State Impacts of the Federal Tax Cuts of 2017

By Heather Perkins [1]
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This session explored key issues, potential unintended consequences and implication for economic competitiveness of conforming to the new federal corporate income tax. Speakers Joseph Crosby, Douglas Lindholm and Scott Roberti engaged in a highly interactive discussion of the questions facing states as they move to conform or to decouple from the federal tax provisions passed late in calendar 2017 that applied to 2017 taxes. See slides here. [2]

In a second panel discussion, Dr. Denison and Dr. Kim highlighted the major findings of Cashless State Governments: Electronic Collections & Benefit Disbursements [3], an update of a CSG report first published in 2007.

Speaker Biographies

**Joseph R. Crosby, CEO, MultiState Associates**

Crosby serves as the CEO of MultiState Associates, the nation's leading state and local government relations services firm. Crosby is involved in all aspects of the firm's efforts to help clients resolve the challenges they face in the state and local government arena, with a concentration on providing strategic counsel, identifying and deploying political assets, and advancing tax policy objectives. Prior to joining MultiState, Crosby spent 11 years with the Council On State Taxation (COST), an association representing the nation's largest companies on state and local business tax issues. Crosby is a nationally recognized expert on state and local business tax policy. He was identified by State Tax Notes as the “single most influential person in state taxation” and named as the publication’s inaugural Person of the Year.

**Douglas L. Lindholm, President & Executive Director, Council On State Taxation (COST)**

Douglas L. Lindholm, Esq. is president and executive director of the Council On State Taxation (COST). Prior to taking the helm at COST, Lindholm served as counsel, state tax policy for the General Electric Company in Washington, DC. Lindholm has written numerous articles on federal, state and local tax issues in a wide variety of publications, testifies frequently before state legislatures and Congress on state tax issues; and is a frequent speaker at national tax conferences and seminars. Lindholm serves on the NYU State and Local Taxation Advisory Board, the Editorial Advisory Board of Tax Management, Inc., and is a former member of the National Tax Association’s Board of Directors. In 2006, Lindholm was named to the Tax Business 50 list of most influential tax professionals on the globe, and is the recipient of the 2009 New York University Award for Outstanding Achievement in State and Local Taxation.

**Scott Roberti, Executive Director, State Tax Policy, EY**
Roberti is a member of EY’s national tax team leading the firm’s State Policy Services practice. Roberti is an experienced tax executive whose background includes developing and leading diverse project teams of tax and nontax professionals focused on delivering state tax policy initiatives on a national platform.

During his tenure in the industry, Roberti has developed successful state tax policy models employing a wing-to-wing approach from issue identification to government facing engagement. Roberti has been a frequent leader for state chamber coalitions focused on developing consensus on business or industry specific tax regimes in collaboration with state tax officials. Prior to joining EY, Roberti was the director of state tax policy for General Electric for 17 years.

Dwight V. Denison, Ph.D., Professor, University of Kentucky

Denison is professor of public and nonprofit finance in the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Kentucky. Denison’s areas of teaching and research include cash management, budgeting and financial management. His research has been published in various books and journals including: National Tax Journal, Public Finance Review, Public Administration Review, Public Budgeting and Finance, and the Journal of Nonprofit Management.

Saeirim Kim, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Columbus State University

Kim is an assistant professor in the Department of Politics, Philosophy, and Public Administration at Columbus State University. Prior to her current position, Kim received her Ph.D. in public policy and administration at the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Kentucky in 2018. Her teaching and research areas include public budgeting and financial management, and nonprofit management, with emphasis on financial collaboration in the government and nonprofit sectors.