhancements."

In addition to making investments in its people, Karels said the Company is planning to double its annual contribution to its hallmark community reinvestment program – Making Life Great Grants.

"The doubling of our commitment to our Making Life Great Grants program reflects a long-term expansion in our ability to invest in and revitalize our communities for years to come," Karels continued. Giving back to the communities where we work and live is part of our culture and aligns with our mission to Make Life Great. It's the right thing to do."

The investments in people and community will take effect over the next several months. –<u>Jan.</u> <u>10, 2018 Great Western Bancorp, Inc. press release</u>

<u>Green Mountain Power</u> (Colchester, Vermont) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

In a filing today with the Vermont Public Utility Commission, Green Mountain Power is **seeking** to lower bills for customers by \$6 million. The benefit comes from federal tax law changes that reduce GMP's corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent. This change will be retroactive and take effect January 1, 2018 at the start of GMP's new rate year. The reduction will be applied starting in the February bill cycle and will be returned monthly throughout 2018 as a bill credit.

"After the federal tax plan passed, GMP pledged to return 100% of the tax benefit to customers, and today's letter sets in motion our plan to reduce rates to provide those savings to our customers immediately," said President and CEO Mary Powell. "Keeping energy costs low and stable is a key focus at GMP and this decrease will help offset increased cost pressures in other areas outside of our control such as regional transmission costs."

This rate reduction will help offset the recent rate increase that took effect in January. GMP **customers will continue to see the benefits of the new, lower tax rate for as long as these rates are in effect** because they will be reflected in future proposed energy rates. GMP is set to file its next rate case in April. – Jan. 23, 2018 Green Mountain Power press release

<u>Green Recovery Technologies, LLC</u> (New Castle, Delaware) — \$1,000 bonuses for all seven employees:

"We are a startup waste-to-value biochemical company of seven that believes in the direction the country is going and that our best days are ahead of us. These tax reductions benefit our workers by providing an instant no cost wage hike. Paying the bonuses in a low tax environment was an easy decision for GRT since we know that this low cost capital is being invested in the local community where it will be spent on goods and services as well as being by employees into their retirement savings accounts." — Kenneth Laubsch, President and CEO, Green Recovery Technologies, LLC

<u>Griffith Trucking, Broadway Express, Heartland Peterbilt, Heartland Classics</u> (Effingham and Newton, Illinois) – \$1,000 bonuses:

In President Trump's State of the Union address Tuesday evening, he made the case that his recent tax law is the reason why companies across the country have announced bonuses, wage increases and other benefits for their employees.

Tony Griffith, who owns three companies in Effingham, agrees wholeheartedly. So much so that this week he announced to his 65 full-time employees that he will be giving each of them a \$1,000 bonus.

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Husband and wife Kristi and Rich Stoddard, who both work at Heartland Peterbilt, are also excited about the bonuses. With three children, they say it's a more than welcome gesture.

"Anytime your paycheck increases, it's definitely a good thing for your family," said Kristi Stoddard. "It's nice to see they're putting money back into the middle class."

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For the Stoddards and others, every bit counts.

"We'll be able to pay more bills," said Rich Stoddard. "We might be able to go out for dinner. Do the little things we might not be able to do until this kicks in. Honestly, your paycheck, you know where it's going even before you get it. Now we have a little extra." – <u>Jan. 31 Effingham Daily</u> <u>News article excerpt</u>

<u>Group 1 Automotive</u> (Houston, Texas) – \$500 cash bonuses for non-management dealership employees and operational support staff in the United States:

Group 1 Automotive, Inc. (NYSE: GPI), ("Group 1" or the "Company"), an international, Fortune 500 automotive retailer, today announced a \$500 cash bonus for non-management dealership employees and operational support staff in the U.S. The Company owns and operates 115 dealerships nationwide.

"As we were in the process of reviewing the opportunities the new tax reform law creates for us to better our business, we decided the best investment we could make was in the people serving as the face of our company every day,"said Earl J. Hesterberg, Group 1's president and chief executive officer. "For almost 13 years, I have watched our loyal dealership operating and support teams move cars in the 100-degree heat of the Texas summer, clean snow off of new car inventory in a 10-degree Boston winter, and spend long days in front of a computer screen processing documents and communicating with our customers. These people are the heart of the Company. They generate our profits and **my management team and I feel that the financial benefit of the new tax law creates an opportunity for us to say thank you to these key teammates."** 

This bonus to qualified employees will be paid on March 1, 2018.

Group 1 is assessing the full impact of the tax reform law on the company's operations. Additional details will be shared when the company releases 2017 fourth quarter and full year earnings on February 8, 2018. – Jan. 12, 2018 Group 1 Automotive press release

<u>Gulf Coast Bank & Trust Company</u> (New Orleans) – base wage increased to \$12 per hour; additional \$75,000 in charitable donations:

*Gulf Coast Bank & Trust Company CEO & President Guy T. Williams announced a 50% increase in funds to be given away in its Community Rewards Program – an annual online contest hosted by* 

Gulf Coast Bank that awards funds to the top 10 nonprofit organizations voted on by the community.

Williams said, "This year we are increasing the amount to be given away in our Community Rewards Program from \$50,000 to \$75,000 in response to the tax reform bill and because we want to help our local nonprofits even more."

Gulf Coast Bank has also raised its minimum wage to \$12.00 dollars per hour effective Monday, January 8, 2018. – Jan. 4, 2018 Gulf Coast Bank & Trust Company press release

Gulf Power Company (Pensacola, Florida) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers:

"Gulf Power has filed a request with the Florida Public Service Commission seeking approval to pass along approximately \$103 million in tax savings to its 460,000 customers.

If approved, the average Gulf Power customer using 1,112 kilowatt hours per month would see a \$14 drop on their monthly electricity bill for 2018 — the largest decrease in company history. More than \$30 million in savings for customers will continue into 2019 and beyond if approved by the FPSC.

The tax savings are the result of federal tax reductions under the new Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law on Dec. 22, and became effective Jan. 1. The decrease in the Corporate Tax Rate from 35 percent to 21 percent reduces the amount of federal income tax Gulf Power will have to pay and allows the energy provider to pass that savings along to customers." – <u>Feb. 14 2018, Pensacola News Journal article excerpt</u>

<u>Guy Chemical Company Inc.</u> (Somerset, Pennsylvania) – Increased bonuses, increased wages, and investments in new equipment – a new forklift, new laboratory furnishings, updated computer equipment, and new software system:

Guy Chemical is increasing bonuses between 25 – 50%, increasing wages and investing in new equipment. So far in 2018 we bought a new forklift, furnished a new laboratory and updated some of our computer equipment. We have also invested in a new ERP software system to run our company. – April 4, 2018 statement to Americans for Tax Reform from Guy Berkebile, President of Guy Chemical Company Inc.

<u>Groomer's Seafood</u> (Corpus Christi, Texas) – Expansion of distribution facilities.

Haciendas at Grace Village (Las Cruces, New Mexico): hiring additional employees:

*"Haciendas at Grace Village had planned to expand in the future but the company is moving forward now because of lower taxes according to Coppedge. The assisted living facility which has* 

49 employees may hire as many as 40 additional people."—<u>Feb 23. 2018, Albuquerque Journal</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

Happy State Bank (Happy, Texas) -- base wage raised; salary increases; bonuses; increased retirement contributions:

In its board meeting yesterday, January 23, the Board of Directors of Happy State Bank voted unanimously for a significant wage and benefit increase for employees of the company as a direct result of the new tax reform legislation. The announcement was made by Board Chairman and CEO, J. Pat Hickman.

The wage increases directly impact over 600 of the bank's 700+ employees.

The highlights of the new program are:

- Happy State Bank has a new starting minimum wage of \$13.50 per hour...increasing to \$14.00 after a 90-day probationary period.
- Present employees currently earning less than \$14.00 per hour will be increased to this amount immediately.
- Employees currently earning between \$14.00 and \$17.50 hourly will receive an approximate \$0.50 hourly wage increase.
- Salaried employees making less than \$18 hourly will receive a \$1,000 annual increase.
- Full-time employees making up to \$100,000 (and not in the above categories) will receive a one-time \$1,000 bonus or \$500 bonus if part-time.
- The KSOP Retirement Plan dollar-for-dollar company match will increase from 6% to 7%, which benefits every employee that participates to that level.

"Our board is really excited to pass a major portion of our bank's tax benefit over to our employees. For many of our employees, the raise will be life-changing. All told, these increases will impact 80% of our 700+ employees. It's a win-win for everyone. Obviously, we're all pretty happy around here," stated Hickman. -- Jan. 24, 2018 MyHighPlains.com article excerpt

HarborOne Bank (Brockton, Massachusetts) – \$500 bonuses to 600 bank employees; base wage raised to \$15 per hour:

"The immediate outcome of this legislation will be tax savings for HarborOne, which has a direct impact on our bottom line," CEO James Blake said. "It's only fitting that this financial gain be shared with our employees." – <u>Dec. 28, 2017 Boston Herald article excerpt</u>

Harford Alarm Company (Bel Air, Maryland) – \$1,000 bonuses for all 13 employees.

<u>Harris Corporation</u> (Melbourne, Florida) -- Each of the 17,000 non-executive employees will receive 10 shares of common stock which will vest over two years. 10 shares of stock is currently worth \$1,470; additional \$300 million contribution to employee pension fund; \$20 million in innovation investments:

Harris Corporation (NYSE:HRS) today announced that, as a result of the passage of the tax reform bill, the company anticipates making an additional contribution to its employee pension fund, increasing its investment in research and development, and providing a one-time stock grant to all of its non-executive employees. The actions are expected to occur within the company's fiscal 2018.

To increase current and former employee retirement stability, Harris anticipates contributing an additional \$300 million into the company's employee pension fund.

The company also will invest an incremental \$20 million in technologies to accelerate innovation and affordability initiatives for its customers. This investment in research and development will leverage and enhance the company's strong engineering talent, strengthen Harris' position and help it capture new market opportunities in areas such as small satellites, software defined electronic warfare systems, open systems avionics, robotics and air traffic management solutions.

In addition, the company will grant each of its approximately 17,000 non-executive employees 10 shares of Harris common stock that will vest over two years. The grants have a current market value of about \$1,470 each, or approximately \$24 million in total.

"We are pleased to share the benefits of our strong performance and the recent tax reform legislation with our employees," said William M. Brown, chairman, president and chief executive officer. "This represents an investment in Harris' greatest asset and differentiator – our talented employees. Coupled with our innovation and technology investment, we are using this opportunity to further strengthen the company and position Harris for future success." -- Jan. 30, 2018 Harris Corporation press release

Hartford Financial Services Group Inc. (Hartford, Connecticut) -- \$1,000 bonuses for employees making less than \$75,000 per year. This amounts to 9,500 employees.

The Hartford Financial Services Group Inc. on Friday became the latest company to announce bonuses tied to a federal overhaul reducing the corporate tax rate.

Chief Executive Officer Christopher Swift told reporters the investment and insurance company will distribute bonuses of \$1,000 each to employees who are paid less than \$75,000 a year. – Jan. 5 Hartford Courant article excerpt

Harvard Business Services, Inc. (Lewes, Delaware) – \$1,000 bonuses for all full-time employees:

"Harvard Business Services, Inc., located in Lewes, Delaware, has just announced it will join many companies nationwide and award all full-time employees with an immediate \$1,000 bonus in their next pay check in order to augment their tax savings.

*Mike Bell, Vice President and Director of Marketing, announced the bonus, saying, "We appreciate the great job you do, and the dedication you show our clients every day. Keep up the good work." – Jan. 26 2018, Harvard Business Services, Inc. press release* 

Hawaii National Bank (Honolulu, Hawaii) -- \$1,000 bonuses; base wage raised to \$15 per hour.

Hawaiian Electric, Maui Electric, Hawai'l Electric Light (Honolulu, Hawaii) – the utility expects that rates will be lowered for customers thanks to tax reform:

"HONOLULU, Jan. 10, 2018 – The 460,000 customers of the Hawaiian Electric Companies could see lower electric bills as a result of the federal corporate income tax cut. Changes to federal tax law will lower corporate rates from 35 percent to 21 percent starting this year. That is expected to result in a lower tax bill for Hawaiian Electric, Maui Electric and Hawai'i Electric Light. State and federal taxes are included in the base electric rate and with a lower federal tax, the tax rate imbedded in the bill will be reduced. "We're in the process of analyzing the impact of the tax overhaul but it's pretty clear at this point that this will benefit most customers," said Tayne Sekimura, senior vice president and chief financial officer of the Hawaiian Electric Companies. "We will work with our regulators and the Consumer Advocate to determine the exact amount of the tax reduction and the best way to pass on the savings." Any change in the base rate is subject to the approval of the Public Utilities Commission, which will also determine the timing of any change in rates." – Jan. 10 2018, Hawaiian Electric Press Release

Haworth Inc. (Holland, Michigan) – \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees, \$500 bonuses for part-time employees; bonuses totaling \$5 million:

Matt Haworth, chairman of the family-owned company, announced to staff on Wednesday, Jan. 24, that full time employees would receive one-time bonuses of \$1,000, and part-timers would collect \$500.

More than 4,500 employees who work for Haworth-branded companies around the globe will collect the rare bonus.

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Matt Haworth says the company is able to make the \$5 million investment because of several factors including strong 2017 revenues which will be announced next month and an improved business climate state and nationally. The latter he attributes to a rollback of regulations and

taxes, which lower company's operational costs. – <u>Jan. 25, 2018 Grand Rapid News article</u> <u>excerpts</u>

Hawthorn Bank (Jefferson City, Missouri) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees:

*Jefferson City-based Hawthorn Bank announced Thursday it will give employees bonuses of up to \$1,000 because of the recent tax cut passed by Congress.* 

Full-time employees will receive bonuses of \$1,000, and part-time employees \$500. Hawthorn became the second local bank to give bonuses after Congress passed a sweeping tax cut for businesses and individuals in December.

Hawthorn Bank's board of directors approved the bonuses at its January board meeting, said Gregg Bexten, president of Hawthorn Bank's central region.

"It's very emotional for some of these people," Bexten said. "A thousand dollars for a bank teller or customer service representative — that's a lot of money."

With assets of \$1.4 billion, Hawthorn Bank employs more than 300 people at 23 branches throughout Missouri. Hawthorn Bank CEO David Turner said in a news release the company expects the tax cut to spur economic development. -- Feb. 2, 2018 Jefferson City News Tribune article excerpt

HBM Technology Partners (Reno, Nevada) – tax reform bonuses to employees.

HCA Healthcare (Nashville, Tennessee) - New investments in facilities, expansion and technology development, increased employee training programs, employee education benefits, and increased family leave :

For HCA in Nashville, the tax cut means a nearly 30 percent increase, or \$2.3 billion more, in capital spending during the next three years that will go to facility improvements, new facilities and greater technology. The company expects the spending to drive growth and add jobs, CEO Milton Johnson said in a conference call this year.

Along with initiating a 35 cent quarterly dividend to reward shareholders, HCA also announced a \$300 million investment in the workforce that will go to education programs for nurses and caregivers, tuition reimbursements and scholarships for employees and greater family leave.

"We believe these programs will help improve patient experience and create more career opportunities for our employees," Johnson said in the call. - <u>July 29, 2018, Tennessean article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Heartland Bank</u> (Geneva, Nebraska) – \$1,000 bonuses for full time non-executive employees; \$500 bonus to part time employees

Henry Schein, Inc. (Melville, New York) -- \$1,000 bonuses:

Taking into account changes to the federal statutory tax rate under the new U.S. tax legislation and its effects on state taxes and other permanent items, the Company expects its effective tax rate in 2018 to be in the 24% range. In recognition of our team members, following the recent U.S. Tax Cuts & Jobs Act, Henry Schein plans to distribute up to a \$1,000 one-time cash bonus to certain designated staff members in the U.S. with one full year of service as of January 1, 2018. – <u>Feb. 20, 2018 Henry Schein, Inc. statement</u>

<u>Hinee Gourmet Coffee</u> (Helotes, Texas) — Plans to upgrade systems/equipment and enhance wages, benefits, and bonus programs:

Jeff and Mary Marsh have owned and operated Hinee Coffee in Helotes, Texas for the past seven years. Since they opened their doors, their business has expanded to two locations and eleven employees – seven of whom are full-time. Hinee Coffee's staff ranges from students to single moms. When it comes to the recently enacted tax reform, Jeff is most excited about passing along additional savings directly to his staff. The Marshes plan to use the extra income Hinee Coffee saves in taxes for increases in hourly wages, benefits packages, and bonus programs.

The reduced corporate tax rate also incentivizes business owners to reinvest in their companies. In the past, when Hinee Coffee needed new equipment or repairs, they would typically delay these costs as long as possible. After seeing tax savings, they are now hoping to upgrade their systems and expand. When asked if the tax code was simpler to navigate, Jeff said, while they are still working with their CPA, he's already noticed the reduction in paperwork for filing taxes. "When we're not focusing on the paperwork, we have more time to focus on the operations of the business." — Feb. 5, 2018 "Hurd on the Hill" column by U.S. Representative Will Hurd (R-Texas)

Home Bancshares, Inc. (Conway, Arkansas) – \$500 bonuses for 850 emplyees:

Home BancShares, Inc. (Nasdaq:HOMB) ("Home" or "the Company"), parent company of Centennial Bank ("Centennial"), announced plans today to distribute a one-time bonus of \$500 for more than 850 full-time tenured employees. The actions are in appreciation for the commitment employees show in supporting customers and building stronger communities.

"We are investing in our most important asset - our people," said John Allison, Home BancShares, Inc. Chairman. "Our employees drive our reputation, our business and ultimately our success. Investing in these individuals is an important step to help support them, their families and the communities in which we operate." Newly passed tax legislation includes a reduction in corporate tax rates from 35% to 21% and is designed to spur economic growth.

"The tax reform has created the opportunity for us to reward our employees who are working hard each day to both serve our customers and enrich relationships in our communities," added Mr. Allison. "We look forward to identifying additional opportunities for Home BancShares to invest in our people and communities as we continue to execute our business strategies and deliver long-term value to our shareholders."

"We believe tax reform is good for our U.S. economy and we are very happy to share with our valuable team members some portion of the benefits Home BancShares will realize by the enactment of the recent tax reform," said Tracy French, Centennial Bank President and CEO.

Approximately 53 percent of full-time employees will receive this one-time bonus which is expected to be distributed during January 2018. Employees with base salaries exceeding \$50,000 are excluded from this compensation. – Jan. 12, 2018 Home Bancshares, Inc. press release

Home Depot (Atlanta, Georgia) - bonuses for all hourly employees, up to \$1,000

<u>Home Instead Senior Care -- Samuel and Brandy Patton, franchise owners</u> (El Paso, Texas) – As noted by the International Franchise Association, tax savings will help the Pattons achieve their goal of hiring 50 people in 2018:

"We fully plan on hiring more employees," said Samuel Patton, who owns a <u>Home Instead Senior</u> <u>Care</u> franchise with his wife, Brandy, in El Paso, Texas. They've set a goal of hiring 50 people in 2018. "This tremendously helps with that endeavor as this money will assist with prerequisite items such as training, drug screens and background checks," he said of the tax savings. "We will spend more money on advertising in our local community as well as increase training programs for current employees," Patton added. – <u>April 17, 2018 International Franchise Association</u> <u>report.</u> (The IFA has a <u>growing list</u> of franchisees who have pledged to hire additional workers, raise wages, purchase new equipment, or expand territories/purchase new franchise locations due to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.)

HomeStreet, Inc. (Seattle, Washington) – Base wage increased to \$15 per hour:

Today, HomeStreet, Inc. (Nasdaq: HMST), the parent company of HomeStreet Bank ("HomeStreet") announced that it has raised its company minimum wage to \$15 per hour across all 111 retail branches and lending centers in seven states. The increase took effect January 1, 2018. The announcement comes on the heels of the recently signed federal tax reform bill that cut the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent. HomeStreet made the decision to increase its minimum wage in order to share the tax reform benefits with its employees. The change is particularly welcome as the cost of living continues to increase across the country.

"We're dedicated to the incredible people who work at HomeStreet," said Mark Mason, president and CEO of HomeStreet Bank. "We're grateful to be in a position where we're able to raise our minimum wage and reward our hardworking employees for the great work they do every day. – Jan. 16, 2018 HomeStreet, Inc. press release

Honeywell (Morris Plains, New Jersey) – increased 401(k) match:

"I am confident in Honeywell's future, and our ability to continue to deliver for our shareowners and our employees. Our strong performance in 2017, **together with the enactment of new U.S. tax legislation,** has enabled us to increase our 401(k) match in the U.S. This is a sustained, annual benefit that will provide a more secure retirement for our employees. We believe that enhancing this benefit is extremely valuable and important to our employees over the long term," Adamczyk concluded.—Jan. 26 2018, Honeywell press release

Hoosier Park Casino (Anderson, Indiana) - Employee bonuses:

"a company in my district, one of the larger employers, Hoosier Park Casino, all employees received a \$500 bonus after the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act was announced" - <u>June 28, 2018, Rep. Susan</u> <u>Brooks statement on U.S. House Floor</u>

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield (Newark, New Jersey) – \$150 million in refunds to customers, \$125 million investments on health initiatives, \$125 million investments to connect people to mental health and substance abuse services:

*New Jersey's largest health insurer says it will be using \$150 million in refunds from the federal tax overhaul for its members.* 

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield also announced Wednesday that it will be spending an additional \$125 million over five years on health initiatives.

The company also plans to invest \$125 million over five years on programs to connect people to mental health and substance abuse services. – Feb. 28 2018, AP News article excerpt

<u>Hormel Foods Corp.</u> (Austin, Minnesota) – stock options to employees; increase base wage to \$13 per hour:

"Hormel Foods Corp. this morning announced that it plans to use savings from the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act to award stock options to its employees and raise starting wages to \$13 an hour."— Feb. 22 2018, Post-Bulletin article excerpt

Hostess Brands, Inc. (Kansas City, Missouri) -- \$750 cash bonuses; \$500 in 401(k) contributions; free snacks for a year:

Hostess Brands Inc., **feeling flush after last month's tax overhaul**, will offer bonuses to workers - including free snacks.

The company, which makes Twinkies, Ding Dongs and Ho Hos, is providing its employees onetime payments of \$1,250 -- with \$750 in cash and \$500 in the form of a 401(k) contribution. In taking the step, Hostess cited last month's tax legislation, which slashed the rate for U.S. corporations.

It's also offering a year's worth of free food to workers -- though they won't be able to eat all the Ding Dongs they like. A representative from each of Hostess's bakeries will choose a product each week, and the employees will be able to take home a multipack of that item. The company also makes Hostess CupCakes, Fruit Pies and Donettes. – <u>Jan. 31, 2018 Bloomberg News article excerpt</u>

HT Metals (Tucson, Arizona) - Purchasing new equipment:

His Tucson-based company, HT Metals, cuts pieces for aerospace and medical device industries. In early May, Ruiz told a crowd gathered in Tempe to see Vice President Mike Pence that he recently spent a couple hundred thousand dollars on a new machine.

"And, we get to expense it immediately," he said. - May 16, 2018, KJZZ.org article excerpt

Humana (Louisville, Kentucky) – base wage increased to \$15 per hour; acceleration of annual performance-based incentive program; additional community investments; accelerated investment in technological and operational processes; earnings benefits for shareholders; more to be announced:

One change with immediate consequences is the new tax reform law which took effect January 1. Like many U.S. companies, Humana will begin benefitting this year from one element of this law: a lower corporate income tax rate. Our steadfast commitment to simplifying the healthcare experience and improving health outcomes for seniors, for TRICARE beneficiaries, and for employer group members remains our top priority, and will guide our decisions as to how to allocate tax-reform proceeds.

We have long recognized that our ability to carry out our commitments to those we have the privilege of serving depends on the collective contribution of every associate. And when Humana

achieves sustainable success, we have a greater opportunity to share that success. To further this important connection, it's my pleasure to let you know that we are:

-Accelerating the previously announced participation of associates in our annual performancebased incentive program from 2019 to 2018. Associates participating in the program will have a minimum incentive target of 4% of their base salary for 2018, with payouts to occur in March 2019.

-Raising the minimum hourly rate in the continental U.S. for full- and part-time Humana associates to \$15.

These measures represent our faith in your ability to continue to contribute meaningfully to the health of our members and the growth of our company for many years to come. They also increase your opportunity to participate in being rewarded for our business performance and recognize outstanding contributions that we make to those we serve.

Details on the implementation of these measures will be forthcoming soon. In addition, we will also be sharing with you additional investments that will align around three important Humana priorities:

-Community investments to assist in addressing the social determinants of health for seniors, such as food insecurity, social isolation, and transportation

-Accelerated investments in technology and operational processes to reduce consumer and clinician friction points, increase engagement in health-related activities and increase productivity

-Earnings benefit for our shareholders (including, of course, thousands of Humana associates) – Excerpt from Jan. 15, 2018 letter to associates

<u>Hunter Chase & Associates</u> (Springfield Township, Missouri) – Employee bonuses; purchase of new trucks and investment in equipment:

Hunter Chase & Associates employs 30 people and provides concrete construction primarily for municipalities in the St. Louis area. The construction management company was able purchase new trucks and handed out bonuses to its employees.

"We reinvested half a million dollars into new equipment trade off and doing deferment of maintenance that we have just not been able to feel like we could afford to do," Hartman said. – March 15, 2018 Fox Business Network article excerpt

<u>Huntington Ingalls Industries</u> (Newport News, Virginia) -- \$500 bonuses; \$300 million in increased capital expenditures; increased pension contributions; increased charitable contributions:

Workers at Huntington Ingalls Industries will receive a one-time bonus in the company's **response to the federal Tax Reform Act.** 

A \$500 bonus will be given to all employees except for those who work through an incentive plan.

HII is the parent company of Ingalls Shipbuilding, which employs about 11,500 workers and is the largest manufacturing employer in Mississippi.

HII President and CEO Mike Petters announced the news Thursday in a letter provided to the Sun Herald.

*The bonus one of several contributions the company plans to make, according to Petters' letter.* – *<u>Feb. 15, 2018 Sun Herald article</u>* 

IAT Insurance Group (Raleigh, North Carolina) -- \$3,000 bonuses for 685 non-executive employees:

IAT Insurance Group ownership and management announced today the company will pay

a \$3,000 bonus to all non-executive employees on January 15, 2018. **The additional bonus comes in response to the newly passed tax reform bill** – the tax savings will be shared with approximately 700 employees. IAT Insurance Group is a privately held company owned by the Kellogg family. – Dec. 21 2017, <u>IAT Insurance Group press release</u>

Iberia Bank (LaFayette, Louisiana) – Pay raises of \$2 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses:

IBERIABANK (www.iberiabank.com), the 130-year-old subsidiary of IBERIABANK Corporation (NASDAQ: IBKC), announced today, that following the passage of the new federal tax reform legislation, the Company will invest a portion of savings in its associates in two meaningful ways:

-Pay raise of \$2/hour\* will be given to non-exempt, non-commissioned associates, who currently earn \$15 per hour or less, ranging from an average of 12% to as much as a 23% increase, in base compensation.

-\$1000 cash bonus\* will be paid to all part-time and full-time associates who currently earn between \$15/hour and \$100,000 annually in base pay "In total, these investments benefit nearly 80% of our associates. We are very proud of our team, and we are pleased to reward those who take care of our clients and our communities every day in extraordinary ways," says Daryl G. Byrd, President and CEO of IBERIABANK Corporation. "Continuing to invest in our people helps us to attract and retain high quality associates, which translates into strong financial performance and positive results for our stakeholders." -- Jan. 26, 2018 Iberia Bank press release

Idaho Power (Boise, Idaho) – The utility requested to pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Idaho Power has filed a settlement agreement with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC) that, if approved, will result in reduced rates for customers within the company's Idaho service area in 2018 stemming from recent federal and Idaho state tax rate changes.

According to an agreement between Idaho Power, IPUC Staff and the Industrial Customers of Idaho Power, customers will see a total benefit associated with reduced tax expense of \$33.9 million, provided through: 1) a base rate reduction of approximately \$18.7 million, 2) an additional \$7.8 million decrease that will be provided through the 2018 Power Cost Adjustment mechanism, and 3) a non-cash annual benefit of \$7.4 million in the form of an offset to other deferred costs.

If the proposal is approved by the IPUC as filed, the typical Idaho residential customer using 950 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy per month will see a monthly bill decrease of \$2.15, beginning June 1. – April 13, 2018, Idaho Power Press Release

**IDEXX Laboratories Inc.** (Westbrook, Maine) – Increased 401(k) contributions:

IDEXX Laboratories Inc. (NASDAQ: IDXX), Maine's largest publicly traded company, on Thursday announced plans to **share the benefits of federal tax reform** with employees by paying more into their retirement plans.

For every dollar a 401(k) participant contributes, the Westbrook-based company will match that amount dollar-for-dollar up to 5% of an employee's salary.

The company said the move is a **reinvestment of financial benefits realized from US. tax reform** to help employees save for retirement, and that 90% of its U.S. employees participate in its 401(k) program.

"IDEXX strives to create long-term value for our employees, customers and shareholders, and we believe in providing benefits to our employees that allow them to invest in their future," said Giovani Twigge, IDEXX's chief human resources officer, in a statement.

He added: "This 401(k) plan increase for our U.S. employees — nearly 2,500 of which are based here in Westbrook, Maine—is yet another example of this commitment of creating long-term value for our employees."

IDEXX makes diagnostic tests for pets, poultry and livestock as well as quality and safety tests for water and milk. It employs more than 7,000 people worldwide and has customers in over 175 countries.

As of Thursday's market close, the company was valued at around \$16.9 billion."— Feb. 2 2018, Mainebiz news article excerpt

**INB Bank** (Spokane, Washington) -- \$500 bonuses to 200 employees. The bonuses will exclude the Senior Management Team. The base wage will be raised to \$15 per hour:

*"INB, a regional independent community bank, today announced that it plans to share a portion of its anticipated tax savings with its employees as a result of the federal tax reform legislation* signed last week." – <u>INB press release</u>

Industrial Weldors & Machinists (Duluth, Minnesota) - Investing in employee pensions, hiring new employees:

"This is an American success story of generations," Pence said of IWM, a third-generation family business that gets 70 percent of its work by rebuilding massive rock crushers used to extract taconite iron ore on the Iron Range.

Trump tax cuts helped the business and its employees, Pence said — including thousands of dollars in investments by the company into IWM employee pensions earlier this year.

"That's what it's all about," Pence said.

It was an easy fact to check after the vice president's remarks. All four sibling owners of the company were on hand — Dawn Bergh and her brothers Rick, Rob and Randy Abernethy. Bergh confirmed the pension investments for the company's 32 employees.

"The boilermakers' pension is in the toilet," Bergh said. "They're worried about it. We wanted to give them something that would keep them around. It's really hard to get employees. We're hiring right now for both a welder and a machinist." - <u>August 8, 2018, Twin Cities Pioneer Press</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

<u>Information Services Group</u> (Stamford, Connecticut) -- \$500 extra 401(k) contribution to every U.S. employee; increased capital expenditures, increased training, and more:

Information Services Group (ISG) (Nasdaq: III), a leading global technology research and advisory firm, said today it will earmark funds for additional investment in global digital initiatives over the next two years to accelerate growth, and make an additional contribution of \$500 to every

U.S. employee's 401(k) retirement account on U.S. Tax Day, April 17, 2018. The moves are in response to the recent passage of the federal Tax Cut and Jobs Act.

"Our people and our clients are the keys to our success and we believe continued investments in their future are the best response to the rationalization of the corporate tax code. We applaud Congress and the administration for the leadership they showed in making these changes. We firmly believe they will spur growth and investment across many businesses, including those of our clients in such industries as financial services, manufacturing, healthcare, energy and retail, among others," said Michael P. Connors, chairman and CEO of ISG. "As we work with our clients to accelerate their digital transformation journeys, we see the new tax code as a real catalyst for positive change.

"Beyond this broader impact, ISG will reinvest a portion of the savings from the lower corporate tax rate to expand further our digital services for clients, increase our digital training for employees, and remind our employees that changes such as these help them both personally and professionally, while at the same time strengthening our business and our ability to serve our clients." -- <u>Dec. 22, 2017 Information Services Group press release</u>

<u>International Offset Corporation</u> (Los Angeles, California) -- \$1,000 bonuses to all employees and 1099 subcontracting partners.

Indiana-Michigan Power (Fort Wayne, Indiana) – The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission approved an order Wednesday allowing the Fort Wayne-based company to boost its Indiana customers' rates about 7.3 percent, allowing it to raise \$96.8 million in new revenue.

*The Journal Gazette reports Indiana Michigan Power had initially sought a 20 percent rate increase to generate \$263 million in new revenue.* 

That was reduced under a settlement between the company, Indiana's state consumer advocate and several cities, companies and advocacy groups.

