



Adopted April 29, 2014
Amended November 13, 2018
Amended July 27, 2022
Amended April 28, 2026

Resolution Income Inequality

Whereas income inequality in the United States has been growing markedly for decades, and

Whereas the top 20% of the population earn more than half of all U.S. income; and

Whereas the gap between CEO and worker pay has expanded dramatically in recent decades, and in 1978, CEOs earned about 31 times as much as the typical worker, and today they earn roughly 280 times more, while real wages for typical workers have grown only modestly, about 26 percent over the past four decades after inflation; and

Whereas incomes declined across all levels during the Great Recession, the recovery has been deeply unequal, with the wealthiest Americans capturing a disproportionate share of economic gains and the top one percent now holding nearly one-third of the nation's wealth; and

Whereas the median household income in the United States declined in 2020 during the COVID-19 recession for the first time since 2011, and household incomes

have fluctuated in the years since due to economic disruption and inflation; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic greatly exacerbated economic inequality, as CEOs earned more than ever while workers suffered; and

Whereas in spite of stimulus efforts, inflation and economic turmoil threaten to erode the financial stability of many Americans; and

Whereas income inequality in the United States has grown dramatically in recent decades, with the top 10 percent earning roughly eight to nine times more income than the bottom 90 percent, the top one percent earning more than twenty times as much, and the top one-tenth of one percent receiving over one hundred times the income of the bottom 90 percent; and

Whereas the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 only served to worsen the situation by providing the top 1 percent with 83% of the tax cuts, while the bottom 99% receives 17% of the cuts; and

Whereas the 2025 One Big Beautiful Bill Act largely extended and expanded the 2017 tax cuts, providing substantial tax benefits to higher-income households, with the wealthiest Americans receiving the largest tax cuts and the top one percent projected to receive roughly \$1 trillion in tax reductions over the next decade; and

Whereas increased inequality may eventually reduce intergenerational income mobility; and

Whereas attacks on the rights of workers to collectively bargain are a direct attack on the middle class and help fuel further income inequality; and

Whereas rising inequality cannot be tolerated in a country that values so dearly the ideal that all people should have the opportunity to succeed, regardless of the circumstances of their birth; and

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans supports increasing taxes on the wealthiest Americans and corporations to restore fairness to our tax code; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans demands that the 2025 extended tax breaks in the One Big Beautiful Bill law be repealed and that the wealthiest Americans pay their fair share in taxes; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans opposes tax reform proposals that tax the health benefits of middle-class Americans.