

THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



Wicker Looks Ahead as Americans Say Goodbye to Broken Tax Code

New Tax System Boosts Take-Home Pay, Promotes Job Growth

For all of the headaches that usually accompany Tax Day, this year brings some needed relief. This Tax Day was the last time Americans had to file their taxes under an outdated and woefully complicated tax code. Because of the “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act” enacted last year, Americans will now file their taxes under a code that lets them keep more of what they earn.

I strongly supported the Republican plan to cut taxes and reform the tax code because it prioritizes the success of American workers and middle class families. In fact, a less stressful Tax Day is just one of the advantages of the new system.

The goal of tax reform is to make

every day of the year less stressful for Americans by cultivating the kind of confidence in our nation’s economy and workforce that leads to higher wages and better job opportunities. A pro-growth tax code sends this signal to our workers and our job creators, putting more money back into the hands of those who earned it.

Widespread Savings for Workers, Families

By now, most Americans should have started to notice the impact of the tax law in their paychecks. The new federal withholding guidelines based on the law’s lower tax rates took effect in February, and the Treasury Department has estimated 90 percent of U.S. workers will now bring home more of their wages rather than sending them to Uncle Sam.

These changes might seem small now, but they are expected to add up to significant savings for families, empowering them to plan for the future and offering relief when finances get tight. According to the Tax Foundation, an average family making the median income in Mississippi could keep hundreds of dollars more this year than they would under the old system.

Other provisions in the newly updated tax code, such as the doubling of the standard deduction for individuals and couples, could have a big impact on savings during next year’s tax season. The standard deduction helps simplify the filing process and save time, eliminating the need for many Americans to itemize deductions or spend money on tax preparation.

Out With the Old, In With the New

Not everything about the new tax code is different. The updated code expands and preserves popular items, including the child tax credit and incentives that support Americans’ savings for education and retirement. For example, the child tax credit is now \$2,000 instead of \$1,000.

One item that will not be missed is the requirement for every American to purchase health insurance. Republicans successfully repealed the unpopular individual mandate tax in President Obama’s health-care law — a penalty that has fallen heavily on hardworking Americans.

I am excited to see how these changes to the tax code help improve American lives and ignite our economy toward growth and prosperity. A groundswell has begun, with more than 500 companies using their tax savings to benefit employees. So far, more than four million Americans will receive bonuses. Now that this year’s Tax Day has come and gone, we have a great deal to look forward to thanks to a simpler new system and more take-home pay.

*Alligator

(Continued from page 6.) regarding alligator season drawing and hunting rules and regulations, visit our website at or call us at 601-432-2199. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdwfp or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MDWFP-Online.

HCSO Business of the Year HCSO Support Person of the Year



Avery Rucker of Peak’s Quick Food in Tchula (pictured at right) was presented the award for Business of the Year for 2017-2018 during the Holmes County School District’s 14th Annual Excellence in Education Awards that was held on Thursday, April 19 at the Lexington Multi-Purpose Complex. Peak’s was nominated by S.V. Marshall Elementary and Holmes County Central High Schools. Presenting the awards was Holmes County Interim Superintendent Dr. Angel Meeks.

(Photo by Matthew Breazeale)



Jaleel King (pictured at left) was named Support Person of the Year for 2017-2018 during the Holmes County School District’s 14th Annual Excellence in Education Awards that was held on Thursday, April 19 at the Lexington Multi-Purpose Complex. King was nominated by Goodman-Pickens Elementary School. Presenting the awards was Holmes County Interim Superintendent Dr. Angel Meeks.

(Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

HCSO Teacher of the Year



Markeshia March (pictured at right) was named Teacher of the Year for 2017-2018 during the Holmes County School District’s 14th Annual Excellence in Education Awards that was held on Thursday, April 19 at the Lexington Multi-Purpose Complex. March was nominated by William Dean Jr. Elementary School. Presenting the awards was Holmes County Interim Superintendent Dr. Angel Meeks.

(Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

HCSO Person of the Year



John Sample (pictured at right) was named Person of the Year for 2017-2018 during the Holmes County School District’s 14th Annual Excellence in Education Awards that was held on Thursday, April 19 at the Lexington Multi-Purpose Complex. Sample was nominated by Holmes County Career Technical Center. Presenting the awards was Holmes County Interim Superintendent Dr. Angel Meeks.

(Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

LEGALS

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF DURANT, MISSISSIPPI REGULATING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF DURANT

WHEREAS, the City of Durant, Mississippi, has an interest in decreasing crime in the City of Durant;

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Ordinance is to protect the public safety by regulating the indiscriminate shooting of firearms within the incorporated areas of the City of Durant;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen of the City of Durant, Mississippi as follows, to wit:

Article I Restrictions

No person shall discharge or shoot a gun, air rifle, air pistol, or other kind of firearm in the City of Durant. Each person discharging a firearm is responsible for exhibiting a reasonable regard for safety and property of other persons and for discharging the firearm in such a manner as to assure that all projectiles come to rest safely within the boundary or boundaries of the property or properties on which the person is authorized to be shooting.

Article II

It shall be unlawful for any person, being a parent or guardian of, or standing in loco parentis to, any child to permit such child to have possession or custody of, or to use in any manner whatsoever, any firearm, whether such firearm is loaded or is not loaded without direct, active adult supervision of the child at all times the child is holding firearm. It shall be unlawful for any person being a parent or guardian of, or standing in loco parentis to, any child under the age of 18 years of age to permit such child to discharge a firearm.

Article III

This ordinance shall not be construed as prohibiting the discharge of a firearm: A. By law enforcement or animal control officers in the performance of their duty; B. In self-defense or in defense of life or property.

Article IV Penalties

A violation of this ordinance shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days; provided further, that a violation of this ordinance may cause a civil penalty to be recovered by the City of Durant in a civil action in the nature of a debt in accordance with Mississippi Statute, provided further, that this ordinance may be enforced by an appropriate, equitable remedy including injunction and order of abatement, issued from the Municipal Court.

Article V

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Article VI

This ordinance shall take effect on and be in force thirty (30) days after its publication.

MOTION made to adopt the aforementioned Ordinance was made by Fletcher and SECONDED by Patterson

The above and foregoing Ordinance, having been addressed and reduced to writing, was read and considered section by section and then as a whole. The question of the adoption of the Ordinance was then put to a vote by the Mayor and the result was as follows:
Alderwoman Carolyn Riley voted AYE
Alderman Bo Patterson voted AYE
Alderman Ricky Fletcher voted AYE
Alderman Fredia Boyd-Johnson voted AYE
Alderwoman Linda McDonald voted AYE

The question having received a majority of the affirmative votes of all of the members of the Board of Aldermen present and voting, the Mayor declared the Motion carried and this Ordinance adopted and approved on this the 3rd day of April, 2018.

CITY OF DURANT, MISSISSIPPI
BY: /s/Henry Robinson, Jr.
Mayor Dr. Henry Robinson, Jr.
ATTEST:
/s/Ursula Perry
City Clerk Ursula Perry

CLASSIFIEDS

3 CEMETERY PLOTS in Odd Fellows Cemetery, Lexington, known as Lot No. 606 in the 1967 Addition. Includes a Trust Receipt, No. 376, held in trust by the City of Lexington with the interest to be used for the upkeep and maintenance of Lot 606. Call Bruce Hill at 662-417-9944 to arrange for transfer of Trust Receipt and warranty deed for Lot 606. \$1500 total. 2-1ftfn

USE THE PATENTED Happy Jack® Flea Beacon® to control fleas in the home without toxic chemicals or

costly exterminators. Results overnight! LEXINGTON FARM SUPPLY (834-3388) (fleabeacon.com) 4-5,12,19,26p

HOUSE FOR SALE IN Goodman, to be moved or torn down. Best offer accepted. Call 662-472-2009. 4-19,26;5-3p

EBENEZER AREA...SMALL farm needs tractor and disk work done to cut under 12-15 acres by May 1 for planting. 601-573-9450. 4-19,26p

CLASSIFIEDS

Lexington Manor Senior Care

56 Rockport Road
Lexington, MS 39095

IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR

CNA'S

12 HOUR SHIFTS

and

PRN CNA'S

3-11 and 11-7 SHIFTS

MUST COME TO NURSING HOME TO PICK UP APPLICATION. ONLY SERIOUS APPLICANTS NEED APPLY.