Some of the decrease was also attributed to the recent federal tax cuts. – May 31, 2018, AP article excerpt

Intermountain Gas (Idaho Falls, Idaho) - The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

State regulators have approved a rate decrease for customers of Intermountain Gas Company, to reflect the benefits of federal and state tax cuts.

The decision returns approximately \$5.1 million to customers.

That is a 2.62-percent decrease for residential customers. It took effect June 1. - <u>June 22, 2018</u> <u>East Idaho News Excerpt</u>

Iowa American Water Co. (Davenport, Iowa) – The utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

And Iowa-American Water Co., which provides service in eastern Iowa, would provide \$1.5 million and \$1.8 million to customers. – <u>Jan. 29, 2018 Des Moines Register article excerpt</u>

<u>Iron Horse Energy Services Inc.</u> (Eolia, Missouri) – bonuses for all 93 employees; due to a lower tax burden the company is also continuing to cover 100 percent of healthcare. Said one employee:

"We were also able to maintain 100% payment of Health care even after the astronomical yearly increases created by the affordable care act. We were looking at considerable employee participation in payment of premiums occurring this year. Thank you Mr Trump for being a business man."

ISI Financial Group (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) -- \$2,000 bonuses for all employees:

At year ahead staff planning meeting in January I proudly announced to all of our staff that because of the new tax law, that ISI is happy to share the tax savings and will providing to all staff members a \$2000 bonus.

When announced, the staff were all taken back, very surprised and EXTREMELY grateful. This welcome tax cut for ISI Financial Group and most other companies and individuals is a welcome and prudent step toward freeing up capital for all of us to invest into our economy and great country. I, Tim Decker, personally challenge other companies to share this gift with their employees as well. – Tim Decker, President and CEO

ITC Holdings Corporation (Novi, Michigan) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to its customers:

ITC Holdings Corp. (ITC), the nation's largest independent electricity transmission company, today announced it is reducing its customer rates as a result of the lower federal corporate income tax rate the company received under the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act of 2017.

ITC's wholesale electricity customers throughout the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) region will see an 8-to-10 percent reduction in transmission rates, retroactive to January 1, 2018, beginning with bills for services provided in March. A similar reduction will be made to ITC's formula rate in the Southwest Power Pool region for future periods, effective back to January 1, 2018. – <u>April 2, 2018 ITC Holdings Corporation article excerpt</u>

**J.M. Smucker Company** (Orrville, Ohio) -- \$1,000 bonuses to about 5,000 employees; \$1 million in increased charitable donations; \$20 million contribution to employee pension plan:

With the benefit resulting from U.S. income tax reform, the Company contributed an incremental \$20.0 million to its employee pension plan and has announced a one-time bonus of \$1,000 to nearly 5,000 employees and a \$1 million increase to its charitable contributions. – <u>Feb. 16, 2018</u> <u>J.M. Smucker Company press release</u>

<u>Johnson & Johnson</u> (New Brunswick, New Jersey) – New investments due to tax reform – details will be released in April.

"Now regarding tax reform, what we said from the very beginning is that one of the major reasons, in addition to lowering the rate, is just frankly the flexibility that it provides us, and we think it actually helps make us more competitive, particularly on an international level if we happen to be in a competitive situation with other companies because now we have greater flexibility on how we can access that cash. So we think net-net, it's a positive for us. As you heard Dominic [J&J CFO] mention earlier, regarding the more immediate tax reform impact, we think that the -- the wise thing to do is to invest a good portion of that back into R&D. If you look over the past several years, the output, the productivity, particularly in our pharmaceutical pipeline, but also in others of our investments in R&D, we think, have been at the high end. And we think ultimately doing that, we'll have the greatest impact on our business, will help us get out to better serve underserved needs around the globe, and that's where we're heading in that direction." – CEO Alex Gorsky

"We are pleased by the final passage of the U.S. tax cuts and jobs act." – CFO Dominic Caruso

JPMorgan Chase & Co. (New York, New York) -- Base wage raised for 22,000 employees, to a range of \$15 to \$18 per hour; 4,000 new jobs added; 400 new branches; increased charitable donations; increased small business lending:

JPMorgan Chase today announced a \$20 billion, five-year comprehensive investment to help its employees, and support job and local economic growth in the United States. The firm has always believed that the highest and best use of its capital is to support employees and local communities and businesses by doing what a bank is supposed to do: lending and investing. This long-term investment, which both increases and accelerates the firm's current growth, is made possible by the firm's strong and sustained business performance, recent changes to the U.S. corporate tax system and a more constructive regulatory and business environment.

Through this new investment, the firm will develop hundreds of new branches in several new U.S. markets, increase wages and benefits for hourly U.S. employees, make increased small business and mortgage lending commitments, add 4,000 jobs throughout the country and increase philanthropic investment.

The investment brings together the best of the firm's business and philanthropic efforts to drive inclusive economic growth and help create opportunity for more Americans.

*The \$20 billion investment will focus on the following key areas:* 

- 1. Investing in employees with further increases to wages and benefits. Wages will increase 10 percent on average—ranging from between \$15 and \$18/hour—for 22,000 employees.
- 2. Expanding the branch network into new U.S. markets, leading to increased small business lending and philanthropic investments, and further support for local low-and moderate-income communities.
- 3. Increasing community-based philanthropic investments by 40 percent to \$1.75 billion over five years.
- 4. Increasing small business lending by \$4 billion.
- 5. Accelerating affordable housing lending by (a) increasing mortgage lending in low-and moderate-income communities and (b) accelerating commercial lending to build affordable housing. Jan. 23, 2018 JPMorgan Chase & Co. press release

Information First, Inc. (Manassas, Virginia) -- \$500 cash bonus for all 15 employees.

<u>Inland Northwest Bank</u> (Spokane, Washington) – Base wage raised to \$15; \$500 bonuses to employees excluding Senior Management Team:

*INB, a regional independent community bank, today announced that it plans to share a portion of its anticipated tax savings with its employees as a result of the federal tax reform <i>legislation* signed last week.

The new tax reform law will revamp the tax framework and reduce the maximum tax rate for corporations from 35 percent to 21 percent. Historically, INB's parent company, Northwest Bancorp has paid the maximum tax rate so it expects a tax cut of approximately 14 percent.

At year-end 2017, INB will pay a bonus of \$500 to each of its 200 employees, excluding its Senior Management Team. Additionally, it will establish the company's minimum wage at \$15 an hour effective, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. INB will also adjust other employee wages for those making more than \$15 an hour. The total wage adjustment will affect more than one third of their entire workforce.– <u>Dec. 27, 2018 Inland Northwest Bank press release excerpt</u>

<u>Insperity</u> (Houston, Texas) – Tax reform bonuses totaling \$17 million. \$1,000 - \$4,000 bonuses for each employee, based on length of service.

The good news was announced to employees via internal message from CEO Paul Sarvadi. ATR obtained the message, which is reproduced below. A company press release confirming the details can be found <u>here</u>.

To all Insperity Employees,

In December Congress passed a tax reform bill which among other changes, lowered the tax rate for corporations. Insperity is one of those corporations which will benefit accordingly. This change leaves more of our hard earned dollars available after tax to invest in our business as we see fit. We believe all constituencies should benefit from this change including our amazing employees.

Therefore, as was communicated with this morning's news release we will be paying a one-time bonus as a result of the U.S. tax reform act. We plan for this bonus to be paid on Wednesday February 14, 2018. This bonus is intended for

 $\cdot$ full-time employees in grades 14 and below with hire dates 9/30/2017 or before and eligible to receive the 2017 AP payout and eligible to participate in the 2015 AIP Program, and

 $\cdot$ full-time employees in grades 14 and below with hire dates, 10/01/2017 to 02/07/2018 and are eligible to participate in the 2018 AIP Program, and

*•Business Performance Advisors and Business Performance Consultants with hire dates 02/02/2018 or before* 

Below is the overview for the bonus payout

Hire Date	Payout
12/31/2015 or before	\$4,000
01/01/2016 to 12/31/2016	\$3,000
05/01/2016 to 09/30/2017	\$2,000
10/01/2017 to 02/07/2018	\$1,000

The tax reform bonus payments will be in addition to the normal AIP program and disbursed similar to your regular paycheck.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication and let's keep our strong performance going!

InUnison Inc. (Idaho Falls, Idaho) – Tax reform bonuses to employees.

<u>Jamison Door</u> (Hagerstown, Maryland) - Employee bonuses, facility expansion, growing workforce by 115%, investing in new technology:

Jamison Door, which manufactures temperature-controlled doors, has been a family-owned business since 1906. The company's commitment to the men and women on its shop floor means that every single employee is sharing in the benefits of tax reform.

Jamison's 120 employees received two bonuses, each equivalent to one week's salary—first in August, in anticipation of tax reform, and again in February, after the new law took effect.

That is just the beginning: this year, Jamison plans to do even more, offering another raise to its employees.

Jamison Door is also taking advantage of tax reform and using its tax savings to reinvest in its business. That means growing its facilities, investing in new technology and creating skilled jobs in the Hagerstown plant.

*Over the next year, Jamison is adding more than 50,000 square feet in new manufacturing space.* 

"Right now, we're in the process of adding a significant-sized facility to add different product lines," added Chairman and CEO John Williams, referencing his company's plan to expand a product line of high-speed roll-up doors. "It's a 400 percent increase in plant size."

"We are spending about \$1.5 million on new state-of-the-art equipment in our main plant, which makes foamed-in-place cold storage doors, and more than \$3.5 million on the new plant for high-speed roll-up doors. These are significant investments for a company our size, and we feel comfortable making these investments because of the favorable business climate and the benefits of the lower tax rates."

Expanding the company's facilities also means Jamison will need more workers, and it plans to increase hiring dramatically. Over the next three years, Jamison plans to increase its workforce by more than 115 percent.

"Tax reform has absolutely made it more feasible to undertake these projects," explained Williams. "Tax reform is necessary for us to keep expanding and to keep our business strong." -July 5, 2018, National Association of Manufacturers article excerpt Jergens, Inc. (Cleveland, Ohio) – Pay raises:

Thanks to the tax package, Jergens took what would normally be a cost of living increase for its workers, doubled it and built it in as a permanent part of wages, rather than making it a onetime bonus as some companies did. That means a worker making \$25 an hour got a raise of about \$2,000 a year. – <u>Feb. 4, 2018 Cleveland.com article excerpt</u>

JetBlue (New York, New York) – \$1,000 bonuses for all 21,000 employees:

Today the JetBlue (NASDAQ: JBLU) Senior Leadership Team shared the following note regarding the airline's plan to distribute \$1,000 to all of its 21,000 crewmembers, excluding CEO and executive vice presidents, following recent tax reform legislation:

Dear Crewmembers,

You've likely seen the news about U.S. tax reform. We believe these tax changes will be positive for our company, and provide us the opportunity to do good things for our Crewmembers, Customers and shareholders.

When tax reform looked like a real possibility late last year, we formed a team to think through what it could mean for each of these important groups. Many ideas are on the table but we believe our Crewmembers should be the first to benefit. With that in mind, we are excited to announce we will be paying every Crewmember employed as of December 31, 2017, a \$1,000 bonus by the end of February! – <u>excerpt from Jan. 4, 2018 JetBlue letter to employees</u>

JimRinehart.com State Farm agent (Seaside, California) – pay raises for employees:

I am a self-employed Insurance Agent for State Farm Insurance with 3 full time employees in my office in Seaside, CA. Because of President's tax reform I gave all of my staff a pay raise starting Jan 1 2018. – Jim Rinehart, State Farm Agent

Johnson Bank (Racine, Wisconsin) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour.

<u>Jonah Bank</u> (Wyoming) - \$1,000 bonus, increase charitable contributions to the Casper and Cheyenne communities:

"Jonah Bank has announced it will give each of its employees a thousand dollar bonus and "significantly increase" its giving in the Casper and Cheyenne communities as a result of Congress passing the tax reform bill, according to a press release." – <u>K2.com powered by KTWO</u> <u>news article excerpt</u> Jones Auto & Towing (Riverview, Florida) – the company, which provides 24-hour wrecker service, roadside assistance, emergency towing, and fuel delivery etc. will put two additional trucks into service, which will add two more full time jobs:

"The tax cuts are putting two more tow trucks on the road for my business. This will add two more full time job openings that will help two more families. And it will put a little more money in the bank for my family. My wife is a registered nurse and has a 401k which is doing better this last year than in the previous 13 years!!

Thanks to President Trump!!!

Thankfully I will be taken delivery of my new trucks in two weeks and hitting the road! MAGA!" – Guy Jones, <u>Jones Auto & Towing</u>

Jordan Winery (Healdsburg, California) -- \$1,000 bonuses for each of its 85 employees

In response to the tax cut bill that passed this week, John Jordan, owner of Jordan Winery in Sonoma County, California, announces that he will give all eligible winery employees a \$1,000 bonus as a result of the passage of the 2017 tax reform bill. Jordan challenges fellow business owners to pledge their \$1,000-per-employee commitments before the end of 2017 at a new website, www.1Country1K.com.

Created to encourage more business owners to share new tax savings with their employees, 1 Country 1K is a new movement born after the announcements by AT&T, Comcast and Fifth Third Bancorp that each company would award every eligible U.S. employee a \$1,000 bonus, thanks to the new tax cut bill. Jordan wanted a simple campaign that would make it easier for more companies—especially small businesses—to do the same this holiday season.

"The heart of any successful business is its employees," said John Jordan, the 45-year-old entrepreneur and philanthropist behind The John Jordan Foundation. "In a tightening labor market, it's more important than ever for employees to feel valued and acknowledged. Take home pay for most American workers will increase in 2018, but why wait? Just imagine if we can get 5,000 small businesses, each with around 200 employees, to join us in giving \$1,000 bonuses to their employees. We'd be putting close to \$1 billion into the pockets of working Americans even before the withholding tax tables change." – <u>Dec. 22, 2017 Jordan Winery press release</u>

<u>Joseph's Lite Cookies</u> (Sebastian, Florida) – \$3,000 - \$4,200 salary increases, new computer systems, new product packaging:

"As the president and CEO of Joseph's Lite Cookies in Florida, I run a family-owned, sugar-free cookie business. We bake more than 12 million sugar-free cookies a day, in addition to supplying other diabetic-friendly products.

I employ numerous workers who stand to directly benefit from the Republican tax overhaul. Why? Because lower rates and increased deductions leave me with more resources to expand business operations and reward hardworking staffers.

Because of the tax bill, I'm purchasing new computer systems and creating new product packaging for international expansion. More importantly, I'm giving raises to four key employees — half of our workforce — which range from just over \$3,000 to nearly \$4,200. My top employees have earned greater financial security, and the Republican tax package made it a reality for them.

Because of President Trump's commitment to lowering rates and increasing deductions, we are now experiencing the largest tax-induced investment revolution ever. Never before have we seen such a frenzy of pay hikes, 401(k) increases, and bonuses due to a single piece of legislation. Democrats scoff at their own peril. – Feb. 5, 2018 Washington Examiner news article excerpt

Junk King (Reno, Nevada) -- Purchase of additional truck; increased hiring:

These provisions allow job creators to save money on a new oven, delivery vehicles or added storefronts the moment they buy them. Perhaps more importantly, small business owners are left with more resources for new hiring, wage increases and bonuses.

For my own business, an environmentally friendly debris, clutter and junk removal franchise in Reno, tax savings will translate to hiring more workers and investing in another truck to keep up with demand.

If there's one thing I've learned since opening Junk King three years ago, it's that success in my business is also indicative of the economic health of the Greater Reno area. When homes and commercial property are sold, or families and businesses decide to upgrade their spaces, they need junk removal services. Just as the 2018 tax cuts will allow me to invest in more employees and new equipment, they also give American families the leg up to finance the projects they had once put off under harder economic times. -- Jan. 26, 2018 Nevada Independent op-ed excerpt by Brian Cassidy, owner of Junk King

Kalb Industries of Nevada, Ltd. (Las Vegas, Nevada) – pay raises for employees who have been with the company three months or longer:

We received a tax cut from the bill that Congress passed last night and as part of our family, we would like to pass along some of that savings to you all. On your next payroll check, all employees that have been here more than three months will receive a raise on their next check. Again thank you all for all the hard work, and dedication this year. – <u>Dec. 20, 2017 note to</u> <u>employees</u>

Kaman Corp. (Bloomfield, Connecticut) – \$1,000 tax reform bonuses:

Bloomfield manufacturer Kaman Corp. says it's joining the list of U.S. employers sharing the wealth with workers in the wake of federal tax reform.

The maker-supplier of aeroparts, custom aircraft and power-distribution products disclosed Wednesday that about 2,400 workers who were on its payroll on or before Oct. 1, 2017 and who earned less \$75,000 a year are eligible for a \$1,000 bonus. However, each must remain on the payroll through Aug. 31 to collect, CEO Neal J. Keating told staff in a memo. – <u>April 18, 2018,</u> <u>Hartford Business Journal article excerpt</u>

<u>Kansas City Power and Light</u> (Kansas City, Missouri): the utility will pass savings from federal tax reform to customers:

*"Updated rates will include an approximate \$100 million benefit to Kansas and Missouri Customers* 

Today KCP&L announced its intention to file rate update cases with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) and the Missouri Public Service Commission (MPSC) to **pass approximately \$100 million in annual tax savings to customers, resulting from federal tax cost reductions**. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which decreased the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, was signed into law on Dec. 22, 2017 and became effective on Jan. 1, 2018. **KCP&L is committed to passing 100 percent of the benefit from this tax cut on to customers.** 

"We commend both the KCC and the MPSC for already initiating a process to review the impact of the federal tax reduction," said Terry Bassham, President and CEO of KCP&L. **"The federal tax cut has significant benefits which should be passed on to our customers in full. We look forward to working with our regulators and stakeholders on the best way to do that.**"

The full impact of this tax change will take several months to determine, as any proposed change to customer rates requires the approval of the KCC and MPSC. In addition, in determining how the tax reduction will impact rates, the company will request that regulators review and update all costs necessary to serve its customers." – Jan. 18, 2018, Kansas City Power and Light press release

Kansas City Southern (Kansas City, Missouri) -- \$1,000 bonuses for non-executive employees:

Kansas City Southern (KCS) (NYSE: KSU) announced today that in response to congressional passage of The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, it will immediately share some of the benefits with qualified, non-executive employees of its subsidiaries in the U.S. and Mexico in the form of a one-time \$1,000 bonus payable by the end of 2017.

"Kansas City Southern is pleased with the passage of this legislation and optimistic about what it could mean for our customers, investors and growth in the U.S. economy, as well as trade growth with Mexico. KCS wants to share the benefit with our employees, who work so hard to serve our customers and increase shareholder value," said KCS president and chief executive officer Patrick J. Ottensmeyer. -- <u>Dec. 21, 2017 Kansas City Southern press release</u>

Kauai Cattle LLC – employee bonuses

Keg Creek Brewing (Glenwood, Iowa) - Expanding operations, purchasing new equipment:

"A small brewery in Glenwood, Iowa, in Mills County called Keg Creek is expanding their operations and investing in new equipment as they grow." - <u>June 11, 2018, Rep. David Young</u> <u>statement on U.S. House Floor</u>

KeyCorp (Cleveland, Ohio) – Base wage raised; increased employee retirement plan contributions:

Key will be sharing the expected tax benefits with its employees by increasing its minimum wage and making the additional retirement plan contribution referenced above. These actions will benefit over 80% of our workforce and allow us to reward and invest in the financial wellness of our employees. – <u>Jan. 18, 2018 KeyCorp press release</u>

Kimmins Contracting (Tampa, Florida) – \$1,000 tax reform bonuses to employees:

"With the Trump tax cuts, I was able to put 80 percent of our savings back into the pockets of my team members. Lowering taxes, cutting regulations and focusing on how to help businesses succeed is what what we'll need to continue to grow our state's economy," said Williams.

Williams announced that, with the money he saved from the tax reform, he gave each of his employees a \$1,000 bonus this year, while continuing to invest in equipment for his business. – April 6, 2018 Adam Putnam for Governor press release excerpts

<u>Kish Bancorp, Inc.</u> (Belleville, Pennsylvania) -- Base wage raised; \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees, \$500 bonuses for part-time employees; \$10 million in capital expenditures over the next three years; increased charitable giving by a minimum of \$50,000:

Kish Bancorp, headquartered in Belleville and with several locations in Centre County, will give \$500 to part-time employees and \$1,000 bonuses to full-time employees as part of a one-time bonus.

*The decision stems from the company's growth and the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which will provide relief to community banks.*  "The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will be very favorable for banking by reducing corporate income tax rates, stimulating the economy, and providing incentives to invest in infrastructure and employees," Kish CEO William P. Hayes said.

Sighting an "improved outlook for Kish, Hayes also said it will expand its 2018 budget for support of community and charitable organizations by a minimum of \$50,000, about a 33 percent increase." The company will also elevate its starting minimum wage for entry level personnel.

Kish also announced \$10 million investments for technology, capital equipment and facilities over the next three years. Plans include a new Technology, Operations, and Customer Service Center to be constructed in Reedsville. The hub will be the work location for 100 employees. – Jan. 18, 2018 Centre Daily Times article excerpt

Koch Companies Inc. (Minneapolis, Minnesota) – increased driver wages; increased sign on bonuses:

*Raised driver pay to 41 cents to 45 cents per mile and the maximum sign-on bonus to \$7,000 from \$5,000 prior to late December.* 

"Rate increases and benefits from the recent tax law reform have allowed us to re-evaluate our current driver pay to make sure we are putting money back in the pockets of our greatest asset — the driver," CEO Randy Koch said – <u>Feb. 12 2018, Transport Topics article excerpt</u>

<u>Koehler Flooring, Inc.</u> (Green Bay, Wisconsin) – This family carpet and flooring company gave \$1,000 bonuses to seven full-time employees:

"The tax reform bill is a huge win for the USA and will have positive effects on our floor covering business. Our customers have more capital to use for expansion and remodeling which is great news for all construction trades. There is more work to be done on the tax code but it's nice to see this recent reversal on punishing success. My crew was very happy to receive their tax reform good news." -- David Koehler, President.

<u>Kraft Heinz Company</u> (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Chicago, Illinois) – \$1.3 billion pre-funding of postretirement benefit plans; \$800 million in capital expenditures; \$300 million in strategic investments:

"Since the HR-1 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was signed into law, we have already taken actions and are accelerating key business initiatives. This includes approximately \$300 million in strategic investments to build our capabilities, our people skills and our brands; more than \$800 million in capital expenditures to improve quality, safety and capacity; as well as \$1.3 billion to pre-fund our post-retirement benefit plans." – <u>Feb. 16 Kraft Heinz statement by David Knopf, CFO</u> **Kramerica Properties** (Merced, California) – this small family-owned company gave each of the six employees a \$2,000 tax reform bonus:

My employer Kramerica Properties, a small family owned company gave each employee \$2,000 once this tax bill was signed by our President. In fact, on election day, the owners gave us the day off and once Trump won the election, we got the whole weekend off and paid for. Only having 6 people employed, it is much easier and fun to celebrate these "small crumbs".

I would also like to add that instead of the office listening to music station, we only listen to KMJNOW conservative radio, & the best part is all employees are Hispanic & love calling to the radio station. Hispanics for Trump. – M. Alcaraz, Kramerica Properties

Kris-Tech Wire (Rome, New York) - Expanding operations, purchasing new equipment:

On the tour, Graham Brodock the President and CEO informed Rep. Tenney that Kris-Tech Wire has reinvested in the company as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Kris-Tech is building an addition and acquiring new equipment-thanks to the newly created ability to write off equipment charges. Kris-Tech has over 400 employees and a deep commitment to continuing to invest in the facility and employees here in Rome. - <u>August 2, 2018, Rep. Claudia Tenney press</u> <u>release excerpt</u>

K-VA-T Food Stores (Abingdon, Virginia) - Increased employee wages, expanded employee benefits:

Tax reform enabled K-VA-T Food Stores, the parent company of Food City, to give raises to 25% of its workforce, a total boost to the payroll of \$1 million. It also improved its benefits package for employees and can continue some health benefits that had been under stress due to soaring health insurance costs. - <u>April 13, 2018, Augusta Free Press article excerpt</u>

Lakestone Bank & Trust (Lapeer, Michigan) -- Pay raise for hourly employees of \$1 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for salaried employees:

*Lakestone Bank & Trust announced Friday that employees will benefit from the recently announced tax reform law.* 

Bruce J. Cady, chairman and CEO of Lakestone Bank & Trust said, "We are very appreciative of all Lakestone Bank & Trust employees and certainly what they have accomplished over the years, particularly the last year; and we want to **commemorate the passing of this historic, economy-stimulating tax reform law.** This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we know we want to reinvest much of the savings back into our bank and the first place we are going to put it is into the hands of our employees. Employees are our most important asset." -- Jan. 28, 2018 The County Press article excerpt

All hourly employees received a \$1 per hour raise and all salaried employees will receive a \$1,000 bonus. The bank's board of directors overwhelmingly supported this action, resulting in a significant investment into the bank's employees.

Landmark Reporting, Inc. (Orlando, Florida) — \$500 bonus checks for all three employees:

"I own a small business in Orlando, Florida with three employees. It is a business that I DID BUILD and have owned and operated for over 35 years. After I saw the increase in take-home pay in all of our paychecks after President Trump's tax cut implementation, I wrote bonus checks of \$500 each to my employees. On the Memo line, it's labeled 'President Trump Tax Cut Bonus.' — Candy Morgan, owner, <u>Landmark Reporting, Inc.</u>

Land & Co. (Wyoming, Michigan) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees; \$250 bonuses for seasonal workers:

Land & Co., which operates 19 apartment communities in West Michigan, announced it will give its employees a special bonus of up to \$1,000 in response the federal tax cut legislation signed recently by President Donald Trump.

"Land & Co. believes the Trump Tax Cut has generated a more optimistic vision for the future of business in West Michigan and the United States of America and wants their wonderful employees to be a part of and share in that vision," the company said in a statement attributed to its owners, Roger Lucas and Dan Hibma on Monday, Feb. 5.

Land & Co.'s 151 full-time employees will each get \$1,000; its 17 part-time workers will get \$500 and its nine seasonal workers will each get \$250. – <u>Feb. 5, 2018 Mlive.com article excerpt</u>

Larry H. Miller Group of Companies (Sandy, Utah) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 10,000 employees:

Utah's first lady of business is sharing some of her good fortune with the people who are helping to build her family's empire.

About 10,000 employees of the Larry H. Miller Group of Companies will be getting an extra \$1,000 in their next paycheck courtesy of the owner and chairwoman, Gail Miller.

The company confirmed the gift authorization Thursday. David Blain, president of Saxton Horne Communications, the advertising and communications agency for the LHM Group, said the largesse is a token of Miller's gratitude toward the thousands of people who make the company so successful.

"Gail Miller took an opportunity to reward our front-end employees with a gesture of thanks," he explained. "Our vision for the company is to be the best place in town to work and the best place

to do business. Because of their commitment to that vision, Gail wanted to reward the employees."

The LHM Group is comprised of more than 80 businesses operating in 46 states with over 10,000 employees and total assets valued at more than \$2.6 billion — including 52 car dealerships.

The LHM Group joins a number of large corporations that have given back to its employee base in the wake of the new tax law passed by Congress in December. This year, scores of the nation's biggest companies — including Walmart and Walt Disney — have bestowed tax-cut windfalls on workers, primarily in the form of one-time bonuses as well as salary increases and retirement plan matches.

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Some of the many LHM companies include the Larry H. Miller Dealerships, Vivint Smart Home Arena, Utah Jazz, Salt Lake Bees, Saxton Horne Communications, Salt Lake City Stars, Megaplex Theatres, the Zone Sports Network, Prestige Financial, Total Care Auto, Jordan Commons, Larry H. Miller Real Estate and Tour of Utah. -- <u>March 1, 2018 Deseret News article excerpts</u>

<u>Lawrence Paper Company</u> (Lawrence, Kansas) -- \$500 bonuses for all 300 employees; \$5 million in new equipment and expansion at all three locations

The tax bill signed by President Donald Trump last month was met with mixed reviews by some wondering who it would truly benefit, but **the Lawrence Paper Company who employs threehundred workers throughout its Freemont, Nebraska, Lawrence and Hutchinson locations is confident the tax bill will contribute to their future success as a business.** 

"Assuming you've got the same amount coming in then obviously you're going to make more as a company that we can then again do three things, reinvest it into the business, into your people or pass it along to your shareholders," says Tony Schleich, president of the Hutchinson company division.

*Re-investing into its employees is the first step company owners took. This week, they surprised their 300 workers with the news each would receive a \$500 bonus.* 

Employees like Josh Marshall were surprised at the news.

"This money is going to help me recover from the holidays and everything like that," Marshall said. – <u>Jan. 10 CBS KWCH Channel 12 news report</u>

Leak Sealers (Lumberton, Texas) – bonuses to its 100 employees:

"Female-owned engineering company Leak Sealers says it's handing out bonuses to its 100 employees, joining major retailers like Lowe's and Walmart Inc. that are investing in workers after Congress approved a tax cut that will help businesses." – <u>Feb. 8 2018, The Beaumont</u> <u>Enterprise article excerpt</u>

Lee Container Company (Homerville, Georgia) - Purchase of new equipment, business expansion:

"Lee Container Company in Homerville, which I visited a couple of weeks ago, said the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act will enable them to purchase more equipment and grow their business." - <u>March 20,</u> <u>2018, Rep. Buddy Carter statement on House floor</u>

Legacy Bank (Wichita, Kansas) - Employee bonuses:

Legacy Bank's board of directors has approved paying a mid-year bonus of up to \$1,000 per employee after the federal government's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, signed into law in December, lowered tax rates for businesses and individuals. - <u>July 25, 2018, Wichita Business Journal article excerpt</u>

**LHC Group** (Lafayette, Louisiana) – According to a March 13, 2018 internal email to 15,000 employees from Chairman and CEO Keith Myers, due to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act there will be positive adjustments to compensation as well as increased 401(k) contributions and enhanced employee benefits. Details will be released March 29. A portion of the email states:

I want to point out the positive impact the "Tax Cut and Jobs Act" will have for our company and for each of you.

As a result of this legislation, our company's effective tax rate has been reduced from roughly 41 percent to a projected range of 29-30 percent for 2018. Because of our reduced tax burden, we will be able to make important investments in our company, including additional investments in our greatest asset – our people. But rather than making a small, short-term financial overture, we have decided to make meaningful investments in 2018 that will positively impact our employees – in a sustainable and long-term fashion. These investments include:

- An opportunity for increases in annual merit raise percentages
- Offsetting a portion of the future increases in health insurance premiums
- An enhanced 401(k) plan
- The expansion of our overall benefit offering to provide more choices and options

We have already begun incorporating the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) new withholding amounts in each of your paychecks. While every employee's situation is different, according to the government, most employees should see an increase in take-home pay as a result of the new updated tax tables.

<u>Liberty Landscape Supply</u> (Jacksonville, Florida) - Expanding operations and services offered to customers, hiring a new employee:

*Mike Zaffaroni calls the newest piece of equipment at his landscaping company in Jacksonville, Florida, his "Tax Cut Truck."* 

He had long wanted to expand the services he offers to his customers and says the tax cuts President Donald J. Trump signed into law six months ago were the motivation he needed to buy the \$80,000 truck and forklift.

"Without the tax cuts, we're not so sure it would have been the right move for us financially," he said.

Under the new tax law, Mr. Zaffaroni will be able to write off the entire cost of the purchase this year. Along with the lower tax rates and other benefits of the law, he says his accountant estimates he'll save 7 percent to 10 percent on his taxes this year. That's a big saving for a small company like his, and it's money he'll reinvest in his business.

"We're going to be able to expand, we're going to add a product line, we'll be able to deliver more materials than we were able to before," Mr. Zaffaroni said. "We've actually already hired another driver, so that also adds another job."

I toured Mr. Zaffaroni's company, Liberty Landscape Supply, soon after he was named Florida's National Small Business Person of the Year, and just days after the truck was delivered.

"It makes it very real," he told me. "A lot of America doesn't really understand the implication these tax cuts have on each individual small business." - <u>June 29, 2018, White House article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

LiDestri Food and Drink (Rochester, New York) – Double-paycheck bonuses:

The Rochester based producer of food, beverages and spirits gave all of their 1,200 employees at each of their five U.S. facilities an extra full paycheck.

They were notified on Wednesday that their mid-month paycheck had been doubled, because of strong company performance and the recently approved federal tax legislation.

"When we learned that the recent tax cuts would provide the company with some unaccountedfor funds, we immediately thought it should be shared with our workforce," said Co-President Stefani LiDestri. "It just so happened that it came together on Valentine's Day, the perfect time to let our employees know how much they mean to us."

She said that the recent federal tax cuts will provide some unaccounted for funds, and the company thought it should be shared with the workforce.

Locally, LiDestri has facilities in Fairport and at the Eastman Business Park. – <u>Feb. 15, 2018 WXXI</u> <u>news article</u>

Lima Pallet Company (Lima, Ohio) – Pay raises, new jobs, purchase of new equipment:

*Lima business owner Tracie Sanchez said the tax cut has helped her business. Now she's adding* 15-20 jobs and finishing a half a million dollar expansion project.

"Within probably the first week, we ended up giving all of our employees a raise, which has been much needed," said Sanchez, president, and owner of Lima Pallet Company. "We haven't been able to do that for several years in a row. We also invested in some equipment. We hope to have that hooked up here within the next 30 days."

Portman said growth can already be seen and more is expected. – March 26, 2018 WLIO News article excerpt

LincolnWay Community Bank (New Lenox, Illinois) – \$1,500 bonus to 33 permanent employees:

*"LincolnWay Community Bank today announced plans to award a one-time \$1,500 bonus to most of its employees on February 6.* 

"We are pleased to be able to provide this additional reward to our employees for continuing to deliver outstanding service to our customers" said Mark Stevens, LincolnWay Community Bank President. "This investment in our employees was made possible by the new tax reform law."

*LincolnWay Community Bank currently has 33 permanent employees, at three branches in New Lenox, Mokena and Chicago, who are eligible to receive the tax reform bonus."* 

- Feb. 5 2018, LincolnWay Community Bank announcement excerpt

Loenbro (Great Falls, Montana) - Increasing worker benefits, enhancing training programs, purchasing new equipment:

"Other Montana businesses are making investments thanks to tax reform. Loenbro, a Great Falls industrial construction and manufacturing firm that employs more than 600, said the tax reform immediately added 15 percent to their bottom line. Tax reform is leading them to increase worker benefits, enhance training programs, and invest in construction equipment that will create more jobs. - June 19, 2018, Rep. Greg Gianforte statement on U.S. House Floor

Lok-N-Logs, Inc., I Wood Care, and Webb Properties (Sherburne, New York) – employees working for a year or more received a double paycheck; those working less than a year also received a bonus.

Loud & Clear Communications (New York, New York) -- tax reform bonuses for employees.

<u>Lowes</u> (Mooresville, North Carolina) – bonuses of up to \$1,000 based on length of service, for 260,000 employees; expanded benefits and maternity/parental leave; \$5,000 of adoption assistance:

Lowe's will follow rival Home Depot in giving thousands of its hourly employees a one-time bonus of up to \$1,000 **due to new tax legislation**, according to an internal company memo reviewed by CNBC on Wednesday.

The bonuses will be based on an employee's length of service with Lowe's, and more than 260,000 part- and full-time individuals are set to receive the payouts, the company said. Lowe's declined to comment on how the bonuses would be broken out based on tenure.

Effective May 1, Lowe's will also be expanding its benefits package for full-time workers to include paid maternity leave for 10 weeks, paid parental leave for two weeks, adoption assistance of up to \$5,000, and faster eligibility for health benefits, the memo said.

"We'll continue to make investments to improve the employee and customer experience," Lowe's wrote to its workers.

*The company said it will provide more details on those investments in the coming weeks. Lowe's is set to report fourth-quarter earnings Feb. 28. – Jan. 31, 2018 CNBC article excerpt* 

Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company (Louisville, Kentucky) – the utilities will pass tax reform savings to customers:

If approved by the commission, customers would see nearly \$180 million in savings in the form of a reduction on the Environmental Surcharge line item on their bill in March, followed by a new line item credit on the bill based on energy consumption starting in April.

"We had been supportive of the Tax Act all along because of the savings for our residential and business customers, so we are pleased that the commission acted quickly to enable us to deliver these savings so expeditiously. The other parties to this case — the Kentucky Attorney General and the Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers — truly had the customer in mind and a willingness to work together to reach a mutually acceptable solution," said Kent Blake, chief financial officer at LG&E and KU. "With the colder-than-average winter, and subsequent high energy use, these savings will come at a key time for our customers."—Jan. 29 2018, Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company, part of the PPL corporation press excerpt

Lupo's Meat Plant (Endicott, New York) - Increased wages, ability to maintain healthcare coverage:

*Company President Sam Lupo says recent tax cuts have allowed the business to raise wages and maintain healthcare.* 

He says maintaining a small business all comes down to building strong employees.

"Our long-term employees see that, they feel it, they've taken ownership, so then when we have new employees come in, they're taking those employees under their arm, and they're saying, 'hey, we're more than just a spiedie company, we're involved in our community," said Sam Lupo, Sam A. Lupo & Sons President.

*The plant has been in businesses for more than 60 years and currently has 45 employees. - <u>May</u> <u>4, 2018, Spectrum News Article Excerpt</u>* 

<u>M&T Bank Corporation</u> (Buffalo, New York) – Base wage raised to \$14 to \$16 per hour based on location, a \$25 million investment; employees receive 40 hours of paid time annually for volunteer/charitable/employee resource group activities:

M&T Bank Corporation (NYSE: MTB) ("M&T") today announced a series of investments to perpetuate its legacy of support for its employees and the communities the bank serves. M&T is making these investments in anticipation of the improvement in after-tax income it expects to recognize as a result of federal tax reform.

*M*&*T is committed to the following actions:* 

- The company will increase wages for hourly paid employees. Their rate of pay will begin at \$14 to \$16 per hour, based on geography. This increase will represent an investment in employees of \$25 million, once fully implemented. This is part of the company's thoughtfully considered and ongoing commitment to provide sustainable career paths and professional growth opportunities for all of its employees.
- All employees will be granted 40 hours of paid time each year to participate in volunteer and/or employee resource group activities of their choice.

• Over the past 31 years, The M&T Charitable Foundation has consistently invested in a diverse range of civic, cultural, health and human services organizations that strengthen M&T communities. To sustain that commitment, M&T contributed \$50 million to The M&T Charitable Foundation during 2017—the largest amount in the company's history. By comparison, a total of \$178.7 million was contributed by M&T to The M&T Charitable Foundation over the past 10 years. — Jan. 17, 2018 M&T Bank Corporation press release

Mack Molding (Arlington, Vermont) - Major facility upgrades:

Mack Molding, an injection molder and contract manufacturer based in Vermont, announced this week that it is investing \$5.4 million to upgrade two existing facilities in response to "favorable tax changes" and a surging economy. - <u>July 16, 2018 National Association of</u> <u>Manufacturers article excerpt</u>

<u>Magellan Transport Logistics</u> (Jacksonville, Florida) - Expanding facility operations, hiring more employees:

"Just last month, Mr. Speaker, I toured Magellan Transport Logistics, a service-disabled, veteranowned logistics company in my hometown of Jacksonville, Florida. They are adding at least 100 new jobs in the next 5 years and were able to acquire a new 47,000- square-foot facility. During the tour of the facility, we were told by the company's CEO that this expansion is a direct result of the tax cuts that the business received from the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act. This is just one example of the differences that these cuts are making to improve the way of life for countless Americans in Florida and across the Nation. I have heard from many small businesses throughout my district who are thriving unlike never before because of these landmark reforms." - <u>May 17, 2018, Rep.</u> John Rutherford statement on U.S. House Floor

MainSource Financial Group (Greensburg, Indiana) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour:

MainSource Financial Group (NASDAQ: MSFG) will raise the starting pay and minimum hourly rate to \$15 an hour effective immediately for all of its non-exempt, non-commissioned employees. This announcement comes as a result of the recently passed tax legislation, which includes a reduction in corporate tax rates.

Approximately 1,000 associates are employed throughout the MainSource footprint in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky. The pay increase will affect over 200 employees.

Archie M. Brown, Jr., President and CEO, stated, "The recently passed tax legislation is anticipated to create significant savings for our company. We are pleased to direct a portion of this savings back to many of our employees with a meaningful increase in pay." – <u>Jan. 3, 2018</u> <u>MainSource Financial Group press release</u> Marlin Steel (Baltimore, Maryland) - Increased workforce by 10 percent, new investments in machinery:

At Marlin Steel, which only buys American steel and exports to 39 countries, we have already done just that. We increased our workforce by 10 percent to manage more than \$1 million in new USA-made equipment. Tax reform gave us the confidence to make these important investments — investments not just in our company but in the lives of hardworking Marylanders. One of the machines we bought makes products here in Baltimore that we will export to Mexico two times a week.

Our existing employees are also better off, given that tax cuts mean they are taking home more money in their paychecks. It's a little extra security after years of economic anxiety and uncertainty. One of our employees put the savings toward buying his new house. Some of our new employees hired since tax reform have also achieved important life goals: One bought a car; another moved to a new apartment; and a third is able to pay off debt, support his daughter and move to a new apartment. - June 21, 2018, Baltimore Sun article excerpt

<u>Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.</u> (New York, New York) – Base wage raised to \$16 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for employees earning less than \$55,000:

Marsh & McLennan Cos., the world's largest insurance brokerage, said it will increase its minimum wage to \$16 per hour after the U.S. cut corporate tax rates.

U.S. colleagues earning \$55,000 or less will get one-time \$1,000 payment

The wage hike will benefit about 780 employees, while about 5,000 employees will get the onetime bonus, according to a memo sent to employees

"The bulk of the tax savings will drop into earnings and improved free cash flow. However, we will make two adjustments for colleagues in the U.S. who are at the lower end of our pay scale," CEO Dan Glaser said Thursday on a conference call with analysts. -- Feb. 1, 2018 Bloomberg News article excerpt

<u>Maspeth Federal Savings</u> (Maspeth, New York) – \$1,000 bonuses for all full-time employees below the AVP officer level, \$500 bonuses for all part-time employees; base wage raised to \$15 per hour.

Massage Envy (locations across Florida) - Increased worker pay and facilities remodeling:

"I'm a manager and a massage therapist at Massage Envy. My employers own seven of Massage Envys. So for me I guess what they've done is what's affected me most. They've really reinvested into the company. We've got a total overhaul remodel of everything top to bottom, front to back and that's been great for business. They have given every single person in our clinic an increase in compensation and just have changed the quality of our lives greatly. I mean in the last three years I've doubled my salary with what they've been able to do and so personally for me how that translates into my life is that you know both of my kids have their own cars so they can drive and I don't have to share a car with them. I'm able to finish an internship that I've been doing in mental health counseling. I had finished my academic requirements a year ago and just couldn't take off work to finish the internship. I'm in it and I'll be done in October and I'm not losing any money and not losing any time with my children or anything like that. So it's been pretty awesome for me. I appreciate it a lot. I know my employers do as well." - <u>April 17, 2018 Tax Talk</u> <u>Roundtable, Kasey Moore, Manager at Massage Envy</u>

Mastercard Inc. (Purchase, New York) – increasing employer match for 401(k) plans to 10%:

"Mastercard Inc., Purchase, N.Y., is increasing the cap on the employer match in its 401(k) plan to 10% of an employee's salary, a spokesman confirmed.

Previously, the company match was 125% of employee contributions up to 6% of salary.

Michael Fraccaro, chief human resources officer, announced the change in a LinkedIn post last week. He cited recent U.S. tax reform as the impetus for the change." - <u>Feb. 5, 2018 Pensions and</u> <u>Investments article excerpt</u>

<u>MB Financial, Inc.</u> (Chicago, Illinois) – base wage increased to \$15 per hour; tax reform bonuses; and \$7.5 million additional charitable contributions:

MB Financial, Inc., the holding company for MB Financial Bank, N.A. ("MB"), announced today that MB will raise the minimum wage paid to its employees, issue certain one-time bonuses, and donate \$7.5 million to the disadvantaged communities in which it operates.

Mitch Feiger, President and CEO MB Financial, Inc., commented, "MB has long believed that our future is undeniably connected to our communities and employees. **Because we hold this belief** so closely it is only natural that we share the benefits of tax reform."

As a result of the recently enacted Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 MB will contribute \$7.5 million to the MB Charitable Foundation, specifically to help the most disadvantaged communities where MB operates for the creation of affordable housing, strong educational programs, vital community services, and to accelerate economic development. "Giving is a cornerstone of our culture," said Rose Bouman, Executive Vice President of MB Financial Bank, "Our programs such as 'MB on the Block', wherein over 500 MB employees dedicate a day of service to the community each year, are at the heart of who we are."

**Also as a result of the new tax legislation**, MB will raise its minimum wage to \$15 per hour and pay certain one-time bonuses. It's expected that nearly 75% of MB's approximately 3,600 team

members across the country will participate in these new compensation measures. "Our employees are truly different. Their passion sets them apart. It's no wonder they go beyond every day for our clients, our communities, and each other. I'm thrilled we can pass along the benefits of tax reform to them," commented Feiger. – Jan. 2 2018, MB Financial, Inc. press release

McCormick & Company (Sparks, Maryland) – \$1,000 bonuses:

McCormick & Company, Incorporated (NYSE: MKC), a global leader in flavor, announced plans to reinvest a portion of its incremental tax savings from the recent U.S. Tax Act into one-time \$1,000 bonus payments for eligible U.S. hourly employees in May. The company also announced plans to accelerate hourly employee wage increases to ensure more competitive compensation and attract, develop and retain top talent within the organization. The changes will benefit the majority of the company's U.S. based hourly employees.

"At McCormick, we take a long-term view of the people in our organization. We want McCormick to be a great place for people to come work and have engaging and fulfilling careers. The passage of the U.S. Tax Reform Act provides us an opportunity to demonstrate the Power of People, and for the company to show its commitment to the 2-for-1 spirit," said Lawrence E. Kurzius, Chairman, President and CEO of McCormick. – <u>March 27, 2018 McCormick & Company,</u> <u>Inc. press release</u>

<u>McDonald's</u> (Oak Brook, Illinois) – Increased tuition investments which will provide educational program access for 400,000 U.S. employees. \$2,500 per year (up from \$700) for crew working 15 hours a week, \$3,000 (up from \$1,050) for managers, and more:

McDonald's Corporation today announced it will allocate \$150 million over five years to its global <u>Archways to Opportunity</u> education program. This investment will provide almost 400,000 U.S. restaurant employees with accessibility to the program as the company will also lower eligibility requirements from nine months to 90 days of employment and drop weekly shift minimums from 20 hours to 15 hours. Additionally, McDonald's will also extend some education benefits to restaurant employees' family members. These enhancements underscore McDonald's and its independent franchisees' commitment to providing jobs that fit around the lives of restaurant employees so they may pursue their education and career ambitions.

The Archways to Opportunity program provides eligible U.S. employees an opportunity to earn a high school diploma, receive upfront college tuition assistance, access free education advising services and learn English as a second language.

"Our commitment to education reinforces our ongoing support of the people who play a crucial role in our journey to build a better McDonald's," said Steve Easterbrook, McDonald's President and CEO. "By offering restaurant employees more opportunities to further their education and pursue their career aspirations, we are helping them find their full potential, whether that's at McDonald's or elsewhere."

Accelerated by changes in the U.S. tax law, McDonald's increased investment in the Archways to Opportunity Program includes:

- Increased Tuition Investment:
  - **Crew**: Eligible crew will have access to \$2,500/year, up from \$700/year.
  - *Managers*: Eligible Managers will have access to \$3,000/year, up from \$1,050.
  - Participants have a choice for how they apply this funding whether it be to a community college, four year university or trade school. There is no lifetime cap on tuition assistance – restaurant employees will be able to pursue their education and career passions at their own pace. The new tuition assistance is effective May 1, 2018 and retroactive to January 1, 2018.
- Lowered Eligibility Requirements: Increase access to the program by lowering eligibility requirements from nine months to 90 days of employment. In addition, dropping from 20 hours minimum to 15 hours minimum (roughly two full time shifts) per week to enable restaurant employees more time to focus on studies.
- Extended Services to Families: Extension of Career Online High School and College Advisory services to restaurant employees' family members through existing educational partners <u>Cengage</u> and <u>Council for Adult and Experiential</u> <u>Learning</u> (CAEL).
- Additional Resources: Career exploration resources for eligible restaurant employees to be available later this year.
- **Creation of an International Education Fund**: Grants to provide local initiatives and incentives in global markets to further education advancement programs.

"Since its inception, Archways to Opportunity was meant to match the ambition and drive of restaurant crew with the means and network to help them find success on their own terms," said David Fairhurst, McDonald's Chief People Officer. "By tripling tuition assistance, adding education benefits for family members and lowering eligibility requirements to the equivalent of a summer job, we are sending a signal that if you come work at your local McDonald's, we'll invest in your future."

After launching in the U.S. in 2015, <u>Archways to Opportunity</u> has increased access to education for over 24,000 people and awarded over \$21 million in high school and college tuition assistance. Graduates have received college degrees in Business Administration, Human

*Resources, Communications, Accounting, Microbiology and more.* – <u>March 29, 2018 McDonald's</u> <u>Corporation press release excerpt</u>

McKee Foods (Collegedale, Tennessee) – Up to \$1,000 bonuses:

McKee Foods employees came to work Tuesday, April 3, expecting a routine day baking and packaging products such as Little Debbie Chocolate Cupcakes, Donut Sticks and Honeybuns, and were surprised with an unexpected \$1,000 cash award for full-time employees and \$500 for part-time employees.

"The recent federal tax legislation will provide benefits to the company and will allow us to invest back into the business," said Mike McKee, president and CEO. "The first thing we thought about was investing in our employees."

The announcement and disbursements of checks coincided with the company's routine, yearly Spring Report Meetings, where all employees are invited to hear an update on the company from leadership. Attendance is optional and on-the-clock.

"We decided to keep this a tightly-guarded secret to make it more fun and impactful," said Debbie McKee-Fowler, executive vice president. "Except for our September Profit-Sharing Meetings, this is about the most fun I've had at work in my entire career." Ms. McKee-Fowler and other members of the McKee family helped pass out checks. Some employees were puzzled when members of the Payroll Department showed up to help pass out T-shirts, but in general the secret was well-kept and well-guarded, said officials.

McKee Foods employees received a one-time lump some cash award of \$1,000 for all full-time, regular employees; \$500 for all part-time, regular employees; and, \$250 for all spare, limited, and provisional employees, who were employed on or before Friday, March 23.

Employees were very happy with the surprise. Comments ranged from, "I had some unexpected things happen last week that had me strapped; this will help a lot." To simply, "Thank you." – **April 12, 2018 Chattanoogan.com news article excerpt** 

## MEC Aerial Work Platforms (Kerman, California) – \$1,000 bonuses:

Company owner David White says the tax cut legislation deserves some of the credit for a boost in sales and hiring.

"Its more of an indirect effect, and as the economy has improved, and as there are more new construction starts, and our products are used in that new construction, they are used in industrial construction, and upgrades. So that has resulted in increased production, increased sales volume, which has directly affected us of course."

White says sales are way up and he's given each of the 130 employees a \$1,000 bonus. – May 2, 2018, ABC 30 Actions News.com article excerpt

<u>Metairie Bank and Trust</u> (Metairie, Louisiana) – \$1,000 cash bonuses; increase base wage to \$12 per hour:

"Metairie Bank and Trust has approved a cash bonus of \$1,000 for all of its 120 employees and will increase its hourly minimum wage to \$12 per hour, the Jefferson Parish-based bank announced Friday.

Ron Samford, president and CEO of \$390-million-asset Metairie Bank, said the recent enactment of President Trump's tax reform bill provided "a substantial benefit to the bank, through significantly lower corporate income tax rates."

"We will invest some of those savings in our workforce through these actions and will also look to increase our commitment to community enrichment efforts," – <u>Jan. 26 2018, New Orleans</u> <u>CityBusiness article excerpt</u>

Melaleuca (Idaho Falls, Idaho) – all 2,000 employees will receive a \$100 bonus for each year they have worked at the company

"We're going to be able to have quite a few substantial dollars after taxes,"[CEO Frank] VanderSloot said. "I suspect we're one of the largest taxpayers in the state, so we're going to have some more dollars to spread around. That money should go to the people who built the company." – <u>Dec. 21, 2017 Associated Press article excerpt</u>

<u>Merck</u> (Kenilworth, New Jersey) -- Bonuses (details to be announced); increased charitable donations; increased capital expenditures:

"The recently enacted U.S. tax legislation improves Merck's financial flexibility to invest in sustainable long-term value creating opportunities. In addition to the company's ongoing investment in R&D, business development and continued support of the dividend, as well as share repurchases, the company also:

- Plans to invest approximately \$12 billion over 5 years in capital projects including approximately \$8 billion in the United States
- Made a contribution to the Merck Foundation in the fourth quarter of 2017
- Plans to provide a one-time, long-term incentive award for its eligible nonexecutive employees in the second quarter of 2018" – Feb. 2 2018, Merck press release

Meridian Bancorp, Inc. (Boston, Massachusetts) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; additional 20% will be added to existing bonuses; increased capital spending including building six new branch locations; additional charitable contributions:

Meridian Bancorp, Inc. (the "Company" or "Meridian") (NASDAQ:EBSB), the holding company for East Boston Savings Bank (the "Bank"), following the new tax law being passed by Congress and signed by the President on December 22, 2017, announced the following enhanced commitments to the Bank's employees, infrastructure investment and charitable giving which will benefit its customers and the communities it serves:

- The minimum wage for all employees will increase to \$15 per hour
- An additional 20% will be added to the 2017 bonus as part of the Bank's Incentive Compensation Plan that will be paid to the Bank's 500+ employees in January 2018
- An increase to the Capital Spending Budget as a result of plans to build six new branch locations in 2018
- An increase in charitable giving by targeting \$1 million in donations to community and non-profit organizations in 2018 – <u>Jan. 3 2018, Meridian</u> <u>Bancorp, Inc. press release excerpt</u>

Metallix (Shrewsbury, New Jersey) - Employee bonuses, investing in business growth:

First order of business? Giving each of Metallix's 98 workers a \$1,000 bonus, an unexpected surprise that came just days after tax reform took effect.

"From the outset, the company wanted to share the benefits of tax reform with our employees," said Maria Piastre, president of Metallix. "On February 14, every employee received a net \$1,000 after-tax bonus in response to tax reform. Coming so soon after our usual end-of-year bonuses, it was completely unexpected by Metallix employees, and we were all very happy to receive it."

Metallix wasn't shy about tying these bonuses directly to tax reform. Each employee also received a letter from Metallix owner Eric Leiner, who explained that tax reform was going to mean a big boost to the company—and that he wanted to make sure employees were receiving their share of the good fortune. Metallix employees clearly took this sentiment to heart.

*Piastre said that, months after the bonuses were given out, many employees still had Leiner's letter hung proudly at their desks.* 

*Piastre also explained that Metallix was using some of the benefits of tax reform to grow their business—and that significant investments were now more feasible because the company's* 

taxes had been so substantially lowered. - <u>August 2, 2018, National Association of</u> <u>Manufacturers article excerpt</u>

MetLife Inc. (New York, New York) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; creation of a \$10 million skills development fund; establishment of a minimum group life insurance benefit, enhanced 401(k) plan:

"As a result of tax reform, we are making a significant investment in our employees. We are enhancing pay and benefit programs and helping them develop skills that will make them more valuable members of our team," said Chairman, President and CEO Steven A. Kandarian. "We are investing in their future and strengthening their long-term financial security with structural improvements that will endure. We are also channeling most of the benefits to employees at the lower end of the compensation spectrum."

To help the company's global workforce identify and acquire the skills needed to compete in the 21st century digital workplace, MetLife is establishing a Workforce of the Future Development Fund. The company will invest \$10 million to accelerate a culture of learning and innovation.

For all eligible U.S. employees, MetLife's enhanced programs include:

•Establishing a company minimum wage of \$15 an hour, well above the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour.

•Establishing a minimum MetLife-provided group life insurance benefit of \$75,000, regardless of the employee's pay. Previously, the benefit was set at one times annual pay.

•Introducing a \$300 minimum monthly credit for the cash-balance formula of the company's defined benefit pension plan, also regardless of the employee's pay. MetLife is one of a limited number of Fortune 50 companies that continues to provide its employees with both a defined benefit pension plan and a defined contribution plan to help them build secure retirements.

•Enhancing the 401(k) plan design by moving to auto-enrollment for employee contributions and immediate eligibility for, and vesting in, employer matching contributions. This is scheduled to take effect in 2019.

•Extending company-paid group legal services offered through MetLife's Hyatt Legal Plans. Currently approximately one third of MetLife employees in the United States are enrolled in this voluntary benefit. With this change, legal services will be provided to MetLife's 18,000 employees in the United States at the company's expense." – <u>Feb. 12 2018, MetLife Inc. press</u> <u>release excerpt</u>

Metropolitan Edison Company (Akron, OH) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

<u>MidAmerican Energy Company</u> (Des Moines, Iowa) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Thanks to tax reform, utility bills will start going down soon. MidAmerican Energy says bills will be lowered for its Illinois customers starting in April, and probably for Iowa customers in May.

Spokeswoman Tina Hoffman says the company's tax rate dropped from 35 to 21 per cent, and as a result Illinois electric and natural gas customers will save about 50 dollars per year. The average lowa customer would save 30 dollars.

But tax reform will affect more than just MidAmerican's corporate tax rate.

"And what we're proposing to do is create an account that captures these benefits that will help us in the long-term make sure that we reduce the size of even the need for future rate cases. So eventually that keeps rates low for customers well into the future."

Hoffman says the Illinois Commerce Commission has already approved the company's proposal and the savings should show up in residential bills this month. However the Iowa Utilities Board has not yet approved MidAmerican's proposal but she thinks it could lower Iowa bills beginning in May. – April 2, 2018 WVIK Article

Mid-AM Metal Forming (Rogersville, Missouri) – bonuses for 140 employees:

Mid-AM Metal Forming is giving its 140 employees cash bonuses.

The local company is one of many companies, like Jet Blue and AT&T, giving employees a bonus because of the tax law reform.

"Mid-AM Metal Forming is excited about the positive implications the tax reform package will have both on the manufacturing industry and its employees," President Steve Johnson said in a

news release. "We have very dedicated employees that assist in making us a success. We are excited to surprise all of them with this reward."

The company does metal stretch forming, bending, metal fabrication and painting services, according to the news release, serving aerospace, automotive, marine and architectural purposes. – Jan. 6 2018, OzarksFirst.com article excerpt

Middlefield Banc Corp. (Middlefield, Ohio) – \$1,000 bonuses for each employee:

Middlefield Banc Corp. (NASDAQ: MBCN) today announced that, as a result of the company's strong 2017 financial results, favorable 2018 outlook, and the benefits of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the company's Board of Directors has approved several actions to return capital to Middlefield's shareholders and employees.

Middlefield's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.28 per common share payable on March 15, 2018, to shareholders of record on February 28, 2018. The 2018 first-quarter dividend payment represents a 3.7% increase over the 2017 first-quarter payment. In addition, the Board declared a special one-time cash dividend of \$0.05 per common share that will be payable on March 15, 2018, to shareholders of record on February 28, 2018. The Board also approved a one-time bonus of \$1,000 to each employee. – <u>Feb. 14, 2018 Middlefield Banc</u> <u>Corp. press release</u>

<u>Miles Fiberglass</u> (Oregon City, Oregon) - Hiring more employees, increasing wages, implementing profitsharing bonuses for existing employees:

Lori Miles-Olund, who is the president of the family-owned business that her father founded in 1963, explained how Miles Fiberglass plans to pass along the benefits to its employees:

- "We increased our starting wage by 9 percent, which bumps everyone up the chart," Miles-Olund said. "We've also implemented a new training program, 'Learn to Earn.' Every time employees learn a new skill, they get an hourly pay increase of \$1.00, \$1.50."
- She reported that, even as expenses like health insurance have gone up on the employer side, tax reform means that Miles Fiberglass will not be passing those added expenses along to its employees. And, since many employees commute from more than an hour away, Miles Fiberglass is also helping make these long commutes more affordable, providing a flat-rate gas stipend.
- "We also anticipate implementing our bonus program again this year," Miles-Olund said, noting that it had previously been on hold for quite some time due to the economic climate. Once implemented employees will start receiving a

quarterly profit-sharing bonus, meaning that, as Miles continues to succeed, employees will directly benefit.

Miles Fiberglass also plans to expand its facilities and workforce dramatically. "We anticipate our sales to double this year due to the economic climate," Miles-Olund told the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), adding that demand for composite component parts is "far more than we'd seen in the past." – <u>June 1, 2018, National</u> <u>Association of Manufacturers article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

Mincey Marble (Gainesville, Georgia) – Bonuses of up to \$1,000 based on length of service:

"As the owner of a family business, I want to share how tax reform is benefitting Americans at every level. Companies big and small are passing along tax savings to the workers who help build our economy. I hope that the bonuses Mincey Marble is providing encourage other businesses in our great state to pay it forward, because the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is the kind of meaningful change that can help transform communities by bringing relief to American workers and families," said [Mincey Marble President and CEO Donna] Mincey.

Employees at Mincey Marble will receive bonuses of up to \$1,000 depending on their length of service with the company. Even employees hired this year will see a bonus, and the checks are scheduled to arrive during the week of Valentine's Day as a sign of the company's appreciation for its associates. – Jan. 31 2018, press release

Mill Steel Company (Grand Rapids, Michigan) – \$1,000 bonuses for 400 full-time associates:

<u>Mill Steel Co.</u>, one of the nation's largest distributors of flat-rolled carbon steel, is pleased to award a \$1,000 bonus to all 400 of its full-time associates following the tax cut passed by Congress and signed by President Trump.

Mill Steel announced this morning that all full-time associates across its nine operations nationwide, no matter each individual's seniority, will receive a one-time bonus from the recent tax overhaul that reduces corporate tax rates. – <u>Feb. 8 2018, Mill Steel Company press release</u> <u>excerpt</u>

Minnesota Power (Duluth, Minnesota) – the utility will pass tax cut savings to customers:

"When final rates go into effect late this year, customers will start receiving a 1.5259% credit on their monthly bill through a new line item, called the tax cut rider, totaling about \$10 million a year refund until our next rate case," Rutledge said.

For a \$100 power bill, that's about \$1.53 returned - <u>Aug 10, 2018, Duluth News Tribune article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

Mission Produce (Oxnard, California) -- \$1,000 bonuses to U.S-based employees:

*"Mission Produce, an avocado distributor based in Oxnard, is rewarding employees in response to the recent federal tax cut.* 

"We are giving all our U.S.-based employees a \$1,000 bonus," President and CEO Steve Barnard said at a recent company meeting. "We applaud President Trump for spearheading the action needed to pass tax reform. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 created a meaningful impact on Mission's business. We plan to invest the tax savings in new facilities and technology to create opportunities for the company and for our employees. It's only fair that we share the benefits that tax reform will have on our business with our valued employees." — <u>Feb. 22 2018, Reno</u> <u>Gazette Journal excerpt</u>

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. (Bismarck, North Dakota) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

MDU requested a smaller interim natural gas rate increase that would reduce residential customers' bills by \$1 per month. It sought to reduce its interim rate increase from 12.5 percent to 7.4 percent. – February 27, 2018 Bismarck Tribune article excerpt

Mooneyhan's Auto Service (West Columbia, South Carolina) - Hiring new employees, business expansion:

Since then, small businesses across the Second District are expanding and creating jobs.

Bill Mooneyhan, of Mooneyhan's Auto Service in West Columbia, announced he is adding a new bay on to the shop and hiring additional employees. <u>- February 21, 2018, The Lexington Ledger</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

<u>Mountaire Corporation</u> (Millsboro, Delaware) – \$1,000 or \$500 bonuses based on length of service; increased 401(k) matches:

Mountaire had an amazing year in 2017. We are blessed with great people and great opportunities. Our performance is outstanding and the blessings of Jesus Christ are all around us to enjoy.

I am very encouraged that the President of the United States and the Republican Congress have reduced taxes for businesses and individuals for 2018. I am extremely excited about what this new change means to our company and all Mountaire employees.

Very soon you should see the impact of the new lower tax rate in your paychecks.

Additionally, because of this new tax reduction, I am pleased to announce that on February 2, 2018, Mountaire is going to pay a one-time discretionary bonus to hourly employees. This bonus will be subject to normal taxes and distributed to all full-time Mountaire hourly and piece rate employees as follows:

- 1. \$1,000 for all active full-time hourly and piece rate Mountaire employees with more than 180 days of employment as of January 27, 2018.
- 2. \$500 for all active full-time hourly and piece rate Mountaire employees with between 91 and 179 days of employment as of January 27, 2018.
- 3. \$500 for all active full-time hourly and piece rate Mountaire employees with between 1 and 90 days of employment as of January 27, 2018. This group of employees will receive their bonus money as soon as they have completed their first 90 days of employment.

I have also decided to make significant improvements to our 401k savings plan. Effective November 1, 2018, Mountaire's 401k match will be increased to 100% of the first 3% invested, and 50% of the next 2% invested. And also, effective November 1, 2018 you will be given immediate vesting on 401k matching monies.

# All these improvements are being done because of the Tax Reform and Tax Cut passed by the Republicans in Congress and signed into law by our President.

*I am very optimistic about our performance and the future of Mountaire and our country.* 

May God continue bless us and guide us! -- Jan. 26, 2018 letter to employees from Ronald M. Cameron, Chairman

## Move It Or Lose It Moving LLC – employee bonuses.

Muncie Aviation Company (Muncie, Indiana) – Tax reform bonuses for all employees:

Muncie Aviation Company will pay a bonus to all employees during the first week of March, "due in part to the Trump (Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017) and in part to the record economic results posted by the company for 2017," the company announced this week.

"The company believes that the favorable business climate will increase opportunities in the coming years," a release stated. A reception for the employees/owners will be held immediately after the awarding of the bonus at Merk's restaurant, which is located in Muncie Aviation's administrative building at the Delaware County Regional Airport.

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The company employs 55 full-time and eight part-time people. – March 2, 2018 Star Press article excerpts

MusicNotes (Madison, Wisconsin) – Salary increases for employees:

The new year brings a new salary increase for all 55 employees at Musicnotes, Inc., the worldwide leader in digital sheet music based in Madison, Wisconsin. Effective January 1st, the 3% salary increase is tied specifically to corporate tax reform and is in addition to Musicnotes' existing annual raises to eligible employees.

"We're genuinely appreciative of our loyal and gifted team at Musicnotes and we are thrilled to share the benefit of lower corporate taxes with them," said Executive Chairman, Tim Reiland. "It's the right thing to do and it's also smart business."

After a strong 2017 sales performance, Musicnotes was named to the Internet Retailer Top 1000 list for the 13th straight year in 2017 and garners over half of the worldwide digital sheet music market, according to traffic statistics from SimilarWeb. The company has sold products to over six million customers since 1998.

"Musicnotes has paid a full corporate tax rate over the past several years," indicated Reiland. "Beyond the Jan 1 salary increases, we will accelerate hiring plans and also have increased flexibility regarding technology projects and investment opportunities in 2018 and beyond." – Jan. 8 2018, MusicNotes press release

<u>Mutual Bank</u> (Muncie, Indiana) -- \$750 bonuses for all non-executive employees; hourly employees will also receive a \$.50 pay raise per hour:

CEO Dave Heeter said," When an event like this occurs, a significant consideration is determining if the increased earnings resulting from the reduction in taxes, should be shared with a company's constituents." Heeter continues, "In the anticipation that the change in the tax law will provide an opportunity for greater earnings moving forward, we feel that sharing a portion of those earnings with our outstanding staff is appropriate."

*In the first quarter of 2018, MutualBank will distribute a \$750 one-time payment for all full-time and part-time employees except for the Executive Management Team. Additionally, all non-*

exempt employees will receive a \$0.50 increase in their hourly wage. -- J<u>an. 20, 2018</u> <u>MutualBank press release</u>

<u>National Bank Holdings Corporation</u> (Greenwood Village, Colorado) – \$1,000 bonuses for employees making less than \$50,000 (exact number receiving bonus unknown at this time)

"This move is in part a response to the recently enacted tax legislation, which is anticipated to have a positive impact on the U.S. economy." – <u>Dec. 27 2017, National Bank Holdings</u> <u>Corporation press release</u>

<u>National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation</u> (Erie, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

National Grid (Waltham, Massachusetts) – the utility plans to pass along tax savings to customers:

On the heels of expansive federal tax reform, National Grid will request a reduction in its pending natural gas distribution rate proposal with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities.

When federal tax reform legislation was signed into law in late December, the company began assessing how reductions in corporate tax rates could benefit customers. The company announced today it will update its rate proposal with the DPU for natural gas rates that will go into effect in October 2018: reducing the original \$87 million request to an estimated \$51 million.

"We are committed to ensuring that the tax savings of the legislation are fully realized and are used to help our customers in their energy bills," said Cordi O'Hara, president and COO of National Grid in Massachusetts. "We'll continue to seek opportunities to provide this benefit to all of our customers." – Jan. 11 2018, National Grid press release <u>National Grid Rhode Island</u> (Providence, Rhode Island) – the utility plans to pass along tax savings to customers:

National Grid Rhode Island announced today that it is reducing its electric and gas base distribution rate proposal with the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (RIPUC) by more than \$25 million. Last November, National Grid had put forth its first proposal since 2012 asking the RIPUC to adjust its base distribution rates for both gas and electric customers. Since that time, National Grid has been assessing how the newly passed federal tax reform legislation that was signed into law in late December could benefit our customers.

"Today's announcement is a key indicator of how this new tax law can provide real benefits to National Grid's customers," said Tim Horan, president and COO of National Grid in Rhode Island. "We are committed to ensuring that the tax savings of the legislation are fully realized and are used to help our customers in their energy bills." -- Jan. 11 2018, National Grid press release

<u>Nationwide Insurance</u> (Columbus, Ohio) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 29,000 employees; increased 401(k) matching contributions for 33,000 employees:

"The combination of the new tax legislation, including a reduced corporate tax rate, and our associates' ongoing commitment to our members, community and On Your Side promise are the reasons we're making this investment that further enhances the already robust benefits we offer to attract and retain the best talent." – Jan. 3 2018, Nationwide Insurance statement

Natural Guardian – tax reform bonuses to employees.

<u>Navient</u> (Wilmington, Delaware) – 98% of Navient's 6,700 employees will receive a \$1,000 bonus (approx. 6,566 bonus-eligible employees):

Crediting the new corporate tax rate recently approved by Congress, approximately 98 percent of Navient employees across the country received a \$1,000 bonus just before the holidays.

Navient has approximately 6,700 employees nationwide, including more than 900 in Hanover Township, company officials say.

According to a memo from Jack Remondi, Navient president and CEO, the firm announced it will pay a \$1,000 bonus to all non-officer employees.

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*Colleen Hughes, an instructional design specialist* — *she works behind the scenes in the training department* — *said co-workers "cheered and hollered" when they read their emails.* 

"And it came right before the holidays," said Hughes, 33, of Dupont. "I literally started to cry. I was shocked. I have a 3-year-old and I overspent for the holidays. This really helped me out."

As news of the \$1,000 bonuses made its way through Navient, Hughes said people became emotional.

"I know I feel I'm valued that we were even considered," Hughes said. "We all feel valued by the company — that we all are a valuable asset to the company. So much so that they recognize our talent and dedication." -- Jan. 2, 2018 Wilkes-Barre Times Leader article excerpts

<u>NBT Bancorp Inc.</u> (Norwich, New York) – Base wage raised to \$11 to \$15 per hour; minimum 5% salary increases for employees making less than \$50,000; increased capital expenditures:

The Company will realize a reduction in tax expense beginning in 2018 due to Tax Reform decreasing the federal rate for corporations from 35% to 21%. As a result, the Company is raising the starting hourly pay rate of \$11 to \$15 per hour and employees earning \$50,000 or less will receive a permanent minimum increase of 5%. This will positively impact over 61% of the Company's workforce. Moreover, in 2018 the Company will be increasing both its investment in infrastructure to enhance customer-facing technology and contributions to nonprofit organizations in its footprint. – Jan. 23 2018, NBT Bancorp Inc. press release

Nelnet (Lincoln, Nebraska) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 4,100 employees:

Nelnet CEO Jeff Noordhoek said the tax plan will greatly benefit the financial services company, which does very little business overseas and pays close to the full corporate tax rate. According to its 2016 annual report, its effective tax rate that year was 35.5 percent.

While the reduction in taxes will provide the company extra cash to invest and return to shareholders, "We also want to share this benefit with our employees," Noordhoek said. <u>– Dec.</u> 22 2017, Beatrice Daily Sun article excerpt

**Nexstar Media Group, Inc.** (Irving, Texas) -- Bonuses of \$500 for full-time employees, \$250 for part-time employees; increased 401(k) contributions:

As announced by Perry Sook during our Town Hall broadcast, the new corporate tax rate will produce a financial benefit for Nexstar, and the Company wants to extend that benefit to our employees via a one-time bonus and an increase to the 401k plan company match. Here are the details for those benefits.

A one-time special bonus will be issued to all employees actively employed by the Company as of March 1, 2018. The amount of the bonus is \$500 for full-time employees and \$250 for part-time

*employees. Bonuses will be paid in the first pay period of March and will be subject to applicable taxes.* 

*Employees ranked at the Vice President level or above are not eligible for the bonus.* 

*Effective April 1, 2018, the Company match for 401k contributions will be increased from 25% to 50% of the first 6% of contributions. -- Jan. 17, 2018 note to Nexstar employees* 

Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation (West Columbia, South Carolina) – 5% pay raises for employees:

Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation (Nephron) CEO Lou Kennedy today announced five percent increases for all employees with the exception of commissioned employees. The raises are a direct result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that was signed into law last week by President Donald Trump.

"We are excited that the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act has given us an opportunity to recognize their hard work and sacrifices with well-deserved raises," said Lou Kennedy, CEO of Nephron. – <u>Dec.</u> <u>27 2017, Nephron Pharmaceuticals Corporation press release</u>

Nevada Energy (Las Vegas, Nevada) – The utility is passing tax reform savings to customers:

*Effective April 1, 2018, we are passing on to you a monthly savings as a result of federal tax reform – Excerpt from NVEnergy's Energy Pricing Plans* 

New Jersey Natural Gas (Wall, New Jersey) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers:

New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG), a regulated subsidiary of New Jersey Resources (NYSE: NJR), today submitted a filing to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to pass through the benefits of the recently enacted federal tax reform to customers. NJNG announced it will reduce customers' rates by \$21 million, effective April 1, 2018, resulting in a \$31, or 3 percent, decrease to a typical residential heating customer's annual bill.

NJNG also announced it will provide a one-time refund to customers totaling approximately \$31 million. The estimated refund for a typical residential heat customer is \$47. The actual refund amounts will be determined in May and reflect individual customer usage. Pending BPU approval, customers can expect to see these savings in their May or June bills.

For the rate decrease, a typical residential heating customer using 1,000 therms a year will see their annual bill go from \$1,054 to \$1,023, a savings of \$31. When combined with the one-time refund, the customer will see an overall reduction of \$78 or 7.4 percent this year. This adjustment will help ensure rates reflect the lower tax structure and any appropriate savings are passed on to customers. "Our top priority is to ensure we deliver safe, reliable and affordable service to our customers, said Laurence M. Downes, chairman and CEO of New Jersey Resources. "We are pleased to pass along the benefits of tax reform to our customers through lower energy bills." – <u>March 2 2018,</u> <u>New Jersey Resources press release excerpt</u>

<u>NexTier Bank</u> (Butler, Pennsylvania) – \$1,000 bonuses for all employees; tuition reimbursement on job training; wage raises for hourly employees:

NexTier Bank, N.A. ("NexTier"), today announced an investment in its workforce with a one-time bonus of **\$1,000 for all employees as a result of the tax reform bill passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by President Trump.** This is in addition to annual bonuses paid in late 2017.

*"Our employees are the key to our success and we are pleased to share this tax savings with our team.* NexTier's employees work hard to meet the needs of our customers, build relationships, and give back to the communities we serve. It's an honor to reward them for their efforts," stated CEO, Clem Rosenberger.

In addition to this one-time payout, NexTier is committed to providing educational and career advancement opportunities to employees on an ongoing basis with educational benefits such as tuition reimbursement, internal training, and a variety of industry training opportunities. NexTier will also make adjustments to the wages of hourly employees throughout the year.

"The tax reform bill not only allows us to invest in our employees, but to accelerate lending to small businesses, increase hiring, and enhance our charitable giving. It's a win-win," continued Rosenberger. "We fully expect to see significant growth, not only as a company, but throughout the local and national economy as a result of this historic legislation." – <u>Jan. 12</u> <u>2018, NexTier Bank press release</u>

Nexus Services, Inc. (Verona, Virginia) – 5% raise for all employees; 200 more workers will be hired in 2018:

All Nexus Services, Inc. employees will receive a 5% raise, starting in January 2018, CEO Mike Donovan announced today. Also, Nexus unveiled plans to hire another 200 workers over the course of 2018 – doubling the size of Nexus Services, Inc. workforce nationwide. Many of the new jobs will be created in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and other jobs will be in San Juan (Puerto Rico), Hackensack (NJ), Ontario (CA) and other sites nationwide.

The 5% boost in pay will come on top of the increased take home pay that workers will enjoy due to lower Federal income tax rates for individuals.

The more than 200 new jobs Nexus plans to create over the next 12 months will each have a "living wage" and provide full benefits including, health, dental, vision, and retirement plans.

A combination of an improved business outlook for 2018 and tax reform by Congress has enabled Nexus Services, Inc. to make these generous changes. –<u>Dec. 21, 2017 Nexus Services,</u> <u>Inc. press release</u>

Nicor Gas (Naperville, Illinois) - the utility will pass on tax reform savings to customers:

Nicor Gas\_customers can expect their rates to go down about \$1.73 a month, effective in early May, the company said.

The <u>Illinois Commerce Commission</u> has approved a reduction of Nicor Gas' distribution rates totaling \$43.6 million. The reduction stems from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which lowered Nicor Gas' annual tax expense, according to a statement.

*"We are pleased to share that benefit with our customers," said Nicor Gas President Melvin D. Williams – <u>May 3, 2018, Daily Herald article excerpt</u>* 

Nine Line Apparel (Savannah, Georgia) - Employee bonuses:

"The bonuses range from \$500 to \$20,000" - March 28, 2018, Rep Buddy Carter video excerpt

Noah Bank (Elkins Park, Pennsylvania) – \$1,500 cash bonus to employees:

Noah Bank, a Pennsylvania-chartered community bank, has announced today that its Board of Directors has elected to provide all employees with a one-time *\$1,500 cash bonus thanks to the passage of new tax legislation.* 

CEO Edward E. Shin stated, "We are pleased to have the opportunity to reward employees with salary increases and bonuses thanks to these tax cuts. We are proud of our dedicated and enthusiastic employees who have made Noah Bank a success." Mr. Shin added that, "The new legislation will continue to benefit Noah Bank, our employees, our shareholders, and our customers as we progress and grow."

Congress approved tax reform legislation that reduced the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%. Noah Bank intends to pay out the bonuses on February 8." – Feb. 2 2018, Noah Bank press release

<u>Northco Products, Inc.</u> (Albany, New York) – this small business was able to hire one new employee, give all employees bonuses ranging from \$100 - \$971 after taxes; the company is also investing in a new building:

The opportunity to do better for our employees and business was an exciting event. We took a leap of faith that congress would pass the historic tax reform. In doing so, we were able to hire one new employee, and give all of our employees bonuses including our intern, who is involved in a local high school's program for students with autism. These bonuses varied from \$100 to \$971 (after tax based on the duration of their employment with us. On top of this, we decided to invest in a new building and name for the business. The building we chose is the former headquarters of our family business. Moving into this new building will provide our employees with more space and higher quality work environment and location. The name we chose also ties in with our roots as a successful and respected family business. The Historic Tax Reform presents us with the opportunity to rebuild a once great family focused business, Standard Copy - AJ Crandall, President Northco Products, Inc

Northeast Vapor Supplies (Old Saybrook, CT) -- Bonuses of between \$50 - \$300 for the five employees.

<u>Northern Indiana Public Service Company</u> (Merrillville, Indiana) – the utility requested that customers' natural gas rates be lowered:

As a result of the newly enacted federal tax reform, NIPSCO submitted a request with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) to lower its previous request to modify natural gas base rates by \$26 million. The reduction means natural gas residential customers would pay nearly \$2 less per month following the Commissions' decision in the company's natural gas rate proposal, which is expected in the second half of 2018. The average natural gas residential customer paying \$50 per month is projected to see their bill go to \$58.10 per month, subject to IURC approval, rather than \$59.80 as originally proposed. Electric rate benefits from federal tax reform are being considered and reviewed separately. NIPSCO's original proposal, which was made last September, is four months into a formal regulatory review process, which includes opportunities for public input and involvement. According to the IURC's monthly residential bill comparisons, NIPSCO is currently the lowest natural gas cost provider in Indiana." — Jan. 29 2018, Northern Indiana Public Service Company press release

#### Northpoint Apartments – employee bonuses.

North Shore Bank (Brookfield, Wisconsin) -- \$500 tax reform bonuses to employees.

NorthWestern Energy (Butte, Montana) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to its customers:

The tax savings stem from the Republican Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which Congress passed in December and was signed into law by President Donald Trump. Federal corporate tax rates fell from 35 percent to 21 percent.

Regulated utilities like NorthWestern cannot pocket the savings, which must be shared with ratepayers, who also pay the utilities' taxes. NorthWestern has about 345,000 customers in Montana.

NorthWestern is proposing that its natural gas customers receive direct refunds for the entire \$3.154 million in tax breaks associated with the utility's natural gas business. The company's electric customers would receive half of the \$10.8 million in tax breaks associated with NorthWestern's electric business. Half the money would be spent removing hazard trees that pose a fire or outage risk.

"With what we proposed, for a natural gas customer, it would be about \$1.18 a month. An electricity customer would be 67 cents per month," said Butch Larcombe, NorthWestern spokesman. – <u>April 3, 2018 Billings Gazette article excerpt</u>

Northwest Motor Services (Longview, Washington) - Raising pay and hiring new employees:

A few weeks ago, I visited Northwest Motor Services in Longview – a local business that employs 33 people and repairs industrial motors for factories and industrial facilities. Their outlook on new opportunities was far more optimistic than what I've heard from local employers in years. They'd just given their employees raises, and were excited about additional business that may stem from tax cut-driven economic growth – and hiring more people as a result. - July 9, 2018, Rep. Jaime Herrera statement on the House floor

<u>Novelis, Inc.</u> (Atlanta, Georgia) – Construction of a 400,000-square foot automotive aluminum facility in Guthrie, Kentucky. The facility will create approximately 125 jobs:

Since 2008 manufacturing in the United States has added more than a million new jobs, and today that momentum continued with a major announcement by Novelis, Inc.—spurred on, in part, by the recently enacted tax reform legislation.

The global leader in aluminum rolled products and the world's largest recycler of aluminum broke ground this week on its \$300 million automotive aluminum sheet manufacturing facility in Guthrie, Kentucky. This new investment, made possible due to tax reform and a "favorable economic environment," will create approximately 125 new jobs. – <u>May 14, 2018 National</u> <u>Association of Manufacturers ShopFloor.org blog post</u>

OceanFirst Financial Corp. (Toms River, New Jersey) – base wage increase to \$15 per hour:

"OceanFirst Financial Corp. (NASDAQ:OCFC) the holding company forOceanFirstBank, today announced a commitment to increase the Bank's minimum hourly pay rate to\$15.00 within 30 days of the enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act which has been approved

by Congress and is expected to be signed into law in the near future." – Dec. 22 2017, <u>OceanFirst</u> <u>Financial Corp. press release</u>

Ohnward Bancshares (Maquoketa, Iowa) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all 260 employees:

"As a result of the passage of the tax relief bill this week, Ohnward Bancshares has announced it will pay a \$1,000 tax relief, holiday bonus to every company employee. This bonus is separate, and, in addition to, normal bonuses received based on company performance. "There has been a lot of debate about what a tax cut will do for the nation's economy. This sweeping tax reform will create economic growth in our communities, but only if the expense savings are shared", comments the Ohnward leadership team, Abram Tubbs, Brigham Tubbs, Alan Tubbs and Kendra Beck." – <u>Dec. 21 2017, Ohnward Bancshares press release</u>

Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

Oklahoma Gas and Electric, a subsidiary of Oklahoma City-based OGE Energy Corp. (NYSE: OGE), announced today that it has asked the Oklahoma Corporation Commission to review the company's request to recover its approximately \$390 million investment in the Mustang Energy Center, the first, new, natural-gas fired plant the company has built in more than 30 years. The new plant includes seven, modern quick-start natural-gas turbines that replaced two of the oldest natural gas-fired units in the country.

The company initially planned to seek a rate increase of about \$70 million per year to recover its investment. Following President Donald Trump's signing of federal tax reform in December 2017, the company delayed its filing from late December to today to adjust its proposed filing to ensure customers benefitted from the lower corporate tax rate. The company is now seeking just under \$2 million per year, and the average Oklahoma residential customer will see no monthly bill increase. OG&E's rates today are 24 percent below the national average, placing them among the lowest in the country.

"The president's signing of tax reform in December was fortuitous for customer and the company," said OG&E spokesman Brian Alford. "When it became evident in November that tax reform was a real possibility, we began having conversations at the Oklahoma Corporation Commission about incorporating the benefits of tax reform into our upcoming filing. Today's filing reflects those benefits as well as our ongoing efforts to manage costs, which provide customers with a modern, highly efficient power plant at virtually no impact on monthly electric bills." – Jan. 16 2018, Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company press release

<u>Ole Smoky Distillery</u> (Gatlinburg, Tennessee) - bonuses for non-senior management employees, purchasing new equipment, opening a new distillery, hiring new employees:

"We are very supportive of the new tax programs, as they are providing an opportunity for us to further invest in our team and business activities," said Robert Hall, CEO of Ole Smoky Distillery. "We greatly value all our very talented employees, and are always striving to do what is best for them and the surrounding community. We will be using some of our tax savings to reward many of these hardworking individuals, as well as increasing our investment in new business endeavors. We couldn't think of a better day to make this announcement."

The moonshine distillery will be using some of the tax cut savings to provide bonuses for all employees below senior management, proportional to their tenure with the company. Additionally, because of its rapid business growth, the company has created many more jobs, particularly in East Tennessee, and plans to continue that growth by investing further in its Sevier County distilleries and expanding its footprint to Nashville, where it plans to open a 4th distillery and retail/entertainment location in the fall. New equipment has already been installed at the company's largest distillery, the Holler, in order to expand production capacity. More equipment is on order for its Pittman Center bottling facility to continue the capacity expansion of that facility. - April 17, 2018, Ole Smoky Distillery press release excerpt

Old Dominion Freight Line Inc. (Thomasville, North Carolina) – \$500 bonuses for all 22,000 employees:

"I am excited to share a bit of good holiday cheer with you today. The President has signed a historic tax reform bill that should reduce OD's taxes and also generate growth for the U.S. economy. We expect that the anticipated improvement in the economy will create additional opportunities for use to WIN market share and grow our Company more than originally anticipated. As we have said many times before, however, our ability to successfully grow the Company is centered on each member of the OD Family performing at his or her very best to deliver SUPERIOR SERVICE to our customers!

As a way of saying THANK YOU for continuing to deliver best-in-class service, and to share part of our anticipated 2017 tax savings with you, a one-time bonus payment for non-executives will be included in your paycheck this week." – <u>Old Dominion CEO David Congdon</u>

Omaha Track (Omaha, Nebraska) — \$500 bonuses.

**Oncor Electric Delivery** (Dallas, Texas) – The utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

The company delivering electricity to most North Texans would likely save millions from the new corporate tax rate cut. But that entire windfall is expected to go back to consumers.

That's the result of a recently completed rate case where the state's largest regulated utility agreed to return all tax cut benefits to its customers.

The \$1.5-trillion tax overhaul hadn't been completed when Oncor's rate negotiation with the regulator was settled. And the Public Utility Commission of Texas, the agency that regulates the operations of electricity-distribution companies like Oncor, made sure to cover the possibility of a tax cut.

"Oncor will work with the PUCT to determine the best way to distribute those savings back to customers," said spokesman Geoff Bailey via email. "In short, we are capturing these tax savings for future refunds to our customers." – Jan. 16 2018, Dallas Morning News article excerpt

**OneMain Holdings, Inc.** (Evansville, Indiana) – Bonuses and base wage increases:

OneMain Holdings Inc. will use part of its savings from the reduction in the federal corporate tax rate to raise its minimum wage for employees and provide a special bonus, President and CEO Jay Levine said. – Feb. 16, 2018 SNL Financial Services Daily article excerpt

Otelco (Oneonta, Alabama) — \$500 bonuses for all employees:

The Tax Cut and Jobs Act, enacted in December 2017, affects Otelco's taxes in 2017, as well as future tax years. Bonus depreciation was increased from 50% to 100%, beginning in 2017, with the Company realizing a benefit of over \$0.6 million in fourth quarter 2017. The reduced maximum tax rate has also lowered the Company's deferred tax liabilities and is reflected in an income tax benefit, raising net income for the quarter and year. "We recently announced to our employees that everyone would be receiving a special bonus of \$500," commented Rob Souza, President and CEO of Otelco. "Coupled with the lower tax withholding rate that most employees should experience, everyone should start 2018 with more take home pay. — <u>March 5, 2018</u> <u>Otelco statement</u>

<u>Otter Tail Power Co.</u> (Fergus Falls, Minnesota) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Otter Tail sought to reduce its interim electric rate increase from 10.4 percent to 6.8 percent. Typical residential customers would see a reduction of about \$3.10 a month, a company spokeswoman said, and business customers would see an \$18.25 drop.

"Federal corporate incomes taxes are a cost of service to our customers," Otter Tail said in its request. "The reduction of the federal corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent reduces Otter Tail's cost of providing service." – February 27, 2018 Bismarck Tribune article excerpt

Our Town America (Clearwater, Florida) – Raise wages, hire new employees, and purchase new equipment:

There's no small business owner I talk to who isn't thankful to be able to protect one-fifth of his or her earnings from taxes. For some marginal small businesses, it will make the difference between staying in business and closing.

*My* business is no different. We're using our tax cut savings to raise wages, hire new staff, and add even more features and equipment to our brand new headquarters — a 44,000 square foot office building in Clearwater. – April 29, 2018, Tallahassee Democrat article excerpt

Overseas Hardwoods Company (Stockton, Alabama) -- \$1,000 tax reform bonuses to employees.

Owl's Head Alloys (Bowling Green, Kentucky) - Hiring new employees, expanding facilities:

"Owl's Head Alloys in my hometown of Bowling Green recently announced a \$3 million expansion which would create 17 new jobs, bringing their total employment in the Second District to nearly 100 good-paying jobs. When I visited their facility in March, Owl's Head owner and president, David Bradford, told me that the economic outlook resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act helped lead to their decision to expand. This is exactly why we passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: to give American businesses the confidence to grow and expand right in our communities, and to help individual taxpayers keep more of their money." - May 8, 2018, Rep. Brett Guthrie statement on House floor

**Ozark Motor Lines** (Memphis, Tennessee) – New driver per diem program:

Ozark Motor Lines and Whiteline Express have announced new pay packages for drivers.

Ozark, a family-owned ground transportation services company based in Memphis, Tennessee, said effective June 1 experienced over-the-road and regional drivers will receive 2 cents per mile increase while driving teams will receive an additional 1 cent per mile.

Also, Ozark Motor Lines is rolling out its first-ever driver per diem program to benefit drivers in response to tax law changes that went into effect earlier this year.

"It's always great to be able to raise pay for our hard-working professional drivers," said Patrick Landreth, vice president of human resources and safety. "These truck drivers have such an important job, Ozark makes it a priority to reward them for it." – April 30, 2018 TheTrucker.com article excerpt

Pacific Power (Portland, Oregon) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers

The new Republican tax plan has brought a variety of tax cuts. Pacific Power says they are committed to passing the benefit of this tax cut on to customers.

"We strive to provide our customers reliable service while keeping rates low," said Stefan Bird, President and CEO of Pacific Power. "The benefit of this tax cut should be passed on to our customers – and we will work with our regulators and stakeholders on the best way to do that." – Jan. 3 2018, My Columbia Basin article excerpt

Pan Am Systems, Inc. (North Billerica, Massachusetts) -- \$1,100 tax reform bonuses for 719 employees.

Pan Am Systems, Inc. is a diversified holding company. Its subsidiaries include Pan Am Railways – the nation's largest regional rail carrier by mileage operating in five states; Perma Treat Corporation – a wood products manufacturer, including railroad ties, and Pan Am Brands, a trademark licensing company.

In an effort to highlight the benefits of the landmark Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("TCJA"), Pan Am Systems, Inc. is pleased to announce that it will be issuing a one-time bonus of \$1,100.00 to each employee of the company and its subsidiaries, effective today. This bonus is intended to; (a) acknowledge the importance of our employees; and (b) provide those employees with additional compensation to use as they elect.

As noted by the President, the TCJA is intended to make resources available for investment by businesses that will have downstream effects of expanding and creating wealth among all citizens. Pan Am shares this goal and is committed to future capital investment to foster growth of the company. Pan Am strongly believes that programs such as the TCJA and the 45G tax credit, supported by continued reduction in overly burdensome regulations, provide substantial incentives for investment in America's growth. – May 23, 2018 Pan Am Systems, Inc. press release

Panhandle Cleaning and Restoration (Wheeling, West Virginia) – Purchasing new trucks and equipment:

While Panhandle is often called upon for clean-up services after national disasters, Contraguerro told Jenkins the company relies on its day-to-day operations. Their employees, trucks and equipment are called to local homes and businesses each day following water-line breaks or other incidents, and Panhandle doesn't wait for hurricanes to hit, he said.

The company plans to invest the money it receives from the tax cuts into more trucks and equipment.

"We will be reinvesting in the business," he told Jenkins. "There is a huge benefit to reinvesting." -- May 3, 2018, The Intelligencer article excerpt

Pattison Sand Company (Clayton, Iowa): \$600 cash bonuses, base pay raised by \$1.50-\$2.50 per hour:

"Last fall, Congressman Rod Blum visited our mine in Clayton County. He met many of our people and saw for himself what we do every day. We told him about the high costs of over-taxation and over-regulation. He listened. He did his part, taking our message back to Washington. He fought for real tax reform that will bring our business taxes in line with other industrialized countries. More importantly it will mean more take home pay for our people. He is also working put more common sense into federal regulations. We did our part too. We gave every employee a \$600 cash (in \$2 bills) bonus and we raised base pay by \$1.50-\$2.50 an hour. And yes we are growing, adding staff and buying more equipment. We thought you should know." – <u>The</u> <u>Waterloo- Cedar Falls Courier</u>

<u>Payne Trucking</u> (Fredericksburg, Virginia) – bonuses of \$250 for employees of at least six months, \$500 for employees of at least a year, and \$750 for employees of at least five years:

"A longtime Fredericksburg-area business owner is giving 81 employees a one-time bonus as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed by Congress in December.

"We were so pleased with the tax relief that we got that we had to share it," said Danny Payne, head of Payne Trucking Co. "There were tremendous savings in tax relief."

Employees at the company's locations in Massaponax and Dundalk, Md., who've worked for Payne at least six months received an extra \$250 in their paycheck Jan. 26. Those who've worked there for at least a year got \$500 and those who've been there at least five years got \$750. Senior management and part-timers weren't eligible." – <u>Feb. 8 2018, Fredericksburg.com</u>

Paychex, Inc. (Rochester, New York) — Increased investments; acceleration of technology projects; increased investments in employees:

On December 21st, 2017, the tax cuts and jobs act or tax reform was enacted. And it's the most comprehensive tax reform legislation in more than two decades. Paychex, as a corporate tax payer is a significant beneficiary of tax reform. Efrain will discuss the financial impacts in more detail. However, I want to mention that as a result of the significant income tax reduction, we plan to utilize some of this opportunistic benefit to make various investments in our business. These investments include accelerating certain technology projects for the continued evolution of our customer experience, increasing our spend in marketing demand generation and sales and service strategy enhancements, as well as investment in our employees. — <u>March 26, 2018</u> Paychex, Inc. Q3 2018 Earnings Conference Call Transcript

<u>PECO Energy Company</u> (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and

wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, <u>Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release</u>

<u>Pennsylvania-American Water Company</u> (Hershey, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

<u>Pennsylvania-American Water Company-Wastewater</u> (Hershey, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

<u>Pennsylvania Electric Company</u> (Akron, Ohio) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

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Pennsylvania Power Company (Akron, Ohio) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, <u>Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release</u>

**Peoples Bank** (Bellingham, Washington) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; 401(k) match increased one point to 8%:

In response to the newly passed tax reform legislation, Peoples Bank (<u>https://www.peoplesbank-wa.com/</u>) today announced new investments in its employees. Specifically, Peoples Bank will raise the minimum wage to \$15 for all hourly employees, effective February 1, 2018, and will increase its 401K match one point to eight percent for all eligible employees, effective immediately

"These new employee benefits reflect our ongoing commitment to doing what is right at every step, and our People Come First philosophy which guides the decisions we make in support of our customers and employees," said Charles LeCocq, Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer. "The new corporate tax reform package is an opportunity to give back to our employees, and recognize their hard work and dedication to providing our customers with a full relationship banking experience and exceptional customer service." – Jan. 8 2018, Peoples Bank press release Peoples Bank (Magnolia, Arkansas) -- \$500 bonuses and \$50,000 in charitable donations.

<u>Peoples Gas Company LLC</u> (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, <u>Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release</u>

<u>Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC-Equitable Division</u> (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

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<u>Peoples Services Inc.</u> (Canton, Ohio) - Increased wages, employee bonuses, hired new employees, nearly doubled capital investment:

"But thanks to the leadership of President Trump and his commitment to tax reform, I hear new stories every day of how my constituents are doing better under the new law. Just last week, I spoke to Doug Sibila, President, and CEO of Peoples Services, Inc., whos seven state operation is led out of Canton, Ohio. In recent months Peoples Services has raised pay, handed out bonuses, hired more people, and nearly doubled capital investment. All while increasing sales and margins. Stories like that of Doug and his employees are shaping the legacy of tax reform, and that's a legacy I'm glad to have played a part in." - <u>July 2, 2018, Rep. Jim Renacci statement on</u> <u>U.S. House Floor</u>

Penske Automotive Group (Bloomfield Hills, Michigan) – Increased 401(k) contributions:

Penske Automotive Group, Inc. (NYSE: PAG), an international transportation services company, announced today that it has enhanced the company's U.S. 401(k) savings plan by increasing company matching contributions from 1.5% to 2.5% of eligible contributions, representing an increase of 67%. The increase will provide a recurring, annual benefit to our employees.

"The recently enacted tax reform positively impacts our business, presenting us with even greater opportunities to pursue our strategic initiatives, invest in our employees and improve shareholder value," said Penske Automotive Group Chairman Roger S. Penske. – <u>Jan. 31, 2018</u> Penske Automotive Group press release

<u>Pentucket Bank</u> (Haverhill, Massachusetts) – \$500 bonuses, increased base wages, increased additional educational opportunities through a University of Pentucket Bank program.

Pepco (Washington, DC) – The utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

Pepco today announced they will file with the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia in early February, outlining **plans to provide annual tax savings to more than 296,000 electric customers in the District of Columbia.** If approved, Pepco would plan to begin providing a credit lowering customer bills starting in the first quarter of 2018.

The tax savings are the result of federal tax reductions under the new Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which was signed into law on Dec. 22, 2017, and became effective on Jan. 1, 2018. The decrease in the Corporate Tax Rate from 35 percent to 21 percent reduces the amount of federal income tax Pepco will have to pay.

**"The tax law will result in lower bills for our customers and lower taxes for Pepco,"** said Dave Velazquez, President and CEO, Pepco Holdings, which includes Pepco. – <u>Jan. 5 2018, Pepco press</u> <u>release</u>

PepsiCo, Inc. (Purchase, New York) -- \$1,000 bonuses to full-time front-line U.S. employees:

For 2018, we will be aided by the financial benefits provided by the recent U.S. tax reform, which will allow us to make incremental investments to further fortify our business. For example, in 2018, we will provide a bonus of up to \$1,000 to full-time front-line U.S.-based associates to reward and recognize their dedication and contribution to making our business better and stronger. And we will invest in training our global associates to arm them with the skills to succeed in tomorrow's workplace. – <u>Feb. 13, 2018 PepsiCo, Inc. Earnings Call Transcript</u>

Pfizer Inc. (New York, New York) -- \$100 million in tax reform bonuses for non-executive employees:

"The company also has allocated approximately \$100 million for a special, one-time bonus to be paid to all non-executive Pfizer colleagues in first-quarter 2018." -- <u>Jan. 29, 2018 Pfizer Inc. press</u> <u>release</u>

<u>Pike County Light & Power Company</u> (Milford, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

<u>Pilgrim Bank</u> (Cohasset, Massachusetts) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; additional 401(k) contributions; increased charitable donations.

Pinnacle Bank (Lincoln, Nebraska) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 1,007 employees:

"We feel strongly that the message should be loud and clear that this is a tax cut that will benefit all Americans." – <u>Dec. 22 2017, Pinnacle Bank press release</u>

Pioneer Credit Recovery (Arcade, New York) – \$1,000 bonuses for 800 employees.

Pitney Bowes (Stamford, Connecticut) – \$18 million investment commitment to raise wages:

"the Company will make an investment commitment of more than \$18 million on an annualized basis to raise wages of the majority of its U.S. hourly employees. In addition, Pitney Bowes plans to fund key investment areas within the Company to provide more value to its small and medium business clients.

"The tax reform legislation provides Pitney Bowes the flexibility to invest in our people, our clients, our company, and the communities where we live and work," said Marc B. Lautenbach,

*President and CEO. "We believe that the investments we make in our employees and our clients not only strengthen our business for the long term, but ultimately benefit our shareholders."* 

In addition, Pitney Bowes plans to provide additional investments that contribute to the longterm growth of the Company, including funding the financing offerings within Pitney Bowes to support growth in its small and medium-sized business clients in the U.S." – Jan. 31 2018, Pitney Bowes press release excerpt

Pivot Manufacturing (Phoenix, Arizona) - Purchasing new equipment:

Two high-speed machines arrived less than a month after the president signed the tax bill. The law lets Macias avoid paying federal tax on 20 percent of his company's income. - <u>May 16, 2018,</u> <u>KJZZ.org article excerpt</u>

Plexus Corp. (Neenah, Wisconsin) – cash bonuses for non-executive employees:

"In order to reward employees for their contributions towards Plexus' success, Plexus will provide existing, full-time, non-executive employees a one-time cash bonus. This bonus will be provided in the fiscal second quarter to nearly 16,000 employees, totaling approximately \$13 million." <u>–</u> <u>Feb. 20 2018, Plexus press release excerpt</u>

**PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.** (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 47,500 employees; an additional \$1,500 in employee pension accounts; base wage hike to \$15; \$200 million charitable contribution:

"The tax reform law creates an opportunity to reward our employees who are working hard each day to serve our customers, build strong relationships in our communities and create long-term value for our shareholders," said William S. Demchak, PNC's chairman, president and chief executive officer. "The Board's decision to recognize our employees and support our communities is reflective of our commitment to PNC's success." – Dec. 22 2017, PNC press release

PodcastOne (Los Angeles, California) – \$1,000 bonuses for all full-time employees:

PodcastOne Founder and Executive Chairman Norman Pattiz announced today that the podcast company will award all full-time employees a \$1,000 cash bonus.

Pattiz said, **"There's no question that cutting the corporate Federal Tax Rate to 21% will have a positive effect on business, ours included. We want our employees to feel the direct benefit of these cuts**, especially since because of their efforts we are coming off another record year in 2017. So we say, 'Thank you to our dedicated staff and job well done.'" *PodcastOne is the nation's largest advertiser-supported podcast network.* – <u>Jan. 30 2018,</u> <u>PodcastOne press release</u>

Pottle's Transportation (Hermon, Maine): Purchasing new equipment:

*Barry Pottle, CEO of Pottle Transportation, plans to buy 25 tractors and 25 trailers this year, adding capacity to his 170-unit truckload fleet.* 

*"Before the tax bill, we were planning on trading in trucks, but now we would like to grow our fleet because we think our customers will also benefit and be busier, too," Pottle told TT. – Feb. 12 2018, Transport Topics article excerpt* 

<u>PPL Electric Utilities Corporation</u> (Allentown, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

Pratt Industries (Conyers, Georgia) - Investing \$2 billion into the United States:

Anthony Pratt, the richest person in Australia, will be investing nearly \$2 billion in the U.S. in hopes of creating new jobs and doubling American food production – and he credits it all to President Trump's business-friendly Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.

The tax overhaul slashed the corporate tax rate to 21% from 35% in hopes of making the U.S. more competitive with foreign countries.

"It's going to lead to a tsunami of investment in the United States," he said during an interview with FOX Business' Stuart Varney on Tuesday. "We make corrugated boxes, everything that's manufactured goes in a box. So we think we're a barometer of the economy."

The billionaire cardboard king hopes to add 5,000 jobs more to the economy with his latest investment. - June 26, 2018 Fox Business Network article excerpt

Premera Blue Cross (Mountlake Terrace, Washington) -- \$1,500 bonuses for 2,600 employees.

<u>Priority Courier Experts</u> (St. Paul, Minnesota) – tax reform bonuses were given on Jan. 2, 2018 to employees; further, employees will receive another \$500 bonus in 2018 on the anniversary of their hire date:

Priority Courier Experts paid a "TRUMP BUMP" to each of its 80 employees on their January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 paycheck. We also expanded the "TRUMP BUMP" to pay each employee a \$500 bonus on their hire anniversary date in 2018, and our hope for the future is to make the "TRUMP BUMP" Bonus permanent. – Steve Cossack, Founder/CEO, <u>Priority Courier Experts</u>

<u>Primrose School of South Tampa</u> (Tampa, Florida) – Salary increases; playground upgrades; educational hardware and software investments; upgraded classroom flooring:

"Primrose School of South Tampa joined the ranks of other companies in giving back to our employees as a direct result of the tax reform. We are an educational preschool providing a premier early education and child care experience for children and families in the Tampa Bay area. Located in Tampa, Florida, we employ 85 teachers and management staff. Thanks to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed by the Republican Congress and signed into law by President Trump, each of our full-time staff members will receive a \$1,040 salary increase and our parttime employees will receive one-half of that amount. We will invest over \$75,000 in turf to improve our playgrounds for our children. We purchased 50 new Apple iPads and software for classroom/student use, and we are investing in upgraded classroom flooring. Our total infrastructure investment in our beautiful school is over \$150,000 thanks to President Trump and the Republican Congress! This would not have been possible but for the tax reform and our sincerest thanks go to President Trump and to Congress for passing this legislation. President Donald Trump is doing a great job and we appreciate the hard work on his aggressive agenda." – Jana Radtke, Franchise Owner, Primrose School of South Tampa

### **<u>ProMedica</u>** (Toledo, Ohio) - New headquarters

Today, U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), as part of his Results for the Middle-Class Tax Reform Tour, visited ProMedica Headquarters in Toledo. The headquarters was partially funded through New Markets Tax Credits and Historic Tax Credits, tax incentives Senator Portman fought to preserve in the Senate version of the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act and the final bill which ultimately became law. - March 27, 2018, Sen. Rob Portman press release excerpt

Prospector Hotel & Gambling Hall (Ely, Nevada) – \$500 bonuses and increase base wage to \$12 per hour.

**Protective Life Corporation** (Birmingham, Alabama) -- Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for 75% of employees:

Recognizing the benefits it will receive as a result of the recent passage of federal tax reform, Protective has committed to:

- Paying a special \$1,000 bonus to approximately 75% of its employees
- Establishing a minimum wage across its employee base of \$15/hour -- <u>Feb. 13,</u> 2018 Protective Life Corporation statement

<u>Public Service Company of New Mexico</u> (Albuquerque, New Mexico) – The utility will pass tax reform savings to customers:

The company will gain about \$48 million from the lowering of the corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent. It will pass those gains onto consumers starting this year as part of Public Service Co. of New Mexico's latest rate case that concluded in December, allowing PNM to lower its newest rate hike to just 1.4 percent. – <u>Feb. 27 2018, Albuquerque Journal article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Public Service Company of Oklahoma</u> (Tulsa, Oklahoma) - the utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

A recommendation the judge filed in the case states evidence and testimony indicates the company accumulated the income thanks to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act approved by Congress at the end of 2017.

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"The tax cut provides an opportunity for real savings for customers, especially during the summer months when energy usage rises along with the temperature," Hunter stated in a release. "We hope the members of the Oklahoma Corporation Commission complete their review as quickly as possible to benefit PSO customers." - <u>June 29, 2018, NewsOk article excerpts</u>

<u>Public Service Enterprise Group</u> (Newark, New Jersey) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Public Service Electric and Gas Co. (PSE&G) today proposed to lower customer bills by approximately 2 percent on April 1 to pass on the benefits of the federal tax reform legislation enacted earlier this year.

In its filing with the NJ Board of Public Utilities, PSE&G will reduce rates by approximately \$114 million on an annual basis effective April 1 to reflect lower federal taxes the utility will pay. The

typical residential combined electric and gas customer will save nearly \$41 per year. – March 2, 2018, PSE&G Press Release

<u>Puget Sound Energy Inc.</u> (Bellevue, Washington) – The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

Washington state utility regulators approved electric rate reductions for Puget Sound Energy Inc. totaling \$108.5 million for 2018, with two-thirds of that amount reflecting cuts to the company's federal corporate income tax rate.

The federal tax overhaul of 2017 lowered the utility's corporate income tax return from 35% to 21%, and the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission determined that the financial benefit should be passed on to the company's customers. Those customers will continue to see the benefits of the tax rate reduction in the years ahead as well because the regulators also agreed to cut Puget Sound Energy's, or PSE's, annual base electric rates by \$72.9 million. – May 7, 2018, SNL Electric Utility Report

Quad/Graphics (Sussex, Wisconsin) - Giving employees stock for their retirement accounts:

Quad/Graphics Inc., the international printing company based in Sussex, said this week that Instead of a one-time bonus, the company will transfer roughly \$22 million in Quad/Graphics stock to its employees' retirement accounts.

In his fourth quarter 2017 earnings call with analysts this week, chairman, president and CEO Joel Quadracci said the stock gift was "made possible by tax reform legislation."

"We received a benefit from tax reform and decided it made sense to invest this back into our employee base who is helping drive our transformation as a company," said company spokeswoman Claire Ho.- <u>February 23, 2018, Milwaukee Business Journal article excerpt</u>

Quadvest (Tomball, Texas) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

"On behalf of the approximately 30,000 customers Quadvest Utility serves in Southeast Texas, we would like to thank you for your integral part in the development and ultimate passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of FY2017. The passage of this key piece of legislation has allowed Quadvest to proactively reduce our customers' base water and sewer fees by 26% or almost \$90 per year/family." – Simon Sequeira, President of Quadvest

Quake Manufacturing (Fort Wayne, Indiana) – \$1,000 bonuses, enhanced insurance benefits, gym memberships:

"Quake realized there was some extra money after Trump's tax plan took over. So he decided to give it back to his 12 employees. "I've managed to add long-term disability, short-term disability, dental insurance."

Plus everyone gets a \$1,000 bonus and a paid gym membership. A nice surprise on their next check. "I want to reward the guys. Guys have been working hard. A lot of guys have been putting in a lot of overtime. I just don't see any reason not to kick back to them." – Feb. 21 2018, Wane.com article excerpt

Quail Creek Bank (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) – Employee bonuses of \$2,000 or \$1,000 and increased 401(k) contributions:

- \$2,000 bonus for all non-exempt employees; \$1,000 bonus for part-time employees

- Increased the 401(k) match to 100% of every dollar up to 6% of employee's salary

Quest Diagnostics Incorporated (Secaucus, New Jersey) -- Bonuses of up to \$500 for 40,000 employees:

## Tax Reform Benefit

In 2018 the company expects to realize approximately \$180 million in tax savings on an adjusted basis. Of this amount, the company plans to reinvest roughly \$75 million before tax back into the business and its employees, resulting in a benefit of approximately \$120 million to net earnings. Investment initiatives include:

Advanced diagnostics innovation through new tests and high-touch concierge services;

• Investments to deliver a consistently excellent consumer experience both online through the MyQuest mobile patient application and patient service centers; and

• A bonus of up to \$500 for nearly 40,000 employees to be paid based on the company's performance in 2018. -- <u>Feb. 1 2018, Quest Diagnostics Incorporated press release</u>

R+L Carriers (Wilmington, Ohio) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 12,000 employees:

Wilmington-based global transportation company R+L Carriers announced this week it would issue bonuses of up to \$1,000 for all its employees, citing the economic benefits from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

"R+L Carriers is just the latest company we've seen invest in their employees as a result of tax reform," U.S. Rep. Steve Stivers (R-15th District) said.

"For folks in Wilmington and across the country, these bonuses can be used for everyday needs, pay for a car repair, or be put in a savings account. This money can make a real difference for families, and I applaud R+L for their commitment to their employees," the congressman added.

Family owned and operated, R+L Carriers began in 1965 with Ralph L. "Larry" Roberts Sr.'s purchase of a single truck. Today, the company serves all 50 states, Canada, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and many Caribbean islands with nearly 15,000 tractors and trailers, and more than 12,000 employees, stated a media release from the Office of Congressman Steve Stivers. – <u>Feb. 16, 2018 Wilmington News Journal article excerpt</u>

RDR, Inc. (Centreville, Virginia) – bonuses of up to \$1,000 for all 125 employees:

RDR, Inc. A professional services firm headquartered in Centreville, Virginia with a Branch office in Southern Pines, North Carolina and individual employees nationwide is announcing that it will be paying **bonuses to each of its 125 employees as a result of anticipated 2018 tax savings from the recently passed Tax Cuts and Jobs act of 2017.** 

It has been said that all U.S. workers would see financial benefits in February from the tax cuts that passed in December and we are determined to make this true for all our employees right now! – Jan. 19 2018, RDR, Inc. press release excerpts

**<u>Regions Financial Corporation</u>** (Birmingham, Alabama) – base wage increase to \$15 per hour; \$40 million in charitable donations; \$100 million in capital expenditures:

"Regions is making these investments in anticipation of the savings it will recognize as a result of federal tax reform intended to support economic growth." – <u>Regions Financial Corporation press</u> <u>release</u>

**Resident Construction LLC** – employee bonuses.

Renaissance Global Logistics (Detroit, Michigan) – Tax reform bonuses:

"Tax reform helped Renaissance Global Logistics, headquartered in Detroit, give bonuses to my employees. Nancy Pelosi call these bonuses 'crumbs' and that's disrespectful. I would ask Nancy Pelosi to come to Detroit to ask my employees what they thought of the bonuses. As an employer, it was rewarding to be able to give them out. Tax reform gives small businesses like mine the chance to reinvest into our workforce." – John James, CEO of Renaissance Global Logistics, Feb. 22, 2018

Reynolds American, Inc. (Winston-Salem, North Carolina) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 4,500 employees:

Reynolds American Inc. said Wednesday that most of its 5,500 employees will benefit from a one-time \$1,000 bonus related to the federal corporate tax rate cut.

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Reynolds spokesman David Howard said the bonus will be paid to "all regular, full-time hourly and salaried employees of RAI and its subsidiaries, up to and including the level of senior manager."

*This amounts to 4,500 employees. He said the bonus would be paid Friday.* 

Reynolds has, at last count, between 2,000 to 2,200 employees in Forsyth County, the majority of whom work at the Tobaccoville plant.

"RAI and its operating companies applaud Congress and the president for bringing corporate income tax reform to a reality, and are using this opportunity to show appreciation to their hardworking employees," Howard said.

BAT also said Feb. 27 that it would dedicate much of the financial benefit from the tax-rate cut to assist in accelerating the pace of making and distributing innovative products, primarily heat-not-burn traditional cigarettes and electronic cigarettes.

Nicandro Durante, chief executive of BAT, said tax-rate cut savings will help BAT pay for "a huge investment to allow us to roll out to at least 40 markets tobacco for heated products, and several others for vaping, in 2018."

*Currently, BAT's heat-not-burn cigarette named glo is in five international markets — Canada, Japan, Russia, South Korea and Switzerland.* 

Durante has said BAT's preference is to make products in or near the markets in which they are sold.

That could lead to a significant boost to the Tobaccoville plant workforce if BAT can gain U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval to bring in some additional traditional cigarettes and innovative products, such as glo. -- <u>March 7, 2018 Winston-Salem Journal article excerpt</u>

RGF Environmental Group, Inc. (Riviera Beach, Florida) -- \$1,000 bonuses:

"We, as a privately held manufacturing firm in Riviera Beach, Florida, will benefit greatly from the Tax Reform act recently passed. Because of this savings, we have given all our employees a \$1,000 Bonus (This is in addition to their 2017 year-end bonuses. – Sharon B. Rinehimer, Executive Vice President/General Counsel, RGF Environmental Group, Inc. Rio Bank (McAllen, Texas) — \$1,000 bonuses for each of the 108 employees:

"Our Board approved the payment \$1,000 to each of our 108 employees. That is everyone from the janitor on up. Our employees do not think this check is 'crumbs' like Nancy Pelosi called it and they sure do not think it is insulting like she stated that it was." — Ford Sasser, President & CEO, Rio Bank

Riverbend Communications -- employee bonuses.

Riverbend Management, Inc. – employee bonuses.

Riverbend Ranch – employee bonuses.

Riverbend Services – employee bonuses.

<u>Robert W. Baird & Company</u> (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) – Cash bonuses of up to \$1,500; charitable contributions:

"Milwaukee's Robert W. Baird & Co. said it will pay cash bonuses of \$500 to \$1,500 to employees, joining the list of Wisconsin companies passing along some of the benefits of federal tax reform to their workers.

All full-time and part-time benefit-eligible employees of the financial services firm — except company leaders — will receive a \$1,500 one-time cash bonus. Other part-time associates and long-term interns will receive a bonus of \$500, Baird said.

Baird leaders will receive the benefit in the form of a \$1,500 donation to the charity of their choice, which could amount to an additional \$1.2 million being contributed to the community in 2018, the company said.

The one-time benefit will be awarded to Baird's more than 3,500 global employees and amounts to more than \$5 million." – March 2 2018, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article excerpt

<u>Rockford Ball Screw</u> (Rockford, Illinois) - Hiring 25 new employees, expanding plant by 30,000 square feet:

*Linda McGary broke ground Thursday on a 30,000-square-foot expansion at Rockford Ball Screw, the manufacturing firm her father launched in 1973 in the basement of their family home.* 

*McGary, 56, is quick to point out that she's neither an engineer nor a skilled machinist, but she has a clear vision for Rockford Ball Screw: growth.* 

The company of 70 employees is looking to hire 25 more as part of the expansion — to be completed by mid-November — at its 60,000-square-foot plant in Southrock Industrial Park. Manufacturers often green light expansions after landing a big purchase order that will outpace present capacity, but that's not the case with Rockford Ball Screw.

Fueling her company's expansion, McGary said, are lower corporate tax rates and rules under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act signed into law last year by President Donald Trump. And Rockford Ball Screw has a promising shot, she said, at reviving a business relationship with a firm that years ago was one of its biggest customers. - <u>June 28, 2018, Rockford Register Star article excerpt</u>

Rocky Mountain Power (Portland, Oregon) – utility company will pass along tax savings to customers:

Rocky Mountain Power says it plans to pass some of its federal tax savings on to customers. But, the company isn't sure how much or when.

"We strive to provide our customers reliable service while keeping rates low," said Cindy Crane, President and CEO of Rocky Mountain Power. "The benefit of this tax cut should be passed on to our customers — and we will work with our regulators and stakeholders on the best way to do that." – Jan. 4 2018, Local News 8 article excerpt

**Rod's Harvest Foods** (St. Ignatius, Montana) – 3-5% pay raises; base wage raised to \$11 per hour; bonuses up to \$500:

We are happy to share with our employees the anticipated tax saving for 2018 realized by the Tax Reform bill recently passed by the US Congress and signed by President Trump. We are excited about the benefits it will provide for our country's economy, our store, and our employees. As a result of the tax savings expected in 2018, we will be passing this savings on to our employees. We will be raising wages 3-5% and entry wage to \$11 an hour (non-student). Also, please accept this bonus as a gesture of appreciation for your hard work and loyalty to Rod's Harvest Foods. You are our most valuable resource! – Rod Arlint, Rod's Harvest Foods, note to employees

<u>Rolls-Royce</u> (Locations in 27 U.S. states) – Enhanced employee benefits. Parental leave, paid family care leave, bereavement leave and more:

*Rolls-Royce has announced a new employee benefits package funded by tax credits from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed by Congress.* 

The new package, two years in the making, introduced six-week paid parental leave ? of which two weeks are supplemented by credits from the tax cut. It also introduced two weeks of paid

family care leave and an adjusted bereavement leave entitlement to accommodate nontraditional family structures. Other enhanced benefits include: fertility treatment, gender reassignment, equal benefits for same sex couples and bariatric surgery.

The enhanced benefit package is "less about the 1980s work-life balance and more about work-life integration," said Summer Smith, Rolls-Royce's head of human resources in North America.

After consulting with employee focus groups and recognizing employee needs had evolved, the leadership group determined the company, which is based in Britain, should "not be so restrictive," Smith added. – <u>May 3, 2018 Defense News article excerpt</u>

Rollstone Bank & Trust (Leominster, Massachusetts) -- Increased charitable contributions:

"As a bank invested in our communities, RBT takes great pride in supporting local organizations that make a positive impact on so many people. The United Way of North Central Massachusetts is one of those organizations," said Martin F. Connors Jr., president and CEO of Rollstone Bank & Trust. "We are fortunate to have such great health care in our area, and are pleased we can help them continue their mission."

Connors added that recently implemented reductions in the corporate tax rate will allow RBT to give back to an even greater extent than it has in the past.

"The tax cut provides us the opportunity to continue and even expand our investments in our region, customers, and employees," he said. - <u>May 17, 2018 Leominster Champion article excerpt</u>

<u>Royal Banks of Missouri</u> (Saint Louis, Missouri) – On Feb. 23, 2018, full-time employees received \$1,000 bonuses; part-time employees received \$500 bonuses. (Senior management did not receive the bonuses.)

Royal Hawaiian Heritage Jewelry (Honolulu, Hawaii) – the company will open additional retail locations:

Royal Hawaiian Heritage Jewelry has been in business for about 40 years.

And owner Jackie Breeden is hoping a sweeping tax overhaul approved by Congress and headed to the president's desk will help her expand operations beyond her stores at Pearlridge Center and on Bishop Street, and a single neighbor island outlet in Kona.

"I'm from Kauai so I would like to open up a shop back on the island of Kauai and on the west side of Honolulu as well, and be back in Maui. Before we were on all the islands," she said. – Dec. 21 2017, Hawaii News Now article excerpt

Rush Enterprises (New Braunfels, Texas) – \$1,000 bonuses for all 6,600 employees:

*"We believe tax reform to be beneficial for Rush Enterprises, our communities and overall economic growth,"* said W.M. *"Rusty" Rush, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of Rush Enterprises, Inc. "We are happy to take this step to invest in our employees and honor their important contributions to our company with this \$1,000 gift," he added.* 

The \$1,000 discretionary bonus will be paid to all Rush Enterprises, Inc. employees once the President signs the tax reform bill into law. – Rush Enterprises, Inc.

Russell Lands (Alexander City, Alabama) -- \$500 bonuses for about 400 full-time non-management staff:

*Russell Lands, the largest lakeside residential developer in the state, has given full-time employees a \$500 check.* 

"We are thrilled that our company is strong, the economy is good, and that **our national leaders** recently approved a tax plan that should be very positive for all of us," said Chairman <u>Ben</u> <u>Russell</u>. "This is a token of the company's, and my personal, genuine appreciation for what our folks have done to make Russell Lands such a great company. It's because of our employees' efforts that we have been able to accomplish so much."

Non-management-level employees who had been with the company since July 1 were given the checks this week – almost 400 in all. – <u>Jan. 12 2018, Birmingham Business Journal article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

**Russell Marine LLC** (Channelview, Texas) - Increased pay by an average of 10 percent, gave \$900,000 in bonuses, purchased \$1.8 million in new equipment, green lighted a new company headquarters:

This Houston-based marine construction business, has already been able to purchase new equipment because of tax reform and expects to see record-setting revenue of about \$90 million following new tax law.

"This will be our best year ever" – Russell Inserra, Owner

Bonuses: totaling \$900,000 Pay Raises: 10 percent raise on average New Equipment: \$1.8 million, 440-ton crane, the largest floating rotating crane in Texas -<u>May</u> <u>7, 2018, Woodlands Online article excerpt</u>

<u>Ryder System, Inc.</u> (Miami, Florida) – Tax reform bonuses for all non-incentive bonus eligible employees, totaling \$23 million:

*In connection with the anticipated benefit of the Tax Act,* the Company awarded a one-time cash bonus, estimated to be approximately \$23 million or \$0.27 per

diluted share, to all non-incentive bonus eligible employees of the Company

employed on December 31, 2017. The bonus will be paid to eligible employees in

February 2018. – Jan. 29 2018, Ryder System, Inc. filing

Saban Capital Group Inc. (Los Angeles, California): \$1,000 bonuses:

Media mogul Haim Saban on Friday became the latest to dole out \$1,000 bonuses to employees *in celebration of tax reform.* 

According to a letter to staffers at Saban Capital Group, which invests in entertainment and communications companies, Haim and his wife, Cheryl, were inspired by Disney's decision to award bonuses to its employees.

Before Disney, several companies including Comcast and Starbucks said they'd be handing out bonus checks (and Apple gave out stock bonuses) because of tax reform championed by President Donald Trump that reduces the rate paid by corporations to a maximum of 21 percent, down from 35 percent previously.

AT&T, which is trying to purchase Time Warner, was one of the first companies to announce \$1,000 bonuses for 200,000 U.S. employees.

Unlike some other companies, though, the Sabans stipulate that the bonuses will amount to \$1,000 after taxes. – <u>Feb. 2 2018, The Hollywood Reporter news article excerpt</u>

<u>Sabel Steel</u> (Montgomery, Alabama) - Expanding facilities, hiring new employees, pay increases for current employees:

Montgomery, Alabama's, Sabel Steel is investing heavily in expanding its facilities—which means new jobs, new investment and large pay raises for most of its 230 employees across the South.

*"When you're a business, there are a lot of things to consider," said Keith Sabel, president and CEO of Sabel Steel. "Taxes are a large part of it."* 

Because the tax rate for companies like Sabel Steel—a family-owned steel distributor—has been lowered under tax reform, Sabel is able to maximize the benefits for his company.

*First on the list? Rewarding the employees who work hard every day to make Sabel Steel successful.* 

"We gave a raise to everyone across the board," said Sabel. "We improved everyone's pay. We have incentives for as many workers as possible. If they meet or beat expectations, we're making sure they're rewarded."

"We have quality perks," Sabel added. "Good insurance. Good benefits. We're constantly trying to improve, and now we're able to. Morale is very good. We're a family business, and we run it like a family business—where we take the time to get to know people, their families. I try to look out for my employees all the time."

But Sabel Steel's current employees aren't the only ones who will benefit from tax reform and the booming economy. Sabel Steel also plans to reinvest its tax reform savings in its business by expanding and upgrading facilities in Newnan, Georgia, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and adding new equipment that will make its facilities more productive and innovative. Sabel also cites a new plasma machine it purchased for its plant in Theodore, Alabama—a machine that offers smoother and more efficient steel-cutting techniques. It also plans to make further upgrades to its equipment as needed.

To staff the expanded and upgraded facilities, Sabel Steel plans to hire more workers. Its recruitment effort focuses on talent, passion and integrity because Sabel Steel knows that, by starting with solid employees, it can train them on-site and equip them with the skills to do the jobs that the company needs. - <u>July 11, 2018, National Association of Manufacturers article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Sail Loft</u> (Dartmouth, Massachusetts) -- \$500 bonuses for full-time employees; \$200 bonuses for parttime employees. Together with affiliated restaurants The Gateway Tavern, The Stowaway, Duck Inn Pub, and Speedwell Tavern, the bonuses went to 93 employees.

All of the partners expressed the same reasoning for the bonuses, according to the release. They were happy to be able to share the tax savings by investing in their workforce. They recognize their people as their most important asset. They viewed the payouts as a way of giving back to their staffs, thanking them for everything they contribute to their organization's success. The thought process was that the bonus checks will also benefit the local communities through employees spending more, boosting the area economically, according to the release. – Feb. 16, 2018 Wicked Marion Local article excerpt

**<u>SALUS</u>** (Manitou Springs, Colorado) - Hiring a new engineer, equipment deductions:

*"For our business, pennies add up," Jerell Klaver, co-owner of SALUS, a 14-year old business that produces health and beauty products, said in a recent article on app.com. "If I can save a penny,* 

it gets big really fast." Taking advantage of the future deduction on equipment purchases, Jerell and Elissa Klaver did the math and hired an engineer to help make new manufacturing equipment for their company. All told, the couple expects to save between \$500,000 and \$1 million annually under the new law. - <u>April 18, 2018, Capital One blog post excerpt</u>

<u>St. Augustine Distillery</u> (St. Augustine, Florida) - Hiring new employees, purchasing new equipment and inventory:

"As a young business facing more than their share of regulatory challenges, the St. Augustine Distillery was relieved, to say the least, when the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act was signed into law. The distillery announced shortly after the bill's passage that they would be using their savings to make further investments in their employees and increase their equipment and inventory, creating new local jobs and hiring additional staff to manufacture, market, and sell their products." - <u>May 17, 2018, Rep. John Rutherford statement on U.S. House Floor</u>

St. John's Properties Inc. (Baltimore, Maryland) – \$1,500 bonuses:

"Developer St. John Properties, Inc. is awarding its employees a one-time cash bonus of \$1,500 in response to the recent federal tax plan passed by Congress.

The Baltimore-based real estate development and management company said Monday its 180 workers would receive the bonus this month in their paychecks as a result of corporate tax savings allocated under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017." – <u>Feb. 12 2018, Baltimore Business</u> Journal article excerpt

<u>Scheels All Sports</u> (Fargo, North Dakota) -- \$1,000 and \$500 bonuses; investment in new stores, increased charitable donations:

SCHEELS is about our PEOPLE and the communities in which we live and work. As we enter 2018, the new tax reform bill offers a huge opportunity for American business and notably our employee-owned company. This new bill allows SCHEELS to:

- Invest in new stores
- Create jobs in new and existing markets
- Increase our charitable impact in our communities
- \$1,000 bonus for Scheels associates working >1000 hours
- \$500 bonus for Scheels associates working 500 hours

*It's opportunities like this that give our employee-owned company the ability to create a vision for steady and healthy growth in our communities.* – <u>Dec. 28, 2017 Scheels statement</u>

Right after the tax reform bill became law in December, leaders of Fargo-based Scheels All Sports decided employees would get some extra money, a company official said during Vice President Mike Pence's campaign-style rally here Tuesday, March 27.

"We knew we wanted to do something intentional right away," said Chief Financial Officer Michelle Killoran. "So we decided to give a tax-reform bonus to our associates."

After hearing from employees, it became clear many didn't know what tax reform was or that it had happened, she said. Company leadership responded by holding meetings to explain to employees the "positive impacts" of the reforms to them and their employer, she said. – <u>March</u> <u>27, 2018 Fargo Forum article excerpt</u>

Sewickley Spa (Sewickley, Pennsylvania ) -- Pay raises; increased capital expenditures:

For the past decade, Sewickley Spa's 13 employees didn't receive annual raises.

With economic pressures forcing cuts at the business since the Great Recession of 2007-09, owner Dorothy Andreas said she couldn't afford pay hikes — though she still managed to provide a bonus every Christmas.

But on Dec. 20 — the day Congress gave final approval to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act — Ms. Andreas decided to "pull the trigger" on raises of 2 percent to 5 percent and bonuses that averaged 2.5 percent.

"My staff needed a morale booster," said Ms. Andreas. She welcomes the federal tax changes because she expects them to translate to savings she can pump back into spending for new equipment and at least two more employees.

In recent years, her luxury spa — which offers massages, facials, and other salon treatments for men and women — has delayed investments in things like updated computer systems and pedicure chairs.

"I just want to put it all back into my company," she said. "It feels like the government wants to see small business succeed and it's like a breath of fresh air into a very stale climate." -- <u>Feb. 5</u> 2018, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article excerpt

<u>Sheely's Furniture and Appliance</u> (North Lima, Ohio) – \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees; \$500 bonuses for part-time employees; expansion of retail store:

Over 140 employees for a local furniture store will feel their wallets get a lot bigger.

*Sheely's Furniture and Appliance President and CEO, Dale Sheely Jr. announced the bonuses Tuesday morning.* 

*The cause* — *tax reform, a growing retail footprint, and creating a better working environment for employees.* 

*The bonuses will be given throughout the first quarter of 2018. Full-time employees will receive \$1,000 in cash and part-time employees will get \$500.* 

The store also announced a 4,500 square foot expansion to make Sheely's Bargain Bonus center. The new space will offer exclusive purchases. – <u>Feb. 20, 2018 WKBN 27 report</u>

Shelton's Farm Market (Niles, Michigan) - Employee bonuses:

"I was at a small, little almost farmers market, multigenerational market down in Niles, Michigan, just north of Notre Dame, Shelton's Farm Market. They have 83 employees. The owners gave every employee there a bonus. I talked to one of them who literally stocks the shelves. He got \$600. He said: You know, Mr. Upton — I said: Call me Fred — He said: This wasn't just crumbs. This made a real difference. I said: What are you going to do with that \$600? He said: You know, my wife has cancer, and I bought her a new dress. He was so excited that that increase in the take-home pay was actually going to do some real benefit for him and his family." - <u>March 7, 2018, Rep. Fred Upton statement on House floor</u>

<u>Sheffer Corporation</u> (Cincinnati, Ohio) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all 126 employees:

U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) today visited Sheffer Corporation, a premier cylinder manufacturing business based in Cincinnati, to tour the facility, meet with employees, and take part in the announcement of the business's reinvestment into its workers. Sheffer Corporation announced that all 126 employees will be given \$1,000 bonuses with the money the business expects to save as a result of the recently-signed tax reform law.

"The historic tax cuts that recently became law are already helping make a difference for middleclass families, creating more jobs, and increasing wages for Ohio workers," said Portman. "Providing tax relief for middle-class families and reforming our business tax code to create more jobs and higher wages is long overdue, and I was proud to play a significant role in helping craft this law. I'm pleased that we're already seeing a positive response as employers like Sheffer Corporation reward their workers with higher pay and bonuses—and increase their investments in their businesses and their communities. With the kinds of pro-growth reforms in this tax reform law, I expect this trend to continue in Ohio and across the country."

*"It was truly an honor to host a visit today from Senator Rob Portman," said Sheffer Corporation President & CEO Jeff Norris. "Senator Portman along with his colleagues and President Donald* 

Trump have been instrumental in bringing forward historic and new tax relief for American companies and for the American people. For many years, business owners have voiced concerns about the burdens associated with high taxes and over-regulation. It is my hope that others will follow and show support for Senator Portman and President Trump as they fight to lower our tax burdens and reduce regulations." -- Jan. 2, 2018 press release from the office of Senator Rob Portman (*R*-Ohio)

Shortway Brewing Co. (Newport, Connecticut) -- Increasing wages and hiring new employees:

Mr. Shortway said the new tax plan, along with the Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act, also passed last year, have already helped the brewery save money. The craft beverage act greatly reduced excise taxes on small-scale brewers and the tax plan has additional provisions designed to help small businesses.

*Mr.* Shortway said he was able to give his employees a small raise and hire more workers as a result of the tax savings. He said although it is a bit early to know what the long-term impact of the tax plan will be, he expects it will keep helping going forward.

"Growth is picking up," he said. - May 11, 2018, News-Times article excerpt

<u>Shred-X</u> (Griffin, Georgia) – purchase a new truck, and potentially hire a new employee:

"In Griffin, Shred-X, a small business providing paper shredding and recycling services to over 3,000 clients throughout Atlanta and central Georgia, plans to use the additional savings from tax reform to buy a new truck and potentially hire a new employee. For a company of ten people, that makes a huge difference.

As Shred-X owner Cade Joiner said, "This is just one practical example of how tax reform is helping us here on Main Street." —<u>Feb. 4 2018, The LeGrange Daily News</u>

<u>Simulations Plus, Inc</u> (Lancaster, California) – \$1,000 bonuses:

The premier provider of simulation and modeling software and consulting services for all stages of pharmaceutical discovery and development, today announced that it will be distributing a one-time \$1,000 discretionary cash bonus to each of its employees.

Walt Woltosz, chairman and chief executive officer of Simulations Plus, said, "As we announced on April 9, 2018, when we reported record financial results for our second fiscal quarter of 2018, with the effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, we posted a deferred tax benefit of approximately \$1.5 million in our second fiscal quarter, as well as lower income tax rates for January and February. – <u>April 24, 2018 Simulations Plus, Inc press release excerpt</u> Sinclair Broadcast Group (Hunt Valley, Maryland) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 9,000 employees:

"We are grateful to our president and legislature for passing the landmark Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and are excited about the benefits it will provide for our country's economy, our Company, and our employees," stated Chris Ripley, Sinclair's President and CEO. "We recognize that our employees are our most valuable resource, truly appreciate their combined achievements for our Company and look forward to a very bright future." – <u>Dec. 22 2017, Sinclair press release</u>

<u>Six Hundred Downtown</u> (Bellefontaine, Ohio) - Opening a new location, introducing employee healthcare benefits:

"Brittany, where's the pizza?" Trump asked Saxton. She said she'd been able to use the tax cuts to open a second location and provide health benefits to some managers and thanked Trump at the podium. - <u>April 12, 2018, WTOP article excerpt</u>

<u>SkyWest Airlines</u> (St. George, Utah) -- Increased employee bonus and incentive program; increased 401(k) contributions; increased capital expenditures; increased charitable donations. Under the enhanced bonuses, "employees are expected to enjoy a nearly 17 percent increase in 2018 financial bonuses for every eligible employee."

The full internal memo is below:

There have been numerous questions and much publicity surrounding recent significant tax reform becoming effective this year. As it has now been signed into law, SkyWest plans to ensure employees enjoy the legislation's benefits through increased Performance Rewards and 401(k) discretionary contributions.

"Our employees are the foundation of everything we do," said SkyWest, Inc. President and CEO Chip Childs. "This tax reform enhances our ability to maintain strong, sustainable careers and we're pleased to recognize our people by passing its positive impact throughout 2018 and beyond. Additionally, given the new long-term benefits of the reform, SkyWest plans to increase our charitable contributions, as well as reinvest in our fleet and across our operation to provide even more confidence in our airline and future."

SkyWest's Financial Performance Rewards and other workgroup bonus programs pay employees on a percentage of the SkyWest Airlines net margin. Historically, these programs have been modeled to neutralize any tax impact (which has been generally negative) to employees. However, under new tax reform, the company will modify those models to pass the benefit on to employees. As a result, employees are expected to enjoy a nearly 17 percent increase in 2018 financial bonuses for every eligible employee. Additionally, the company will increase its discretionary 401(k) contribution to all participating employees in 2018. This change will be effective January 1, 2018, and will be distributed beginning with the first 2018 Performance Rewards payout in late April 2018

Performance Rewards and profit sharing program payouts will remain on current schedules based on each specific program; and the company will continue to evaluate each of our programs for economic impact and the most value to employees.

"This is not a one-time bonus, but will be an ongoing benefit to employees for the duration of the legislation. Becoming the partner and investment of choice is not possible without being the employer of choice," continued Chip. "In today's environment, it's more important than ever that we recognize our people who take care of our customers. To our incredible team, I want to say thank you for the great work you do each and every day to take care of each other and our customers."

SmithCraft Signs (Phoenix, Arizona) - Employee bonuses, purchasing new equipment:

*MS. BERGSTROM: Oh, thank you. Thank you Mr. President. Wow. I'm Nicole, and I run Smithcraft Signs. We are a veteran-owned, small manufacturing company. We're a job shop.* 

And what tax reform means for me is what we can do for our team. To improve our capabilities, we're buying new equipment. We issued a special bonus to our midlevel employees.

Deeann, in our accounting department told me that she is using the extra money for what she describes as a "dream bucket-list vacation" to visit her daughter who was recently discharged from the Navy who is now in Hawaii.

*Phil and NOAZ is using the money for a bathroom remodel he has been planning for over 10 years.* 

*I've very excited about what the future holds for us. And again, so many thanks.* - <u>April 12,</u> <u>2018, White House transcript</u>

Smith Chevrolet – employee bonuses.

Smith Honda – employee bonuses.

Smith RV – employee bonuses.

Solara Hospitality (Columbia, South Carolina) – Cash bonuses up to \$500:

"Columbia-based Solara Hospitality, developer and owner of Marriott franchised hotels in the Midlands, said it plans to provide a cash bonus of up to \$500 for all hourly-paid hotel employees. The plan for the bonuses was announced at a press conference.

"Since the passage of the Tax Cuts and Job Act of 2017 we will create some financial benefit for the company and the hotels we operate and we want to share that benefit with our associates," said Clancy Cipkala, President and CEO of Solara Hospitality, the land developer and management company for the hotels." – <u>Feb. 23 2018, Cola Daily article excerpt</u>

<u>Somerset Savings Bank</u> (Bound Brook, New Jersey) -- \$750 bonuses for employees excluding senior management:

Somerset Savings Bank announced today that, following the enactment of the new federal tax reform legislation, it will distribute a special cash bonus to its employees. Every employee, excluding senior management, will receive a one-time \$750 bonus. – <u>Jan. 23, 2018 Somerset</u> <u>Savings Bank press release</u>

<u>Southwest Gas</u> (Las Vegas, Nevada) – The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

Southwest Gas said its rate request incorporates reduced tax liability associated with the 2017 federal tax overhaul, which cut the corporate tax rate to 21%, among other changes. The tax cuts partially offset the rate increase the utility is requesting, the company said. – June 1, 2018 SNL Financial article excerpt

<u>Spirit Aerosystems</u> (Wichita, Kansas) - Increased investment in training and technology:

*"In my community, Spirit AeroSystems announced new investments in training and technology."* <u>June 11, 2018, Rep. Ron Estes statement on U.S. House Floor</u>

<u>Sports Clips -- Debra Sawyer, franchise owner</u> (Richmond, Virginia) - Expanding operations, hiring new employees:

"I'm a franchisee. I have 20 open locations and I have my 21st location that will open sometime this summer. Earlier this year I already bought out one of my friends in Florida. She wanted to relocate to the Carolinas to be closer to her kids. So I'm very grateful that the new tax law allows us that clear opportunity to write off not only newly acquired assets that are a brand new purchase but also ones that are used when you're buying an existing business out from someone else...And then after the [tax reform] bill was passed and I was kind of looking at my tax situation another opportunity came to me to go for my 22nd location. I went ahead and took that because I was comfortable with the tax write offs that I could do. That lease is with my attorney right now for review and I'm hoping to get that location open as well which will let me promote one of my assistant managers to manager, and it will also let me hire at least ten more employees." -April 17, 2018 Tax Talk Roundtable, Debra Sawyer, Sports Clips Franchisee

Sun Solar (Springfield, Missouri) – hiring new employees, investing in business growth:

A local company plans to expand and it says the Trump tax cuts are the reason.

Sun Solar plans to add about 30 jobs through an expansion plan.

The company installs solar panels on homes to help customers cut utility bills.

Sun Solar says it will invest about \$1 million into hiring the 30 local employees.

The company also plans to invest about \$300,000 to grow business in the Kansas City market. – <u>April 3, 2018 Ozarksfirst.com article excerpt</u>

<u>Superior Water, Light & Power</u> (Superior, Wisconsin) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

Residential customers of Superior Water, Light & Power will receive a \$31.80 lump-sum credit on July bills as a result of savings accrued from the tax law Congress passed last year, according to an order issued Thursday by the Public Service Commission.

Customers in all categories will receive lump-sum and ongoing credits for each provided service. The largest electrical customer will receive a \$61,807 lump sum credit and other non-residential customers will receive lump-sum electric credits varying from \$13.70 to \$3,106 depending on customer classification, according to the PSC order.

SWL&P estimated its total customer credits this year at \$1.322 million. – <u>May 29, 2018, Superior</u> <u>Telegram article excerpt</u>

<u>Sound Financial Bancorp Inc.</u> (Seattle, Washington) – increasing employee incentive compensation, expanding charitable giving, and implementing a down payment assistance program for first time homebuyers:

"Responding to H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Sound Community Bank is set to implement a series of employee and community benefits in 2018.

At the Annual Employee Meeting on February 3rd, President and CEO Laurie Stewart unveiled a suite of employee and community initiatives. These include enhancing employee incentive compensation, expanding charitable giving and implementing a down payment assistance program for first time homebuyers.

The increase to incentive compensation will allow both back office and front line employees to increase compensation for achieving goals." – <u>Feb. 9 2018, Sound Financial Bancorp Inc. press</u> <u>release excerpt</u>

<u>Southern Grace Distilleries</u> (Mount Pleasant, North Carolina) – Hiring new employees, expanding visitor center, and investing in business expansion:

"The reduction in the federal excise tax has allowed us to hire additional staff, increase our whiskey production, expand our visitor center and invest in marketing which is critical to the growth of our Conviction Small Batch Bourbon brand," said Southern Grace Distilleries CEO Leanne Powell. "At the end of last year our bourbon was available in NC, SC and Washington, DC. Today you can also find Conviction Small Batch Bourbon in Louisiana, Illinois, Oklahoma and Connecticut. We couldn't be happier." – <u>April 26, 2018 Southern Grace Distilleries press release excerpt</u>

South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa (Las Vegas, Nevada) - Doubling of bonuses for 2,300 employees:

Following the passing of the 2018 Trump Tax Reform Bill, South Point Hotel owner Michael Gaughan will distribute more than \$1 million among the property's employees. As part of the contribution, Gaughan will double all the employees' 2017 bonuses in addition to rescinding the price increase for employee health insurance.

"Las Vegas has experience a significant amount of growth over the past two years, and this tax reform will continue to drive the economy of the city," said Gaughan. "The new bill will have a monumental effect on our economy and, in turn, our property. We want to be sure that our extended family is taken of." - <u>April 1, 2018 South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa press release</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>South State Bank</u> (Columbia, South Carolina) -- 2,800 employees getting bonuses; \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees and \$500 for part-time employees:

South State Bank is pleased to announce that as a result of excellent financial performance and the **recent federal tax reform efforts**, it will be rewarding teams with \$2.7 million.

South State will distribute \$1,000 to full-time employees and \$500 to part-time employees on Feb. 9 and will benefit more than 2,800 South State employees.

"Last year was an excellent year for South State. The performance of the company, along with the **recent tax reform provide a great opportunity to share in this success**," said Robert R. Hill, Jr., CEO, South State Corporation. "We are pleased that this payment will reach over 2,800 outstanding members of our team. Along with investing in our team, we will also invest in hiring talent and will fund investment in technology to provide enhanced solutions for our customers." – <u>Jan. 26 2018, South State Bank press release</u>

<u>Southwest Airlines</u> (Dallas, Texas) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all 55,000 employees; \$5 million additional charitable donations:

The Southwest Board of Directors authorized a bonus to all Southwest Airlines Employees to celebrate the recent passage of the tax reform legislation. All Fulltime and Parttime Southwest Employees employed with Southwest on Dec. 31, 2017, will receive a \$1,000 cash bonus on Jan. 8, 2018.

"We applaud Congress and the President for taking this action to pass legislation, which will result in meaningful corporate income tax reform for the transportation sector in general, and for Southwest Airlines, in particular," said Southwest's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Gary Kelly. "We are excited about the savings and additional capital, which we intend to put to work in several forms—to reward our hard- working Employees, to reinvest in our business, to reward our Shareholders, and to keep our costs and fares low for our Customers." – Jan. 2 2018, Southwest Airlines press release

<u>Southwire</u> (Carrollton, Georgia) – \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees, \$250 bonuses for part-time employees; expanded parental leave benefits; educational scholarships for employees; workplace investments totaling \$9 million:

Southwire, North America's leading manufacturer of wire and cable solutions, recently announced that it will reinvest approximately nine million dollars back into the lives, and pockets, of its employees, joining a growing list of companies that have made similar moves as a result of recent tax reform.

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Full-time employees in the United States, will each receive a \$1,000 bonus (USD), and full time employees outside of the United States will receive an equivalent supplement. Part-time employees will also receive a bonus payment of \$250 USD or an international equivalent. These investments will impact the majority of Southwire's nearly 7,500 employees.

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*In addition to the one-time bonuses, Southwire will expand its parental leave policy to assist eligible parents.* 

Southwire will also offer a bridge scholarship program for eligible hourly employees seeking to further their education through a two-year degree, four-year degree or technical certification.

The company also announced that plans are in the works to make strong investments into new and existing industry partnerships. The purpose of these investments is to accelerate the attraction of diverse candidates into Southwire's manufacturing and STEM careers. More information on these new programs will be available soon. – <u>March 26, 2018 Southwire press</u> release excerpts

<u>SpartanNash</u> (Grand Rapids, Michigan) – tax reform bonuses and base pay wage increases:

"A locally based grocery store chain plans to re-invest half of its savings from federal tax reform into employee compensation and one of its brands.

David Staples, the CEO of Byron Center-based SpartanNash, which is also a food distributor, said in a conference call to investors yesterday the company will issue bonuses, raise wages and invest in employee training in the first quarter of 2018.

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SpartanNash spokesperson Meredith Gremel said the company does not plan to disclose the total dollar amount of the bonuses.

The bonus amounts will vary depending on the employee's position and market, as will the wage increases, Gremel said. She noted those in entry-level roles or just beyond will benefit the most."— <u>Feb. 23 2018, Grand Rapids Business Journal article excerpts</u>

Spectrum Adhesives, Inc. (Memphis, Tennessee) -- \$500 bonuses for employees.

<u>Speedwell Tavern</u> (Plymouth, Massachusetts) -- \$500 bonuses for full-time employees; \$200 bonuses for part-time employees. Together with affiliated restaurants The Gateway Tavern, The Stowaway, Sail Loft, and Duck Inn Pub, the bonuses went to 93 employees.

All of the partners expressed the same reasoning for the bonuses, according to the release. They were happy to be able to share the tax savings by investing in their workforce. They recognize their people as their most important asset. They viewed the payouts as a way of giving back to their staffs, thanking them for everything they contribute to their organization's success. The thought process was that the bonus checks will also benefit the local communities through employees spending more, boosting the area economically, according to the release. – <u>Feb. 16</u>, <u>2018 Wicked Marion Local article excerpt</u>

<u>Spellex Corporation</u> (Tampa, Florida) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all 26 full-time employees:

"I'm the founder and CEO of Spellex Corporation located in Tampa, FL. We're a software development company which I founded in 1988. This is the first time I've done anything like this.

I'm hoping there are thousands of companies like mine who gave their employees \$1,000 bonuses to show our support for the new tax plan which will ultimately help the middle class." – Sheldon Wolf, CEO, <u>Spellex Corporation</u>

Spillway Sportsman (Port Allen, Louisiana) - Expanding facilities:

*"Mr. Speaker, back in my home State of Louisiana, we have seen companies like Spillway Sportsman, where I have spoken to Scott, the owner, expanding facilities and offering more services to customers" - June 8, 2018, Rep. Garret Graves statement on U.S. House Floor* 

**Spire Inc.** (St. Louis, Missouri) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers:

Typical residential customers in western Missouri will see their Spire natural gas bill decrease slightly by approximately 40 cents per month. This includes a decrease to the monthly customer charge from \$23 to \$20. Spire bills remain lower than a decade ago even while the company has upgraded hundreds of miles of pipeline since joining the Spire family five years ago.

These savings are due primarily to the recent growth of Spire and federal tax reform. – <u>March</u> 22, 2018 Western Missouri press release excerpt

Typical residential customers in the St. Louis area will see their Spire natural gas bill decrease by approximately \$2 per month. Spire bills remain lower than a decade ago, even while the company has upgraded hundreds of miles of pipeline across the region.

These savings are due primarily to the recent growth of Spire and federal tax reform. – <u>March</u> 22, 2018 Eastern Missouri press release excerpt

Sprouts Farmers Market (Ellicott City, Maryland) – Pay raises and enhanced employee benefits:

The company also said it plans to use about one third of the savings from the recently-passed tax reform for "investments" in employees.

"to ensure we remain in a leadership position to attract the right talent, we will further invest in our team members by improving pay and improved benefits such as healthcare and expanding maternity leave," Maredia said. "We will invest an additional \$10 million, or approximately onethird of our tax savings, for our team members in 2018. – Feb. 23 2018, Produce Retailer article excerpt

Stafford Bounce n Play, LLC (Stafford, Virginia) -- \$1,000 mid-year bonuses for all employees:

By working to pass tax reform, these representatives helped my wife and me to make positive steps in both our business and in our relationships with our employees. Stafford Bounce n Play

strives to be the best we can be, ensuring that our employees feel valued and appreciated day-in and day-out.?

Thanks to the tax savings the new plan provided, we were able to do so by distributing a \$1,000 mid-year bonus to each of the hardworking people who work for us. This kind of investment in our employees—and in-turn our community—is the kind of action that Virginia and America needs for long-term prosperity. We expect to see growth this year because of our U.S. representatives' efforts. – Nicholas Bluma, Stafford Bounce n Play, LLC, <u>Inside NOVA excerpt</u>

<u>Starbucks Coffee Company</u> (Seattle, Washington) – \$500 stock grants for all Starbucks retail employees, \$2,000 stock grants for store managers, and varying plant and support center employee stock grants, totaling more than \$100 million in stock grants; 8,000 new retail jobs and 500 new manufacturing jobs; an additional wage increase this year, totaling approximately \$120 million in wage increases, increased sick time benefits and parental leave:

"Starbucks pays above the minimum wage in all states across the country. In April, all eligible U.S. hourly and salaried partners will receive a second wage increase in addition to the annual increases that they have already received this fiscal year. This will include an investment of approximately \$120 million in wage increases that will be allocated based on regional cost of living and laws that vary from state to state.

On April 16, we will provide an additional 2018 stock grant for all eligible full-time, part-time, hourly and salaried U.S. partners across our stores, plants and support centers, who have been active as of Jan. 1, 2018. All Starbucks retail partners will receive at least a \$500 grant, store managers will each receive \$2000 grant and plant and support center partner (non-retail) grants will vary depending on annualized salary or level. This investment alone is valued at more than \$100 million.

A new Partner and Family Sick Time benefit will be available to all eligible U.S. partners, which will allow partners to accrue paid sick time based on hours worked and then use them if they or a family member needs care. When this benefit goes into effect this year, Sick Time will accrue at a rate of one hour for every 30 hours worked, thus a partner working 23 hours a week can expect to accrue approximately five days of sick time benefit over the course of one year.

Starbucks has also reaffirmed their commitment to create more than 8,000 new part-time and full-time retail jobs and an additional 500 manufacturing jobs in its Augusta, Georgia soluble coffee plant.

For store partners, Starbucks has also expanded their parental leave policy to include all nonbirth parents with up to 6 weeks of paid leave when welcoming a new child." —<u>Jan. 24 2018,</u> <u>Starbucks Coffee Company press release excerpt</u> State Fair Floral (Sedalia, Missouri) - Expanding operations and renovating/upgrading existing facilities:

"Having the corporate tax rate lowered from 35% to 21% will help us keep our long standing business alive and the ability to expand, renovate, and upgrade to better serve our customers for many years to come." - <u>Machie Limas, owner of State Fair Floral</u>

<u>State Street</u> (Boston, Massachusetts) – Enhanced employee retirement benefits and investment in training and community grant programs:

State Street will use this year's proceeds from the US tax overhaul measure to improve employees' retirement benefits and training and community grant programs, the company's chairman and chief executive said. – Jan. 23 Dow Jones Newswires report

<u>Staub Manufacturing</u> (Dayton, Ohio) – Due to tax cuts, the 37 employees received higher Christmas bonuses:

"After Trump's tax cuts and reform legislation were enacted last year, Staub says he was able to give larger than expected Christmas bonuses to his employees." – <u>Jan. 29 2018, WDTN Dayton 2</u> <u>News</u>

**Steel Design LLC** – tax reform bonuses to employees.

<u>STERIS Corp.</u> (Ohio, Alabama, New York, Missouri, Florida, California, Colorado, Texas, New Jersey, Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Utah, South Carolina, Missouri) -- \$1,000 bonuses totaling \$7 million for non-executive U.S. -based employees:

"Like many companies, the recent tax reform in the U.S. will result in significant additional earnings for STERIS to strategically grow our business and return value to Customers, employees and shareholders. One of our first actions on that front will be a one-time special discretionary bonus of \$1,000 to all U.S. employees other than senior executives." -- <u>Feb. 7, 2018 STERIS plc</u> <u>press release</u>

<u>Stifel Financial Corporation</u> (St. Louis, Missouri) – \$1,500 bonuses for 7,000 employees:

"This additional \$1,500 payment is in recognition of your hard work and efforts this year to make Stifel a success, as well as the **positive environment that we anticipate the tax legislation passed this week by Congress will create for Stifel,**"[CEO Ron] Kruszewski wrote in **personalized emails to salaried employees that greeted them by their first names.** -- <u>Dec. 26,</u> <u>2017 AdvisorHub article excerpt</u>

<u>Stine Home & Yard</u> (Sulphur, Louisiana) – increasing base salary, increasing 401k matching, investing in new technology, investing in community:

Stine Home & Yard has increased the starting salary for employees and is going to increase 401k matching over the course of the next year.

"And then beyond that, we are investing back into our company," Stine says. "We have spent a lot of money on technology and we will continue to do so."

Stine says they plan on changing their legacy stores, investing not only in the company but in the community as well. – <u>April 18, 2018, KPLC7.com article excerpt</u>

Suez Water Idaho Inc. (Boise, Idaho) - The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

"A main feature of the tax law that took effect Jan. 1 was to reduce the federal corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent," noted one such release, from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission. "Soon after the federal law took effect, Idaho Governor C.L. 'Butch' Otter signed into law House Bill 463, reducing the state's corporate tax rate from 7.4 percent to 6.925 percent. Since a utility's tax expenses are a factor in determining customer rates, the Commission directed all regulated utilities in the state with more than 200 customers to report the financial benefits of the law and how it planned to pass those benefits along to customers."

Utility rate reductions are as follows:

Avista – 5.3 percent for electricity and 6.1 percent for natural gas Idaho Power – 7.06 percent Intermountain Gas – 2.62 percent Rocky Mountain Power – 1 percent Suez Water Idaho Inc. – 5.6 percent - <u>June 19, 2018 Idaho Business Review Excerpt</u>

Suffolk Construction (Boston, Massachusetts) - Investing in new technology and data analytics:

Boston's Suffolk Construction Co. will take much of the savings from the tax cuts and invest it in the company's technology and data analytics, a growing area of focus for the \$3.5 billion business, CEO John Fish said. The firm is one of the largest privately owned companies in Massachusetts. As of last year, it had nearly 1,000 employees in the state. On the topic of onetime bonuses for employees, Fish told the Business Journal that "to give a \$1,000 bonus, that's a traditional response to a nontraditional opportunity. We have an opportunity now to invest in our future." - January 22, 2018, Boston Business Journal article excerpt

<u>Suit-Kote Corporation</u> (Cortland, New York) – Pay raises for 800 employees; increased 401(k) contributions:

Paul Walts is getting a raise this year, thanks to the GOP tax plan. So is Louis Morgan. So are about 800 other employees at Suit-Kote Corporation.

The Cortland paving company is doling out raises and retirement bonuses using money saved from the new Republican-led tax plan.

Walts, a dispatcher who's been with the company 14 years, has three kids in college. He plans to put money aside to help pay for their education.

Morgan, too, said he's going to save more and possibly take a vacation.

"You hear it's in the pipeline and you hope it's going to happen, but you don't know how much it's going to be," Morgan said regarding the raises. "I'm definitely looking forward to it."

Walts, Morgan and a few dozen other employees watched Thursday as President and CEO Frank Suits Jr. announced the wage hikes to media alongside U.S. Rep. Claudia Tenney.

The average raise, Suits said, will be about \$1,400. The company also increased its 401K contributions by about \$1 million. – <u>Feb. 22, 2018 The Post-Standard article excerpt</u>

Summit State Bank (Santa Rosa, California) -- \$2,000 bonuses for non-executive employees.

<u>Sun Community News and Printing</u> (Elizabethtown, New York) – Raises for all employees averaging \$1,000 each; restoration of 2% match on employee IRAs; software and equipment upgrades:

"Sun Community News and Printing a small rural, free weekly newspaper serving the Adirondack Region of New York State is proud to announce **as a result of the recent tax cuts and the uptick in the economy we have announced raises for all employees averaging approximately \$1,000 each and will now be in a position to resume our 2% match to employees IRA accounts.** 

*The combination of these two announcements will total approximately \$75,000 for our 50 employees.* 

We will also now be in a position to invest in some long overdue software and equipment upgrades to smooth out production flow and further support our customers and employees.

It feels good to get our economic engine running again and create a winning attitude for our small firm." – Dan Alexander, President and Publisher, <u>Sun Community News and Printing</u>

Sundance Vacations (Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania) -- \$125,000 in employee tax reform bonuses:

"Sundance Vacations announced a decision to award **bonuses to its employees based on the GOP tax reform bill that was recently signed into law by President Trump.** Sundance Vacations president John Dowd cited two tax reform factors that he believes will positively impact company profits. "Additional take home pay for many Americans will likely lead to robust vacation sales for the company this year," projects Dowd. "And the ability to deduct some business expenses upfront rather than depreciate them over multiple years will be a major factor for company profitability." Sundance Vacations decided to award individual bonuses to staff members similar to corporate giants like Apple and AT&T. The immediate bonuses are in addition to the reduction in tax withholding that Americans will benefit from beginning in February. The Sundance bonuses will total over \$125,000. Hundreds of other companies are also issuing bonuses nationwide which Dowd believes will inject more spending into the US economy.

Congressman Barletta commented, "The results have been clear that our tax plan will provide more opportunity for all Americans. Businesses will invest in workers and equipment, generating the historic growth that has been dormant in our nation for far too long. Americans will keep more of their paychecks, allowing them to pay bills, save for their children's education or pay off lingering bills. I am very excited for companies in Pennsylvania like Sundance Vacations as they award bonuses because of our tax plan. The future is very bright for Pennsylvania." – Jan. 30 2018, Sundance Vacations press release

<u>SunTrust Banks, Inc.</u> (Atlanta, Georgia) – base wage raise to \$15 per hour; \$50 million in additional community grants; merit pay raise; additional 401(k) contributions; etc:

SunTrust Banks, Inc. (NYSE: STI) is taking a series of actions to invest savings from tax reform in supporting the financial wellness of its workforce and communities.

"The anticipated benefits from tax reform allow us to build upon our purpose of Lighting the Way to Financial Well-Being in a sustainable way by implementing actions that will have a multi-year impact for many of the constituents that count on us," said Bill Rogers, SunTrust chairman and CEO. "We believe tax reform will improve the competitiveness of American business and promote economic growth, and this gives us confidence to invest more in our company, our teammates and the communities we serve." – Dec. 28 2017, SunTrust Banks, Inc. press release

<u>Sutter Masonry, Inc.</u> (El Mirage, Arizona) – The company employs approximately 100 people. Hourly wages were increased by \$1.00 and over \$50,000 in bonuses were distributed.

Synovus Financial Corporation (Columbus, Georgia) -- \$1,000 bonuses to all non-executive employees.

<u>Taco John's</u> (Cheyenne, Wyoming) -- All full-time and part-time crew members received a \$200 after-tax bonus; Franchisee support center employees received \$1,000 bonuses; increased charitable donations:

Taco John's International, Inc. announced today that in response to the 2018 Tax Cut and Jobs Act, the company gave part of its projected tax savings to its restaurant crews, general managers, corporate staff and CORE (Children of Restaurant Employees).

*On Friday, Feb. 23, Taco John's International, Inc.'s employees received a one-time bonus, as follows:* 

- Every restaurant crew member full-time and part-time received \$200 (after taxes);
- General managers and employees at the Taco John's Franchisee Support Center in Cheyenne received \$1,000 each; and,
- The Executive Council of Taco John's International, Inc. (Vice Presidents and above) donated their \$1,000 bonuses (a total of \$10,000) to CORE, a national not-for-profit organization that grants support to children of food and beverage service employees who are navigating life-altering circumstances.

"At Taco John's International, our team is our family, so sharing the financial benefits that were a result of the recent tax reform legislation only makes sense," said Jim Creel, CEO of Taco John's International, Inc. "We encourage other restaurant brands to follow our example and give a portion of their savings to the people that are at the heart of what we do and to great organizations like CORE that support our crew. One hundred percent of CORE's funds directly benefit children of restaurant employees who have been afflicted with life-threating conditions."

"We are so grateful to the Taco John's team for their generous donation to our CORE family members," said Lauren LaViola, executive director of CORE. "Donations like theirs help us provide for our food and beverage service families experiencing loss, illness and other life-changing circumstances, and help us get closer to our goal of helping even more families across all 50 states in 2018."

The total amount that Taco John's International, Inc. gave exceeded \$150,000.00. – <u>Feb. 28,</u> 2018 Taco John's International, Inc. press release

Tampa Electric (Tampa, Florida) – The utility is passing tax reform savings to customers:

Tampa Electric bills won't rise to pay for Hurricane Irma restoration costs, thanks to new tax savings. The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) unanimously approved the measure today.

Because of recent changes made to the federal tax law, customers will directly benefit. What Tampa Electric would have paid in corporate income taxes will instead be used to cover the cost of restoring power after Hurricane Irma and several other earlier named storms. Additionally, Tampa Electric bills will reflect the ongoing benefits from tax reform starting in 2019. – March 1, 2018, Tampa Electric Press Release

**TCF Financial Corporation** (Wayzata, Minnesota) -- \$1,000 bonuses for full time employees; \$500 bonuses for part time employees (exact number receiving bonus unknown at this time):

"As a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, TCF will provide approximately \$5 million in one-time bonuses to eligible team members—\$1,000 to full-time team members and \$500 to part-time team members—who earned less than \$100,000 in total compensation during 2017, totaling 80 percent of its workforce. Additionally, TCF will donate \$5 million to TCF Foundation to increase grants to nonprofit organizations in the communities it serves, including increasing its match of team member contributions to nonprofit organizations from 100 percent to 200 percent in 2018." – Friday Dec. 29, 2017 TCF Financial Corporation press release

**<u>TCW Inc.</u>** (Nashville, Tennessee) - Purchasing new equipment, increasing wages, growing health insurance plans:

So the fact that we were able to depreciate that equipment we had \$1.2 million reduction in our tax bill...we took that 1.2 and invested in wages for our drivers about \$3,000 per driver per year that they got as a result of that.

"We also put another \$500,000 into our health insurance plans. We took on more of the cost of health insurance. We had the confidence to be able to do that because of these changes that are taking place and because of the economy trucking is booming right now — we have a lot of demand.

"We also invested \$20 million in additional equipment so trucks and trailers and chassis...We had a driver that was actually up here last week that said that, you know, this is about \$2,300 a year tax savings.But forget the \$3,000 raise that he got. \$2,300 tax savings in his pocket. What he plans to do that is to save that and take his family on a vacation that he wouldn't have been able to do otherwise without that." - <u>April 17, 2018 Tax Talk Roundtable, Dave Manning, President of</u> <u>TCW Inc.</u>

Today's Electronics (Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina) – \$1,000 tax reform bonuses to employees.

The Flood Insurance Agency (Gainesville, Florida) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 17 full time employees:

"Small businesses represent almost 75% of all jobs in the USA and the new tax laws benefit many those businesses. Their allocation of additional after tax income could be what causes a wave to turn into a tsunami of economic growth that moves the USA to a destiny defined by everyone's hopes and dreams. My hope is that our insurance industry leads the way with both large public insurance corporations and small insurance agencies announcing their plans for leveraging their tax savings toward a bright American future. My hope is that news media does their part by reporting every announcement building awareness of the growing tsunami.

I want our company to participate in that tsunami. I want our employees to help define that destiny. Our company is a mid-size insurance MGA with approximately \$15 million of revenue. On Tuesday December 26th we announced a \$1000 bonus for all our full time employees." – CEO Evan Hecht

<u>The Kroger Co.</u> (Cincinnati, Ohio) – increased 401(k) contributions, higher wages, enhanced educational opportunities, increased employee support programs, larger employee discounts, and technology initiatives:

The Kroger Co. on Monday outlined specifics of its plan to share a portion of the proceeds of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act with its employees.

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The spending on workers includes an enhanced educational assistance program, higher wages, a more generous 401(k) benefit, higher discounts for employees on the grocer's private brand merchandise and enhanced support programs for employees who face crises, the company said in a statement.

Nationwide, Kroger employs nearly 500,000 people who serve 9 million customers a day through digital shopping platforms and 2,800 retail food stores. – <u>April 16, 2018 Milwaukee Journal</u> <u>SentinelThe Kroger Co.</u> (Cincinnati, Ohio) – increased 401(k) contributions, higher wages, enhanced educational opportunities, increased employee support programs, larger employee discounts, and technology initiatives:

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<u>Thermo Fisher Scientific</u> (Waltham, Massachusetts) -- \$500 bonuses for 68,000 non-executive employees; increased charitable donations:

Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc. (NYSE: TMO), the world leader in serving science, will make additional investments **totaling \$50 million as a result of the benefit of recently enacted Federal tax reform legislation** in the U.S. This investment includes:

• \$34 million for a one-time bonus of \$500 to be paid to each of the company's approximately 68,000 eligible non-executive employees globally

• \$16 million to accelerate key breakthrough R&D programs and also to increase the impact of the company's sustainability initiatives and philanthropic activities in support of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education.

"Thermo Fisher will benefit from tax reform, so we chose to use this unique opportunity to recognize the commitment of our colleagues who work hard every day to fulfill our Mission – to enable our customers to make the world healthier, cleaner and safer," said Marc N. Casper, president and chief executive officer, Thermo Fisher Scientific. "We also plan to use the benefit to fuel important programs that will strengthen our ability to serve our customers and the communities where we live and work." -- Jan. 31 2018, Thermo Fisher Scientific press release

<u>The Gateway Tavern</u> (Wareham, Massachusetts) -- \$500 bonuses for full-time employees; \$200 bonuses for part-time employees. Together with affiliated restaurants The Stowaway, Sail Loft, Duck Inn Pub, and Speedwell Tavern, the bonuses went to 93 employees.

All of the partners expressed the same reasoning for the bonuses, according to the release. They were happy to be able to share the tax savings by investing in their workforce. They recognize their people as their most important asset. They viewed the payouts as a way of giving back to their staffs, thanking them for everything they contribute to their organization's success. The thought process was that the bonus checks will also benefit the local communities through employees spending more, boosting the area economically, according to the release. – <u>Feb. 16, 2018 Wicked Marion Local article excerpt</u>

<u>The Rabine Group</u> (Schaumburg, Illinois) — Increased raises and bonuses, increased charitable donations, increased hiring, increased research and development spending, and company expansion:

Take my company, the Rabine Group, a group of nine small Illinois-based companies providing paving, roofing, property assessment technology, dump trucking and exterior facility maintenance and construction. Because of tax cuts, our companies are able to do additional

things that will spark economic growth. These include raises and bonuses for our teammates, larger donations to nonprofits, more hiring and jobs, larger research and development (R&D) spending, and expansion.

We will be giving raises that are roughly 50% larger than the past eight years and also larger bonus incentives. Our donations to the nonprofit foundations we support will in many cases double in 2018, and we will be adding jobs across the board from entry-level to leadership.

The combination of small business and corporate tax cuts has created small business optimism like we haven't seen in more than a decade. Small businesses like ours work for great companies like Exelon, Walmart, Home Depot, and Lowe's. And when they are growing, we can count on more opportunity. — <u>Feb. 21, 2018 USA Today op-ed excerpt</u>

<u>The Stowaway</u> (Mattapoisett, Massachusetts) -- \$500 bonuses for full-time employees; \$200 bonuses for part-time employees. Together with affiliated restaurants The Gateway Tavern, Sail Loft, Duck Inn Pub, and Speedwell Tavern, the bonuses went to 93 employees.

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<u>The TJX Companies Inc.</u> (Framingham, Massachusetts) The TJX Companies Inc. is the holding company for TJ Maxx, Marshalls, HomeGoods, Sierra Trading Post, and Homesense stores – tax reform bonuses for employees; increased retirement fund contributions, paid parental leave; increased charitable contributions:

The 2017 Tax Act benefited the Company in the fourth quarter and full year Fiscal 2018. The Company expects to continue to benefit from the 2017 Tax Act going forward, primarily due to the lower U.S. corporate income tax rate. As a result of the estimated cash benefit related to the 2017 Tax Act, the Company is taking the following actions:

Associates:

-A one-time, discretionary bonus to eligible, non-bonus-plan Associates, globally

-An incremental contribution to the Company's defined contribution retirement plans for eligible Associates in the U.S. and internationally

-Instituting paid parental leave for eligible Associates in the U.S.

-Enhancing vacation benefits for certain U.S. Associates

Communities:

Made meaningful contributions to TJX's charitable foundations around the world to further support TJX's charitable giving. – <u>Feb. 28, 2018 The TJX Companies Inc. press release excerpt</u>

The Travelers Companies, Inc. (Hartford, Connecticut) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 14,000 employees with a base salary less than \$75,000:

Today, comprehensive U.S. tax reform has been signed into law. One objective of the legislation is to spur economic growth and therefore the U.S. economy.

In addition to benefiting from economic growth, Travelers will benefit directly from the legislation in two important ways. First, like all companies, our corporate tax rate will decrease from 35% to 21%. Second, the legislation will level the playing field for U.S. insurers by eliminating a loophole that foreign insurers have used to our disadvantage for decades to move their U.S. profits offshore to avoid paying their fair share of U.S. taxes.

One of the opportunities all of these benefits create for us is to make additional investments in our business. I shared at a recent all-employee meeting that our vision as it relates to investment and innovation is to strengthen our competitive advantages with two goals in mind: be the undeniable choice for the customer and an indispensable partner for our agents and brokers.

The leadership team decided that given our confidence in our business and the way we are successfully positioned for the opportunities ahead, we should start making additional investments immediately. We also came to the conclusion that we should use the opportunity to make our first investment in our most valuable asset and greatest competitive advantage — our people.

I'm pleased to announce that we will be giving approximately 14,000 employees with a base salary of \$75,000 per year or less and who meet our performance expectations a special onetime bonus of \$1,000. The bonus will be paid in January to then current employees. Eligible employees will hear more shortly.

In addition, while we have only a small number of U.S.-based employees making less than \$15 an hour, we will increase their hourly wage to \$15. – The Travelers Companies, Inc. note to employees

<u>The United Illuminating Company</u> (New Haven, Connecticut) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers.

<u>Territorial Savings Bank</u> (Honolulu, Hawaii) -- \$1,000 bonuses to 247 employees; base wage hike from \$11.25 to \$15.00 per hour.

Texas Capital Bank (Dallas, Texas) – \$1,000 bonuses for 900 employees:

"The rewritten tax code cuts the marginal tax rate, and that can be significantly beneficial to earnings and our stockholders, because we believe we have among the highest marginal and effective federal tax rates in the banking sector. The tax changes also will be very beneficial to our customers," [Texas Capital Bank President and CEO Keith] Cargill said. – Texas Capital Bank press release

<u>The Hammock Source</u> (Greenville, North Carolina) -- all 150 employees received a tax reform bonus of up to \$1,000 depending on length of service:

"We at The Hammock Source want to continue to invest in the people that have made our business successful. President Trump's tax cuts will provide the funds to make this desire a reality. We hope that other business will follow our lead and give back to their employees as well.

Perkins shared that each of The Hammock Source's employees, including new hires and part time employees, will receive a bonus based on their length of service to the company. The company employs approximately 150 people with over ten percent having twenty or more years tenure with the Perkins Family's Business." - Jan. 25 2018, Casual Living article excerpt

**<u>Tingley Rubber Company</u>** (Piscataway, New Jersey) -- \$1,000 bonuses:

*New Jersey based Tingley Rubber Corporation will be issuing all U.S. based employees one-time bonuses of \$1,000 because of the recent tax reform passed by Congress.* 

Tingley's ownership announced Thursday its plans to share some of the tax benefit directly with their employees to express the company's gratitude. The 122-year-old, fifth generation family owned business joins many businesses across the country in giving employee bonuses after Congress passed a sweeping tax cut for businesses and individuals.

President Donald Trump signed a bill on December 22<sup>nd</sup> overhauling the nation's tax code. One of the biggest changes included in the bill cuts the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent for qualifying corporations. The bill also restructures and lowers the seven personal income tax brackets.

Based in Piscataway, NJ the privately held Tingley Rubber Corporation announced the bonuses during an employee luncheon held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The \$1,000 bonuses will also be eligible for the company's 401(k) plan deferral with the standard corporate match.

"The economic development that should come as a direct result of the new tax reform legislation and deregulations will positively affect Tingley's ability to grow its business. The tax reform package will allow Tingley to invest more into our strategic initiatives, and better serve our customers, as well as our employees and shareholders," said Owner and Chairman of the Board, Bruce McCollum. Bruce's son and owner JB McCollum said "We are excited for the opportunity to reward our dedicated and hard-working employees with this special bonus as a token of our gratitude."

President & COO, Mike Zedalis, expressed his gratitude to the McCollum family and sees the new tax plan as a major boost to Tingley: "Our company continues to grow, and enhanced investment into our operations will always bring benefits to our customers, employees and shareholders."

*Tingley Rubber Corporation is a leading supplier of protective footwear and clothing and has been protecting generations of workers since 1896. -- <u>March 26, 2018 Tingley Rubber</u> <u>Corporation press release</u>* 

Tis The Season (West Jefferson, North Carolina) – \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees:

Luther Pitts, owner of Tis The Season, gave his full time employees a big bonus for the holiday season.

Pitts, a resident of Jefferson, gave his two full-time employees \$1,000 bonuses in addition to their Christmas bonuses due to the recent tax cuts passed by the United States Congress.

"I like what the president is doing and I've done well for myself. Everything I do here is to try and help the county," Pitts said. "I was trying to inspire other business owners to do something nice for their employees. It may not be \$1,000, but something to help the people because the county needs it."

Pitts said the passage of the tax cuts made his bonuses possible. – <u>Jan. 3, 2018 Ashe Post and</u> <u>Times article excerpt</u>

Tokio Marine HCC – \$1,500 employee bonuses for 2,000 employees.

Total System Services Inc. (Columbus, Georgia) \$1,000 bonuses:

Total System Services Inc. (NYSE: TSS) is crediting tax reform for cash bonuses going to their team members worldwide.

A spokesperson for the Columbus, Ga.-based credit card processor best known as TSYS told Atlanta Business Chronicle that it made an internal announcement Tuesday that team members would receive a "special one-time cash bonus of \$1,000" as "a result of the company's continued success and the recently passed U.S. tax reform legislation." – <u>Jan. 2, 2018 Atlanta Business</u> <u>Chronicle article excerpt</u>

<u>Tractor Supply</u> (Franklin, Tennessee) - Increased wages at stores and distribution centers, invest in new stores, share repurchases:

Tractor Supply's CEO Greg Sandfort underscored the need to pay workers competitively in a January conference call and said the Brentwood-based company will advance wages at stores and distribution centers as a result of the new tax law. The company employs 1,200 in Middle Tennessee.

"Given some of the tax advantages that we have, we're going to stay not only very competitive on wages, but in many cases, we're going to be probably the person maybe leading up in the wages because we need to make sure we've got the best people, period," Sandfort said.

Tractor Supply, which had an income tax expense of \$250 million in 2017, also plans to invest in new stores and online sales, and return money to shareholders through share repurchases and dividends. The company did not elaborate on how much will be allocated to those investments or the size of the wage increases. - July 29, 2018, Tennessean article excerpt

Traverse City State Bank (Traverse City, Michigan)- \$750 bonuses:

"Sweeping federal legislation that provides lucrative tax cuts to businesses also is helping to fatten the wallets of Traverse City State Bank's employees.

The bank announced in February that it was giving **each of its 90 employees a one-time \$750 bonus because of the federal tax overhaul** that President Donald Trump signed in December and the bank's strong performance last year.

"The tax reform has aided us in returning more funds to our staff in their paychecks and in turn, these bonuses will provide an additional boost to our local economy," said bank CEO Connie Deneweth" – <u>March 2018, Traverse City Business News article excerpt</u>

<u>Tri-State Trailer Sales, Inc. (Pennsylvania and Ohio</u>) – Increased 401(k) match for employees, to 100% on the first 4% of compensation:

We were very motivated that President Trump and Congress made the tax reform decision to benefit the American People and the Businesses they work for.

I look at all our employees as a big TEAM, its management and ownerships job to coach our team making sure everyone has the necessary tools to be successful in their position, we have done a good job at this and will continue to do so which has enabled us effective January 1st 2018 to implement an increased 401(k) match from approximately 25% to now 100% on the first 4% of compensation.

*This new tax reform will also assist our company in continuing to support some of the great nonprofit organization we have in the past. – Joe Mancino, CEO/President* 

Trico (Pewaukee, Wisconsin) -- Employee bonuses, 401(k) expansions, hiring new employees:

For example, as a direct result of the tax cuts, full-time employees at the Pewaukee-based Trico Corporation will receive \$650 bonuses and increased contributions into their 401(k) accounts. The company will also hire more full-time workers to fill new positions. -<u>April 17, 2018, Rep. Jim</u> <u>Sensenbrenner article excerpt</u>

Tucson Electric Power Company (Tucson, Arizona) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers:

*EP* and its sister utilities "believe it is in the public interest to share a substantial portion of the expected income tax savings with their respective customers on an expedited basis," the companies said.

TEP says its proposals may include a fast-tracked regulatory approval process to implement a billing credit as soon as possible; a higher seasonal credit that would help offset customer bills during higher usage months; or bill credits that would decline over time while still smoothing the bill impacts of future rate requests. – <u>Feb. 2, 2018 Tucson.com article excerpt</u>

Turbohaul (Annapolis Junction, Maryland) - Purchased new equipment:

"We desperately needed to invest in equipment. For years now I have an aging fleet and have just been very hesitant to pull the trigger on that investment because of the economic climate and the regulatory climate that we are in, tax climate that we're in. So it was a real shot in the arm to us to get this tax bill passed and I'm happy to report that over the next 18 months we'll be investing over \$2 million in new trucks and equipment for our locations."

"But what's even better for me really than trucks...is the effect it has on our people. Most of our people, it's the first job that they get. A lot of guys and gals that come to work for us, they're right out of high school. It's all they've got as a high school diploma maybe. We take them, we train them, we give them opportunities and real professional environment and a company, and they're able to make a real wage and provide for their families. A lot of them from disadvantaged backgrounds and communities and so on. These new trucks they not only will look great and, you know, haul things great, but they'll be able to be more efficient in their jobs and we incentivize everybody from the starting labor on up through the driver. ...we've estimated that they have the potential now with these new trucks and equipment to add about \$5,000 to their salaries to their wages for this year based on just averages of what they will likely make with these new trucks and equipment that will make them more efficient more safe more comfortable you know in their jobs." - <u>April 17, 2018 Tax Talk Roundtable, Kevin Daly, Founder of</u> <u>Turbohaul</u>

Turning Point Brands, Inc. (Louisville, Kentucky) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 107 employees:

"We are giving \$1,000 bonuses as a direct result of tax reform becoming law. These employees would not normally get a bonus like this. Our dedicated employees are responsible for our success, and we are very pleased to announce this bonus for them during the holiday season. We are extremely happy with tax reform and wanted our valued employees to feel the benefits.We can attest that this tax package is directly benefiting working people, just as our national leaders promised when they started this effort."

"We especially want to thank President Trump, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and House Speaker Paul Ryan for pushing to get tax reform done this year, which allowed our people to immediately feel the impact. Every leader who pushed for and voted for tax reform made these bonuses possible," Wexler said. "Senator McConnell has personally toured our facility in Louisville and we appreciate his interest in our employees and our business as well as his interest in all Kentucky businesses."

Turning Point USA (Lemont, Illinois) -- \$300 bonuses to all 115 employees.

TrueNorth Steel (Billings, Montana) – Creating 35 new jobs.

<u>Tremco Inc.</u> (Cleveland, Ohio) – hiring new employees, increasing employee retirement contributions, upgrading equipment, and reinvesting in employees:

Tremco is upgrading their equipment, hiring new workers, and reinvesting in their employees through increased contributions to employee retirement plans. I'm pleased that we continue to see these kinds of positive responses from Ohio businesses as a direct result of this tax reform law, and I believe this is only the beginning. – <u>Jan. 12, 2018 United States Senator Rob</u> <u>Portman's press release excerpt</u>

<u>Tyson Foods, Inc.</u> (Springdale, Arkansas) -- 100,000 employees will receive a tax reform bonus: \$1,000 for full-time employees and \$500 for part-time employees.

Uelner Precision Tools & Dies (Dubuque, Iowa) – tax reform bonuses to employees.

**UGI Central Penn Gas Inc.** (Shippensburg, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, <u>Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release</u>

<u>UGI Penn Natural Gas Inc.</u> (Valley Forge, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

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Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

**UGI Utilities Inc.** (Valley Forge, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to

address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

**<u>UH Rainbow Center</u>** (Cleveland, Ohio) - Built a new women's and children's center:

U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), as part of his Results for the Middle-Class Tax Reform Tour, visited UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children and hosted a tax reform roundtable. The UH Rainbow Center for Women & Children's \$26 million capital project was partially funded through New Markets Tax Credits, a tax incentive Senator Portman fought to preserve in the Senate version of the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act and the final bill which ultimately became law. - <u>February 24, 2018, Sen. Rob Portman press release excerpt</u>

<u>U-Haul</u> (Phoenix, Arizona) – \$1,200 bonus for full-time employees, \$500 for part-time employees; over 28,000 workers will receive a bonus:

"PHOENIX (KSAZ) - Officials with U-Haul say Friday its employees will receive a one-time bonus, as a result of the tax cut bill that was signed by President Donald Trump.

According to a statement, full-time team members will get a \$1,200 bonus, while part-time employees will get \$500. The bonuses, which will be issued by the end of February, will cost the company \$23 million.

*Officials say over 28,000 workers will benefit from the bonus, with more than 3,800 of those in Arizona." – <u>Feb. 9 2018, Fox 10 Phoenix news article</u>* 

<u>Ulta Beauty, Inc.</u> (Bolingbrook, Illinois) — Bonuses for hourly associates, totaling \$12.3 million.

<u>Umpqua Holdings Corporation</u> (Portland, Oregon) – base wage raised to \$15.25 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses for over 15,000 non-executive employees:

Umpqua Bank, based in Portland, Ore., announced in its latest earnings call that it had paid \$3.2 million in employee profit-sharing and contributed \$2 million to the Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation **as a result of the tax bill.** – Jan. 31 2018, ABA Banking Journal article excerpt

<u>Union Bank & Trust</u> (Lincoln, Nebraska) – All full-time and part-time employees received a \$1,000 bonus. Over 800 employees.

<u>United Bank & Trust</u> (Marysville, Kansas) – all employees received a raise of \$100 per month. According to ABA Bankers Journal the raise applies to both salaried and hourly employees.

<u>United Technologies Corporation</u> (Farmington, Connecticut) – 35,000 new employees to be hired, and \$15 billion in capital expenditures and research/development over the next five years:

The competitive tax system resulting from U.S. tax reform is encouraging global companies, such as United Technologies, to make long-term investments in innovation in America. – <u>May 23,</u> 2018 United Technologies Corporation press release excerpt

Unitil (Fitchburg, Massachusetts) - The utility will pass along tax cut savings to customers:

Unitil, which serves about 45,000 electric and gas customers in Massachusetts, said it expects to rebate customers about \$1.6 million in tax savings.

The company, which owns Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, is one of the few utilities that isn't seeking a rate increase this year. - <u>June 30, 2018, The Daily News article excerpt</u>

Unity Bank (Clinton, New Jersey) – all 200 non-executive employees will receive a \$750 bonus:

In response to Congressional approval of tax reform legislation, Unity Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:UNTY), parent company of Unity Bank, announced today that its Board of Directors has elected to provide all employees excluding executive management with a one-time \$750 bonus.

"The bank's Board and executive management felt strongly that the anticipated benefit of the corporate tax rate reduction should be shared with our employees," said Unity Bank President & CEO James A. Hughes. "Unity's employees constantly demonstrate their commitment to our customers and the community, not only in their work responsibilities, but by donating their personal time and resources to benefit those in need. We foster an entrepreneurial culture at Unity where the employees and bank can grow together and this decision fits perfectly with that philosophy."

The corporate tax rate in the recently passed legislation will drop from 35% to 21%. Unity Bank intends to pay the bonuses to its approximately 200 employees in January. – Unity Bancorp Inc. press release

<u>Universal Plumbing & Heating Co.</u> (Las Vegas, Nevada) – Bonuses up to \$1,000, hiring of new employees, purchase of new equipment:

*President Donald Trump added some Sin City flavor to a Rose Garden event Thursday to highlight the impact of his tax cut on small businesses and working families: a pair of Las Vegas plumbers.* 

Kerzetski said the tax cuts paid for purchases of "much-needed trucks, tools and office equipment." Then there were "bonuses of \$500 and \$1,000 to all our employees." And his firm hired several new employees, he said. – April 13, 2018 Las Vegas Review-Journal

<u>Unum</u> (Chattanooga, Tennessee) – base wage raise to \$15 a hour, creation of paid parental leave, additional \$1 million in charitable contributions:

"On the heels of announcing record financial results for 2017, Unum (NYSE: UNM) today said, in addition to the existing all-employee annual bonus program, it is investing in its people and communities with a new paid parental leave benefit for both mothers and fathers in the U.S.; enhancements to the compensation program so that all U.S. employees earn at least \$15 an hour; and an additional \$1 million in charitable contributions this year in support of the communities where Unum employees live and work." – <u>Feb. 1 2018, Unum press release excerpt</u>

<u>Upper Peninsula Power Company</u> (Marquette, Michigan) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to its customers:

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) was passed into law at the end of 2017, effectively lowering corporate tax rates from 35 percent to 21 percent. Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) is requesting approval of a proposal that would pass along the savings attributable to the TCJA to its customers. UPPCO's proposal was filed with the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) on March 30th as part of the process that is required by the state for determining how the benefits of the TCJA are to be credited to the utility's customers.

"Under our plan, a typical residential customer consuming 500 kilowatt hours per month will see a reduction of approximately \$1.30 on their monthly bills," said Brett French, Vice-President of Business Development and Communications. "This is in addition to approximately \$7 in monthly savings currently being seen by a typical residential customer because of the steps we implemented in January. We anticipate our customers will begin to see the additional savings later this summer after the MPSC approves our plan." – <u>April 2, 2018 WLUC News article excerpt</u>

**UPS** (Atlanta, Georgia) – Significantly increased capital expenditures; construction and renovation of facilities, new vehicle and aircraft purchases and technological upgrades; increased pension funding:

UPS today announced more than \$12 billion in investments to expand the company's Smart Logistics Network, significantly increase pension funding, and position the company to further enhance shareowner value.

"This \$12 billion investment program is an outgrowth of the opportunity for tax savings created by the Tax and Jobs Act," said David Abney, UPS Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "We will increase network investments and accelerate pension funding to strengthen the company for the long term, so that we maximize the benefit to our global customers, employees and shareowners." "Through our current and future actions, we will enhance UPS's position as the leading logistics provider by expanding capacity and technology investments to help customers meet their needs for dependable, day- and time-definite service with enhanced visibility and flexibility," Abney said.

The company plans to raise future capital spending above its previously committed six-to-seven percent of annual revenue. UPS will invest an additional \$7 billion over three years for the construction and renovation of facilities, to acquire new aircraft and ground fleet vehicles, and to enhance the information technology platforms required to support the network, manage the business and power new customer solutions.

"We applaud President Trump and Congress for their bold action to improve the U.S. economy," Abney continued. "Our investments will create new jobs, secure existing jobs and expand opportunities for our people. We are committed to remaining a preferred employer by continuing to provide industry-leading compensation and excellent career opportunities."

UPS also recently made a \$5 billion tax-qualified contribution to the company's three UPSsponsored U.S. pension plans. This represents about \$13,000 per participant. The voluntary contribution raised the funding level to above 90-percent, securing retirement benefits on behalf of union-represented and union-free employees eligible for UPS-funded pensions.

"Tax reform is a tremendous catalyst," said Abney. "We will continue to evaluate additional actions that benefit customers, employees and shareowners as we progress further in the year." – <u>Feb. 1, 2018 UPS press release</u>

<u>U.S. Bancorp</u> (Minneapolis, Minnesota) – \$1,000 bonuses for 60,000 employees; base wage hike to \$15 per hour; \$150 million charitable contribution:

"We believe that tax reform is positive for the U.S. economy because it provides an immediate opportunity to benefit our employees, our communities and our customers." – Andy Cecere, President and CEO

**<u>U.S. Special Delivery</u>** (Iron Mountain, Michigan) – \$1,000 bonuses:

With the recent tax reform, plenty of businesses got a big tax cut. That included Upper Peninsula–based U.S. Special Delivery, who got a little bit more spending money for the year, thanks to that tax cut.

"That was a major reason we were able to do this," said U.S. Special Delivery President Terry Reed. "It provided the funds and the savings on taxes for us to be able to do something special, and we agreed it would be a great way to thank our employees for their dedication and hard work." – <u>ABC News 10 excerpt</u> Utility Services of Alaska (Fairbanks, Alaska) – the utility will pass tax reform savings to customers.

<u>Valley Bank</u> (Harrisonburg, Virginia) -- \$1,100 bonuses for employees who work more than thirty hours a week, \$750 bonus for employees who work under thirty hours a week; charitable contribution of \$250,000:

"This is an opportunity we haven't seen during my career, as far as cuts in corporate tax rates," said Executive Vice President Neil Hayslett. "Rather than just banking all that, so to speak, we wanted to share it with the employees."

*The GOP tax plan cut the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent.* 

Those who work more than 30 hours a week were given a one-time bonus of \$1,100 and those who work less were handed \$750.

The Timberville-based bank also announced a special dividend to shareholders and the formation of a community fund. During a scheduled training session, the company awarded \$250,000 to three community foundations.

Altogether, Hayslett said \$1.1 million was given out." – <u>Feb. 20 2018, WHSV 3 news article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Velvet Ice Cream Company</u> (Utica, Ohio) – Base wages raised, facility improvements, new management system:

The company is increasing wages for new employees by \$1.10 per hour for full-time employees and by 50 cents per hour for seasonal summer workers. Velvet employs 125 full-time workers and 50 part-timers in the summer.

Velvet will fix the roof of the mill, installing natural shingles like the ones used 200 years ago, at a cost of about \$60,000 to \$80,000. The new warehouse management system will increase food safety, allowing products to be traced, in case of a safety issue. And, there will be ceiling, lighting and equipment upgrades in the manufacturing area.

It would have taken about three years to make the investment, without the tax cut, Arnold said. — <u>March 28, 2018 Newark Advocate article excerpt</u>

<u>Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.</u> (South Burlington, Vermont) – the utility will pass savings from tax reform to customers:

**Vermont Gas announced today that it will reduce 2018 customer costs by \$2.4 million, the full benefit of December's federal tax law changes.** Vermont Gas has filed a notice with the Vermont Public Utility Commission to give customers a monthly credit on 2018 bills, starting February 1<sup>st</sup> and continuing through October 2018. Each of Vermont Gas' 51,000 customers will receive a credit on their heating bill, based on usage, over the next eight months. For families, this bill credit will total almost \$40 over the year; businesses could see even more.

"Our commitment to our customers is to maintain affordable and competitive rates, while offering top-rate customer service. We are so pleased to return the full benefit of this new federal tax reduction to every family and business this year," said Don Rendall, President and CEO of Vermont Gas. "Our customers will start to see a reduction in their heating bills next month and with the recent bitterly cold weather we've been experiencing, this money will be a welcomed relief."

While each customer's total savings will vary depending on their actual usage, the average residential customer's annual bill will be almost \$40 lower because of this change. Businesses could receive hundreds, or thousands of dollars credited over the course of the year, depending on usage.

"As a Vermont Gas customer at my home and for my downtown hair salon, I'm always looking for ways to save money," said Glenn Brown, Burlington resident and owner of Chop Shop Hair Design. "I'm excited that Vermont Gas is passing along the tax credit to customers – every little bit helps this time of year."

"We're pleased to return this money to customers because we know how important it is for everyone to keep costs in check, especially during the winter months," Rendall continued. "Natural gas is already the cleanest and most affordable heating choice for over 51,000 families and businesses and we know these savings will help." – Jan. 23 2018, Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. press release excerpt

Verizon (New York, New York) – non-executive employees will receive 50 shares of restricted stock.

Verst Logistics, Inc. (Walton, Kentucky) -- \$500 bonuses to all full-time employees:

*Verst Logistics confirmed today that they distributed \$500 bonuses to all full-time employees on December 29, 2017.* 

As part of an internal communication, President and CEO Paul Verst wrote that, **as a result of the approved tax reform legislation, "Verst Logistics will realize reduced tax obligations going forward."** Speaking directly to employees, he added, "The combination of the efforts of our employees to meet and exceed our customer's requirements, coupled with a more favorable tax environment, makes for a great future for our company. I want to be sure that you and your families share in the benefits of your accomplishments and the new tax reform legislation."

In a more recent statement, Paul Verst commented, "We are excited to be included in the growing list of organizations that believe the new tax plan will help our economy by creating new opportunities for business and putting more money in the hands of hard-working people across the U.S." – Jan. 24, 2018 Verst Logistics, Inc. press release

<u>Virtua Partners</u> (Phoenix, Arizona) - Launched an Opportunity Zone Fund, raising \$200million for the fund:

Virtua Partners (Virtua), a global private-equity real-estate investment firm, today announced the launch of the first-ever Opportunity Zone Fund. This groundbreaking fund is the first vehicle designed to invest in the newly created Opportunity Zones -- one of the lesser known provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (the Tax Reform Act). Virtua Opportunity Zone Fund I, LLC aims to raise \$200 million and is designed to utilize the tax-savings opportunities created by the tax-reform law. - June 20, 2018 Virtua Partners press release

Visa (Foster City, California) – significantly increased permanent contributions to employee 401(k) accounts:

The recent passage of tax reform legislation here in the U.S. will generate substantial benefit to businesses with U.S.-based headquarters, including Visa, through a reduction in the overall corporate tax rate. This action will allow us to increase investment in our long-term growth, and most importantly in all of you who are so integral to Visa's success.

We are in the very early stages of determining the extent and timing of the investments that we might make. As we explore the range of potential options, taking actions in support of our employees around the world is high on our list.

As an initial step, and recognizing that the change in tax is focused on the U.S., we have looked first at improving our benefits for U.S.-based employees by significantly enriching our company contributions to the 401(k) program:

- Today Visa matches 200% of eligible employee contributions up to **3%** of base salary for a total maximum contribution of **6%** of eligible pay.
- Visa will now increase the match to 200% of employee contributions, up to **5%** of base salary, for a Visa total maximum contribution of **10%** of eligible pay.

This enhanced benefit will be available to all U.S. employees, with the exception of Executive Committee members, and will take effect in late February. To encourage use of the program, we

will be changing the default employee pre-tax contribution from 3% to 5% for employees who currently contribute less than 5%.

We are also exploring a range of talent, education and technology investments designed to provide sustained enhanced benefits to all employees around the world, consistent with the role everyone will play in building our business for years to come. We look forward to sharing more specifics with you in the coming months. – Excerpt from Jan. 3 internal announcement to Visa's U.S. employees

Vivian Company (Saint Louis, Missouri) – \$1,000 cash bonuses, updated facilities:

*St. Louis-based Vivian Company, has joined the growing number of U.S. companies to give their employees tax reform bonuses.* 

President Dennis Fanger announced Friday afternoon that all 20 full-time employees are to be each given \$1000 cash bonuses. "Our employees have worked very hard over the past year to deserve this bonus. Because the government is getting behind our business, we want to share the benefits. We are very excited to be capable of rewarding this bonus. Additionally, this tax reform is also allowing us to invest in our business space to suit our growing company and employees. We are building an additional bathroom and shower, a new meeting space, and a utility room with an ice machine for employee usage." says Vice-President Adam Fanger. – <u>Feb. 5</u> 2018, Vivian Company press release excerpt

Wadsworth Oil (Clanton, Alabama) - Employee bonuses:

"It is not just the big companies that are doing this. Smaller businesses are getting in on the act as well. One small business in my district, Wadsworth Oil, sent a note along with their employees' paycheck letting them know that, as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, they would be getting cumulatively \$22,000 in bonuses." - <u>March 20, 2018, Rep. Gary Palmer statement on</u> <u>the House floor</u>

<u>Walmart</u> (Bentonville, Arkansas) – Base wage increase for all hourly employees to \$11; bonuses of up to \$1,000; expanded maternity and parental leave; \$5,000 for adoption expenses:

Today, Walmart announced plans to increase the starting wage rate for all hourly associates in the U.S. to \$11, expand maternity and parental leave benefits and provide a one-time cash bonus for eligible associates of up to \$1,000. The company is also creating a new benefit to assist associates with adoption expenses. The combined wage and benefit changes will benefit the company's more than one million U.S. hourly associates.

"Today, we are building on investments we've been making in associates, in their wages and skills development," <u>said Doug McMillon, Walmart president and CEO</u>. "It's our people who

make the difference and we appreciate how they work hard to make every day easier for busy families."

He added, "We are early in the stages of assessing the opportunities tax reform creates for us to invest in our customers and associates and to further strengthen our business, all of which should benefit our shareholders. However, some guiding themes are clear and consistent with how we've been investing -- lower prices for customers, better wages and training for associates and investments in the future of our company, including in technology. Tax reform gives us the opportunity to be more competitive globally and to accelerate plans for the U.S."

This increase in wages to associates will take effect in February and will be approximately \$300 million incremental to what was already included in next fiscal year's plan. The one-time bonus represents an additional payment to associates of approximately \$400 million in the current fiscal year, which ends Jan. 31, 2018.

While the new law will create some financial benefit for the company, Walmart is early in the process of assessing potential additional investments. That assessment will be done not only through the lens of associates, customers and shareholders, but also within Walmart's financial framework of strong, efficient growth, consistent operating discipline and strategic capital allocation. Further details will be shared, as appropriate, when the company releases quarterly results Feb. 20, 2018.

Associates will hear more from their managers in the coming days about details.

But, broadly, associates in the U.S. will share in tax savings through:

 $\cdot$  A one-time bonus benefiting all eligible full and part-time hourly associates in the U.S. The amount of the bonus will be based on length of service, with associates with at least 20 years qualifying for \$1,000. A discrete one-time charge will be taken in the fourth quarter of the current year to account for the bonus; qualification will be determined before the end of the month and payments will be paid as quickly as practical thereafter.

• An increase in Walmart's starting wage rate to \$11 an hour, effective in the Feb. 17, 2018, pay cycle. The change is in addition to wage increases already planned for many U.S. markets in the coming fiscal year. The increase applies to all hourly associates in the U.S., including stores, Sam's Clubs, eCommerce, logistics and Home Office.

• An expanded parental and maternity leave policy, providing full-time hourly associates in the U.S. with 10 weeks of paid maternity leave and six weeks of paid parental leave. Salaried associates will also receive six weeks of paid parental leave.

Walmart will provide financial assistance to associates adopting a child. The adoption benefit, available to both full-time hourly and salaried associates, will total \$5,000 per child and may be used for expenses such as adoption agency fees, translation fees and legal or court costs.
 Jan. 11 2018, Walmart press release

<u>Walt Disney Company</u> (Burbank, California) -- \$1,000 bonuses for 125,000 employees; \$50 million investment in employee educational programs:

Disney announced Tuesday it will pay over 125,000 employees a one-time cash bonus of \$1,000, as well as make a new \$50 million investment into education program for employees.

"We are directing approximately \$125 million to our cast members and employees across the country and making higher education more accessible with the launch of this new program," CEO Bob Iger said in a statement.

Disney says both initiatives are due to recent tax reform. Some of the biggest companies in the United States have been giving out bonuses to employees, often citing the recently-passed tax bill as the motive. Boeing, AT&T, Wells Fargo, Comcast, Bank of America, and Walmart are just a few of those distributing new tax benefits to workers.

The bonus applies any full-time and part-time employees who have been working for Disney since before January 1. Those eligible will receive the bonus in two parts, with one in March and the other in September. Executive level employees are exempt.

Disney's education initiative will be available to nearly 88,000 hourly employees in the U.S. --Jan. 23 2018, CNBC article excerpt

<u>Warwood Tool</u> (Wheeling, West Virginia) – Creating a new line of products:

The tax cuts have given the company and its customers enough optimism for the future that Warwood Tool is developing a new line of products. – <u>May 3, 2018, The Intelligencer article</u> <u>excerpt</u>

<u>Washington Federal</u> (Seattle, Washington) – according to a company statement, "all Washington Federal employees in good standing and earning less than \$100,000 per year will receive a 5% increase on top of their normal merit increase."

Washington Federal, Inc. (NASDAQ: WAFD) today announced with the signing of tax reform legislation, the Bank will accelerate strategic investments in its employees, client service capabilities and community development funding. – <u>Dec. 20 2017, Washington Federal press</u> <u>release</u>

<u>Washington Trust Bancorp, Inc.</u> (Westerly, Rhode Island) – \$1,000 bonuses for full-time employees and \$500 for part-time employees; \$1.00 per hour salary increase for employees below a certain compensation level:

Washington Trust Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ: WASH), parent of The Washington Trust Company, today announced that as a result of the anticipated reduction in corporate taxes from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the Corporation will invest in its employees with special compensation enhancements implemented in January 2018.

"Recent legislation has provided us with an opportunity to further recognize our employees and the important role they play in delivering excellent results for our customers and shareholders," stated Joseph J. MarcAurele, Washington Trust Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

The Corporation outlined the investment plan as follows:

- We will award a one-time cash bonus of \$1,000 to full-time employees and a \$500 cash bonus to part-time employees. This award will benefit employees below a certain compensation threshold, covering more than 70 percent of our approximately 600 employees.
- Additionally, we will implement a \$1.00 per hour salary increase for employees below a certain compensation level, benefitting almost 40 percent of our workforce.

The special compensation is in addition to any merit increases or incentive bonuses for which they may be otherwise eligible. -- Jan. 16 2018, Washington Trust Bancorp, Inc. press release

Waste Management, Inc. (Houston, Texas) – \$2,000 bonuses to approximately 34,000 employees:

Waste Management, Inc. (NYSE: WM) announced today that, in light of the meaningful contributions of its employees and the new U.S. corporate tax structure, the company will distribute US \$2,000 in 2018 to every North American employee not on a bonus or sales incentive plan; that includes hourly and other employees.

"We are about to get a tax benefit as our U.S. corporate tax rate goes from 35 percent to 21 percent. In considering how to best spend that, we wanted to find a way to help grow our economy, which in turn, will help grow our business, and give some of the tax savings back to those hardworking employees who do not get the opportunity to participate in our salaried incentive plans," said Jim Fish, president and chief executive officer, Waste Management.

"So, we are offering each North American hourly full-time employee and salaried employee who does not participate in any sales incentive or bonus plan during 2018, a cash bonus of US \$2,000

to show our appreciation to so many of our valued employees while growing our business and returning a good portion of the tax savings directly to the overall economy," he continued.

Approximately 34,000 qualified Waste Management employees could receive this special bonus. – Jan. 10 2018, Waste Management, Inc. press release

Webco Industries Inc. (Sand Springs, Oklahoma) – Up to \$2,000 bonuses:

Webco Industries based in Sand Springs is the latest employer to give workers a bonus following the passage last year of the Trump Administration's tax plan.

Webco says each employee was given \$1,000 if they've been there for a year or more. Employees who have been there for a significant amount of time, were given \$2,000.

Webco says they had more than a million dollars total to distribute to their employees, many of whom are in Sand Springs.

"The tax cuts and jobs act reduced corp tax rates, so that produced a significant amount of savings this year for Webco as our corporate tax bill was reduced," said Mike Howard with Webco Industries.

These were one-time bonuses and impacted employees in Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Illinois, and Michigan. -- <u>March 7, 2018 News on 6 article excerpt</u>

WebHobby Shop, LLC (Pontiac, Michigan) -- \$2.00 per hour raise for employees:

"I am sure it seems like "crumbs" to elitists but I was able to give them a \$2 per hour raise because of the tax reform. It was great to do and my staff is very pleased." – Bruce Zak, Principal, WEBHOBBYSHOP LLC

We Energies (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) – the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

We Energies electric customers will receive a one-time credit in July and a slight decrease in electric rates in subsequent months from a portion of the savings from the company's lower federal corporate tax rate, state regulators decided on Thursday.

The Public Service Commission determined that 20 percent of the immediate savings from the lower tax rate should be passed on to customers.

The remaining 80 percent of the savings will go toward paying down deferred costs that stood at \$424.5 million as of Dec. 31 but that are not included in current rates.

"It will be a win-win for our customers — providing an immediate bill credit while also helping to reduce future rate increases," Cathy Schulze, a We Energies spokeswoman, said in an email. - April 26, 2018, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article excerpt

<u>Webster Financial Corporation</u> (Waterbury, Connecticut) – Base wage raised to \$15 per hour; \$1,000 bonuses to full-time employees below vice-president level; \$1 million in additional charitable contributions:

Webster Financial Corporation (NYSE: WBS), the holding company for Webster Bank, N.A. and its HSA Bank division, today announced an **acceleration of investment in its employees and the communities it serves following the passage of new federal tax reform legislation**.

*These investments include:* 

- Payment of a one-time \$1,000 cash bonus in the first quarter of 2018 to full-time employees who are below the vice president level. This payment will benefit approximately 70 percent of all Webster full-time employees;
- Increasing Webster's minimum wage to \$15 per hour by the end of 2018;
- Beginning in 2018, augmenting Webster's annual philanthropic and community investment by \$1 million; and,
- Enhancing Webster's investment in strategic employee development initiatives and early career programs, creating new job opportunities in our markets. – Jan. <u>4 2018, Webster Financial Corporation press release excerpt</u>

<u>Wells Fargo</u> (San Francisco, California) – Raised base wage from \$13.50 to \$15.00 per hour; \$400 million in charitable donations for 2018; \$100 million increased capital investment over next three years:

**"Our announcement was directly related to the passage of tax reform."** -- Arati Sontakay Randolph, Wells Fargo senior vice president

<u>Wellsboro Electric Company</u> (Wellsboro, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be

filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

<u>Werner Enterprises Inc</u> (Omaha, Nebraska) – Increasing driver wages and increasing capital expenditures:

"Mr President, you care about truck drivers, and it shows," said Ward, a US Army veteran. "Thank you so much for fighting for us. This tax law means a better future for me, and a significant pay increase this year. As a result, my sister and I are planning a cruise with our family."

"To fully understand the true size and scale of this law's impact on our company, I point to some concrete numbers: We have increased our capital expenditures for 2018 by \$127 million, or 64%, over the previous year--90% of which was for newer and safer trucks," Leathers said. "For our employees, we are increasing driver pay by more than \$24 million--an average increase of \$2,400 per driver." – <u>April 18, 2018 Bulk Transporter article excerpt</u>

<u>West Penn Power Company</u> (Greensburg, Pennsylvania) - the utility will pass along tax reform savings to customers:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today issued an **Order**, requiring a "negative surcharge" or monthly credit on customer bills for 17 major electric, natural gas, and water and wastewater utilities, totaling more than \$320-million per year. The refunds to consumers are the result of the substantial decrease in federal corporate tax rates and other tax changes under the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, which impacted the tax liability of many utilities.

Additionally, the PUC will consider the effects of federal tax reform on seven other public utilities as part of the investigations for rate cases which have already been filed or are expected to be filed by Aug. 1, 2018. In those situations, the Commission has directed the parties involved to address the impact of any TCJA tax savings as part of the overall rate design for each utility. – May 17, 2018, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Press Release

WeStar Energy (Topeka, Kansas) – the utility will pass along tax savings to customers:

"Topeka, Kan., Jan. 18, 2018 – Today Westar Energy announced it will file a request before the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to **reflect in its electricity rates the full amount of tax savings from the change in the federal tax law.** Westar said that a detailed application is being prepared and will be filed later this month or early February. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which decreased the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, was signed into law on Dec. 22, 2017, and became effective Jan. 1, 2018.

*"We agree with the KCC Staff and others that all these tax benefits should go to our customers,"* said Mark Ruelle, President and CEO of Westar. *"This application to update rates starts that process."* 

All utility rate changes must be approved by the KCC. That process typically takes a few months to review and confirm. While the company estimated the tax benefit to be \$65 million annually, or more, the KCC Staff and other parties will confirm the precise figures before the KCC. In addition to passing through the benefit of lower tax rates, regulators will review and update all other costs to provide electricity."—Jan. 18 2018, WeStar Energy press release

<u>Western & Southern Financial Group</u> (Cincinnati, Ohio) -- \$2,000 bonuses for full time employees; \$1,000 for part time employees.

<u>Western Alliance Bancorporation</u> (Phoenix, Arizona) – base pay raise of 7.5 percent for the lowest-paid 50% of employees; increased bonuses; increased 401(k) match; etc.

Western Alliance, which has \$20 billion in assets, plans to increase the base pay of the lowestpaid 50% of employees by 7.5% once the bill becomes law, the bank's chief executive Robert Sarver said in an interview Wednesday. Bonuses will also go up, bringing the total pay increase for this group of employees to around 10%. These employees generally make \$75,000 or less.

Western Alliance, which operates units including Bank of Nevada and Torrey Pines Bank, also plans to increase its 401(k) match from 50% of an employee's contribution up to 6% of pay to 75% of an employee's contribution up to that same level. The bank, which has about 1,700 total employees, also plans to improve maternity leave benefits, though Mr. Sarver declined to detail those changes. – Wall Street Journal article excerpt

Whiskey Alley (Aiken, South Carolina) - Expanding business operations:

Norman Dunagan, owner of Whiskey Alley restaurant and Dumpster Depot in Aiken, announced they are expanding as well. - <u>February 21, 2018, The Lexington Ledger article excerpt</u>

Wichita Railway Services, LLC -- \$3,000 - 6,000 bonuses:

In February, <u>Wichita Railway Services LLC</u> president and CEO Bob Aldrich summoned his five employees to his office.

"I called them into the office which is always fun. We are like a big family here. We are constantly pulling each other's chain," said Aldrich in an interview with Americans for Tax Reform. Each employee was handed an envelope. Inside each envelope was a tax cut bonus, ranging from \$3,000 to \$6,000. To date, these are the highest tax cut bonuses in the country, according to a national list maintained by ATR.

The payment of the bonuses was first reported by the <u>Wichita Business Journal</u>, which noted the bonuses were from "funds that would have otherwise gone toward corporate income tax."

Wichita Railway Services "buys and sells railroad car parts to repair and build rail cars," said Aldrich in the ATR interview. "You can come to us for just about every railroad car part you can think of. We ship same day or next day on most parts."

Regarding the bonuses, Aldrich says he "just wanted to say thanks" to his employees. And the payments should help the local economy. "What they'll do with the bonuses is make purchases back in our local community and that's a very good thing. Economics 101," said Aldrich.

Aldrich started the company in January 2013 with help from a \$12,000 loan from his mother-inlaw. The company has grown and had sales of about four and half million dollars in 2017.

"We give back as much as we can. I believe in it. We are a family environment," said Aldrich. "My crumbs are a little bit better than Pelosi thinks." -- <u>April 3, 2018 Americans for Tax Reform</u> <u>interview</u>

<u>Willis Lease Finance Corporation</u> (Novato, California) -- \$1,000 bonuses for all non-executive employees:

Willis Lease Finance Corporation (NASDAQ:WLFC) today announced that it has given all nonexecutive employees a one-time bonus of \$1,000 as a result of the tax laws recently passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President Donald Trump.

"We believe the new tax laws will help stimulate growth in our industry and our business specifically," said Charles F. Willis, Chairman and CEO. "We have therefore decided to return some of that benefit to our employees who work incredibly hard and are an important part of the American and global economy." – Jan. 19 2018, <u>Willis Lease Finance Corporation press</u> <u>release</u>

Willow Creek Woodworks (Idaho Falls, Idaho) – Tax reform bonuses to employees.

<u>Windsor Federal Savings</u> (Windsor, Connecticut) – \$250 bonus for all employees with the exception of upper management:

*With the signing of the tax reform bill* into law all employees of Windsor Federal Savings with the exception of senior management will receive a one-time special bonus of \$250. This bonus

will coincide with their raising the hourly minimum wage of all full-time employees to \$15.00 per hour.

George Hermann, President and CEO of Windsor Federal Savings, says the bank has a positive outlook on the economy due to the tax reform. **"The relief that this tax bill provides to business should help to spur our economy, and is important to building meaningful, long-term growth in Connecticut, and beyond.** The awarding of these bonuses and our minimum wage increase is our way of sharing our optimism with our most important asset: our valued employees." – <u>Windsor Federal Savings press release</u>

Windy Hill Foliage, Inc. (Marshfield, Wisconsin) – Bonuses of up to \$1,200 for 180 employees:

Windy Hill Foliage will give its 180 employees bonuses of up to \$1,200, thanks to the tax reform package recently passed by Congress and signed by President Donald Trump

"It's very nice of them, and (owner) Eric (Shortt) could have pocketed the money as a family, but they didn't," said Charles Earle, Windy Hill operations manager. "To be able to do that was significant to our employees who have expressed their thankfulness."

Windy Hill is a family-owned company founded by Jack and Janice Shortt in 1976 and is a cargo and freight transportation business.

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Every employee will receive a bonus. The potential bonus for truckers is up to \$1,200 based on a one-cent per mile bonus up to 120,000 miles. Office employees and shop personnel received \$500 one-time bonuses.

Earle said employees are grateful for the bonuses.

"They're very thankful and appreciative," he said. "We have 160 drivers and 20 office people. That's a significant amount of money for a family-run business. It certainly helps morale and maintains an upbeat attitude at work knowing you'll be rewarded and your work is valued." – <u>March 10, 2018 Marshfield News Herald article excerpts</u>

<u>Winnebago Industries</u> (Forest City, Iowa) — Bonuses, wage adjustments, increased charitable contributions, accelerated facility improvements — details forthcoming:

"During the quarter, we recorded a tax reform benefit and expect a similar favorable tax rate for the remainder of Fiscal 2018. We are committed to passing a portion of the tax savings to our hard-working Winnebago Industries employees in the form of a bonus and other selective wage adjustments, making a donation to our foundation, and accelerating facility improvements over the coming months which will create better work environments. As always, I want to sincerely thank each and every one of our employees for their tremendous efforts and dedication to building a stronger future for our Company." — <u>March 21, 2018 statement of Winnebago</u> Industries President and CEO Michael Happe, Second Quarter Fiscal 2018 announcement

Winton Machine (Suwanee, Georgia) - Capital investments; purchase of new equipment:

"Tax reform is enabling companies to make significant capital investments, and it's creating more business for us and other small manufacturers," said Ms. Winton.

Winton anticipates making her own capital investments. "We'll be replacing two machines in our factory," she said. - May 1, 2018, National Association of Manufacturers article excerpt

Wintrust Financial Corporation (Rosemont, Illinois) -- base wage raised to \$15 per hour:

Town Bank is joining a growing list of Wisconsin and national banks in raising the minimum hourly wage for employees to \$15.

Town Bank, a Hartland-based bank owned by Wintrust Financial Corp., of Rosemont, Ill., said Wednesday the decision to increase the pay rate for eligible staff "**comes as a result of the recently enacted tax reform legislation** and the bank's continued commitment to its employees."

Wintrust said it expects that more than 600 employees will benefit from the pay raise across its family of more than 150 bank locations, including Town Bank's 19 branches in Wisconsin. -- <u>Jan.</u> 24 2018, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article excerpt

Wirco Inc. (Avilla, Indiana) – \$500 employee bonuses:

"Wright (Wirco Inc. owner) announced that he would be giving every Wirco employee a \$500 bonus as a result of the savings the company would see from federal tax reform passed by Republicans in late 2017. Rokita, along with the rest of Indiana's Republican delegation, had voted in favor of those large business tax rate cuts." – Feb 19 2018, The News Sun powered by KPC news

<u>Wild Adventures</u> (Valdosta, Georgia) – \$500 bonus to employees, health benefits, free admission to park for family and friends:

As South Georgia residents find themselves on the other side of Tax Day, some Wild Adventures Theme Park team members are receiving a \$500 bonus thanks to the recent federal corporate tax cuts. "We work hard at Wild Adventures to ensure our park is a great place to play and a great place to work," said Molly Deese, Wild Adventures Vice-President and General Manager. "The memorable experiences our guests have are thanks to the hard work of our team members, and this bonus is just one way for us to show appreciation for their dedication."

The bonus will be distributed the week of May 14 and will be awarded to hourly and salaried fulltime team members who worked at least 1,000 hours in 2017 and are currently employed at Wild Adventures. Approximately 125 team members are eligible.

In addition to this one-time bonus, Wild Adventures employees receive a variety of unique benefits throughout the year, including incentives for employees who stay with the company, complimentary admission to Wild Adventures and Splash Island Waterpark for family and friends, as well as various community-wide incentives. A comprehensive health benefits package is also available for qualified, full-time employees and qualifying seasonal team members. – <u>April</u> **18, 2018, SOWEGAlive.com article excerpt** 

Wolf Metals (Columbus, Ohio) – Purchase of new equipment:

"Today, as a result of the new tax reform law, Wolf Metals was proud to announce its plan to purchase new equipment, including a water jet cutter first and then a press brake," said Jim Wolf, Co-Founder and Owner. "This investment will help our company, help our workers, and help those who rely on us to deliver top-of-the-line product. I want to thank Senator Portman for coming to visit today and for his role in delivering historic tax relief for small businesses like ours who for too long have been saddled with burdensome taxes and over-regulation." – Jan. 5, 2018 statement, press release of Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio)

Wood Boat Brewery (Clayton, New York) - Hiring new employees, expanding production:

Similarly, small producers of beer and liquor seem to be well positioned to take advantage of tax savings given the large cut to the federal excise charge across the industry. Mix in a lower overall tax rate and the savings start to add up. Some are using the proceeds to hire and reinvest. For example, in Watertown, NY, the Wood Boat Brewery started posting ads for fulltime help after the law passed.

Owner Michael J. Hazelwood told the Watertown Daily Times in December that he'd likely expand production and hire staff with savings realized from the reduced excise tax. Now, like the Klavers of SALUS, it appears he has. - <u>April 18, 2018, Capital One blog post excerpt</u>

Worldpay Inc. (Cincinnati, Ohio) – Up to \$2000 bonuses, increasing some hourly wages, increasing 401(k) match, increasing charitable contributions, investing in wellness and recognition programs:

"An Ohio-based payments-processing giant said Friday it's giving bonuses, upping pay and improving benefits while crediting the GOP tax cuts.

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Worldpay said U.S. hourly workers are getting bonuses of \$1,000 to \$2,000 each, and some hourly wages are being hiked. The company is increasing its 401(k) match and investments in wellness and recognition programs. Charles Drucker, the company's executive chairman and co-CEO, said the company also will increase charitable giving." <u>– March 2 2018, U.S. News and</u> <u>World Report article excerpt</u>

Wynn Resorts (Las Vegas, Nevada) -- employee bonuses will be announced in 2018:

Donald Trump's recently approved tax cuts have been well-received by many large corporations, with several CEOs announcing bonuses for employees from the savings. Now Steve Wynn has announced he plans to do the same for his Wynn Resorts workers.

There were 12,000 US-based employees listed in an SEC filing for the gaming operator in 2016, but Wynn didn't specify how the bonuses would be allocated or if everyone in the company would benefit.

The billionaire casino industry mogul shared more than just strong earnings during a fourthquarter call with investors. He also noted that Wynn Resorts would be sharing its estimated \$340 million in tax savings with the company's employees.

An enthusiastic Wynn, who serves as the finance chairman of the Republican National Committee, had much praise for Trump and his fellow Republicans in Congress, who worked to pass the tax reform bill in December.

"With the Trump administration, with Republicans in Washington, we are seeing this fabulous renaissance," Wynn stated. "The whole idea of a tax break, of lowering taxes for corporations and for individuals is saying, 'Go ahead people, we think you know what to do with your money better than we do.'" – Jan. 23 2018, Casino.org article excerpt

Xante Corporation (Mobile, Alabama) -- \$1,200 bonuses:

Mobile-based Xante Corp. handed out \$1,200 bonus checks to most of its employees on Monday, as its CEO gave thanks to a Republican tax reform bill and Rep. Bradley Byrne.

*Xante provides high-end printers and related software for use by professional graphics and printing operations. It employs a little over 100 people in Mobile and about 15 more in Europe.* 

CEO Robert Ross said Monday that anyone who'd been with the company for a year or more was getting a \$1,200 bonus, while those employed less than a year were getting a different amount.

Mobile employees whooped and cheered as Ross announced the windfall Monday morning. They also heard Ross explain that the company had additional plans for money saved as a result of tax cuts passed by Congress and signed into law by President Donald Trump in December. Among other changes, the tax bill significantly lowered the corporate tax rate. – <u>Feb. 19, 2018 AL.com</u> <u>article excerpt</u>

Xcel Energy (Denver, Colorado) – The utility will pass tax cut savings along to customers:

*Xcel Energy will pass on \$20 million in federal tax savings to its natural gas customers in Colorado, with more savings on the way for electric customers.* 

Federal tax obligations go into the calculation that Xcel Energy and other utilities use to determine their cost of service. The Tax Cut and Jobs Act, which Congress passed in December, cut the federal corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent at the start of the year. – March 1, 2018, Denver Post article excerpt

<u>YAM Worldwide</u> (Scottsdale, Arizona) -- \$2,000 bonuses for the 595 employees who have been with the company more than six months; \$1,000 bonuses for the 131 employees who have been with the company less than six months. More than \$1.3 million in bonuses were paid:

American entrepreneur and philanthropist <u>Bob Parsons</u> today announced that in celebration of the passage of the GOP tax plan, all 725 YAM Worldwide employees will receive additional bonuses. The 594 staffers who have been with the company for more than six months will receive \$2,000, and the remaining 131 employees who have been on the YAM Worldwide team six months or less will receive \$1,000 each. The more than \$1.3 million in bonuses will be distributed today.

"The passage of the tax credit is a catalyst for explosive economic growth. On a massive scale, the lowered federal tax burden on businesses will increase investment, entrepreneurship and corporate philanthropy," said Parsons. "I've always believed in sharing good news and have decided to celebrate the tax plan by mgiving back to my staff." – <u>Dec. 17 2017, YAM Worldwide</u> <u>press release</u>

<u>Yancey Bros.</u> (Cobb County, Georgia) -- \$500 bonuses for 1,200 employees.

Zions Bancorporation (Salt Lake City, Utah) – Pay raises for more than 40% of employees; \$1,000 bonuses for nearly 80% of employees; increased charitable contributions:

Zions Bancorporation (NASDAQ: ZION) announced today that **as a result of the Tax Cuts and** Jobs Act of 2017, it will be increasing ongoing compensation for more than 40% of its employees as of January 1, 2018, and providing nearly 80% of employees with \$1,000 bonuses during 2018, subject to certain conditions.

Additionally, Zions intends to contribute \$12 million to the Zions Bancorporation Foundation, which is expected to benefit local communities in which Zions does business. In 2017, Foundation beneficiaries included the United Way, youth programs, food pantries, homeless shelters, affordable housing projects, and educational programs.

Zions expects to incur an increase in noninterest expense in the fourth quarter of 2017 of approximately \$12 million as a result of the contribution to the Foundation, while compensation adjustments are expected to be incorporated into 2018 expense. -- <u>Jan. 2, 2018 Zions</u> <u>Bancorporation press release</u>

Note: If you know of other examples not listed here, please email John Kartch at jkartch@atr.org