## Summary of Tax Calculation Simplification for IA (Saving \$95 Million/Year)

https://taxsimplecenter.net/statetaxsimplification.html (D...IA)

1. Basic Question: What Tax Rates Are Fair and Simple? When 2 tax rates are set, effective (linear) tax rates between the two points with a straight line are fair and simple. Existing flat and curve or step tax rates with less or more tax brackets are unfair and complex. (FIG. 1)
2. Tax Simplification, Publication, Benefit and Value: Effective (linear) and gradual (LG) tax simplification has been developed, which is supported by our 12 publications at http://taxsimplecenter.net/publication.html The LG tax simplification has 15 benefits for lawmakers, companies, taxpayers and department of revenue. Its value is about $\$ 95$ million/year, which is based on 1.6 million tax returns per year. (Page 2)

## 3. FIG. $1 \quad$ Current Tax Rates (A and B) and Simplification (C)

Tax Rate (Current) Rate (Current) Tax Rate (Simplification)


YTI=yearly taxable income, 3 tax rate ranges: 0.0033-0.0392-0.0575-0.0853, $\mathrm{A}=24,000 \div 1$-st tax rate difference $=668,524, B=48,000 \div 2$-nd tax rate difference $=2,622,951$ and $C=72,000 \times 3$-rd tax rate difference $=2,001.6$
5. Comparison between Existing System and Tax Calculation Simplification
a) Existing System: Tax Schedules, 13-page Withholding Tables, 5-page Tax Table and computations (Changes)
b) New bill: Only 4 simple formulas ( 9 brackets $\rightarrow 3$ )
6. Lawmakers will reduce related political arguments with 9 (?) tax brackets, TI ranges and tax rates.
7. Existing 13-page Withholding Tables and related formulas are replaced by 4 (or 3) simple formulas for companies to save $\$ 42$ million/year (Value) if at $\$ 1 /$ payroll/person to cover 11 areas. (Details: Page $5^{* *}$ ) https://tax.iowa.gov/withholding-tax-information

## 8. Postcard (1/2 page) Tax Return (or Tax Withholding Report and Modification)

9. Who will have the $\mathbf{1 5}$ benefits? For lawmakers, companies, taxpayers and Department of Revenue State Department of Revenue can save $\$ 25$ million/year within $\$ 95$ million/year. (Page 2)
10. Existing two sub tax systems are about 13 months apart. This one tax system is for all parties to simplify withholding tax, payroll, withholding report, tax return, analysis, reform and projection with 3 brackets.
11. Other Applications: https://taxsimplecenter.net/uploads/8/3/3/9/83395216/wothers.pdf

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IA Income Tax Calculation Simplification (It is added into the existing tax bill*)

If the yearly taxable income (YTI) is: $\$ 24,000$ and under Over 24,000 and not over $\$ 72,000$ Over \$72,000

The tax rate and tax are:
$(\mathrm{YTI} \div \mathrm{A}+0.003 *) \times \mathrm{TI}$
$(\mathrm{YTI} \div \mathrm{C})+0.03005) \times \mathrm{TI}$
$($ Top tax rate $-(\mathrm{D} \div \mathrm{YTI})) \times$ TI

Wherein YTI=yearly taxable income, YTI=TI×F, TI= taxable income, $\mathrm{F}=$ the number of filing period ( $\mathrm{F}=1$ for tax returns, $2,4,12,24,26,52$ or 365 on different basis for withholding taxes), $A=24,000 \div 1$-st tax rate difference $=662,983, C=48,000 \div 2$-nd tax rate difference $=2,622,951$, and $D=72,000 \times 3$-rd tax rate difference $=2,002$ according to $0.003-0.0392-0.0575-0.0853$ in 2021, which were $0.0033-0.0396-0.0587-0.0853$ in 2019.

* (1) Existing 9 tax brackets are matched/reduced to 3 (or 2). Tax Table or its formulas (1 option) are used. Companies use the simple formulas to replace existing 13-page Withholding Tables for taxes and payrolls easily. Calculations of withholding taxes, payrolls, tax analysis, reform, and projection are simplified.

Withholding/Income Tax=(Incomes-Adjustments-(Deductions+Exemptions) $\div \mathrm{F}) \times$ Tax rate-Tax credits $\div \mathrm{F}$
(2) Option: Existing 0.0033 may be reduced to 0.003 (or $0 . x$ ) to neutral tax revenue. For existing tax rate ranges of $0.0033-0.0392-0.0575-0.0853$, A is changed slightly, B and C are the same. Its tax rate formula is: (YTI $\div 668,524+0.0033$. For $0.0027-0.0392$, its tax rate formula is: (YTI $\div 657,534$ ) +0.0027 . Low-end incomers can reduce tax rates and taxes without tax revenue reduction. Then the both parties can benefit.

## Comparison between Existing and Simplified Tax Calculation Systems

1) Existing Tax Calculation System: Two sub tax systems of tax schedules, Withholding Tables (13 pages),

Tax Table ( 5 pages) and tax computations with 9 tax brackets
2) - 4) Simplification: 3 formulas to match/simplify the two sub systems and eliminate Withholding Tables

| $\mathrm{TI} \times \mathrm{F}$ | 1) Existing System | 2) $0.33-8.53 \%$ | $3) 0.3-8.53 \%$ | $4) 0.27-8.53 \%$ | Rate Difference \#2/\#3/\#4 - \#1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 200 | 0.0033 | 0.004048 | 0.00330 | 0.003004 | $0.0007 / 0.0000 /-0.0003$ |
| 4,000 | 0.007835 | 0.009283 | 0.009033 | 0.008733 | $0.0014 / 000012 / 0.0009$ |
| 24,000 | 0.0392117 | 0.03920 | 0.03920 | 0.03920 | $-0.0000 / 0.0000 / 0.0000$ |
| 30,000 | 0.043164 | 0.0414875 | 0.0414875 | 0.0414875 | $-0.0017 /-0.0010 /-0.0010$ |
| 50,000 | 0.050694 | 0.049112 | 0.049112 | 0.049112 | $-0.0016 /-0.0016 /-0.0016$ |
| 80,000 | 0.0601663 | 0.060275 | 0.060275 | 0.060275 | $0.0001 / 0.0001 / 0.0001$ |
| 100,000 | 0.065193 | 0.06528 | 0.06528 | 0.06528 | $0.0001 / 0.0001 / 0.0001$ |
| 500,000 | 0.0812786 | 0.081296 | 0.081296 | 0.081296 | $0.0000 / 0.0000 / 0.0000$ |
| $1,000,000$ | 0.0832893 | 0.083298 | 0.083298 | 0.083298 | $0.0000 / 0.0000 / 0.0000$ |
| $5,000,000$ | 0.08489786 | 0.0848996 | 0.0848996 | 0.0848996 | $0.0000 / 0.0000 / 0.0000$ |
| $10,000,000$ | 0.0850989 | 0.0850998 | 0.0850998 | 0.0850998 | $0.0000 / 0.0000 / 0.0000$ |

Comparison of IA Existing and LG Systems (9 tax brackets are reduced to 3)


## Benefits and Value of Tax Calculation Simplification (\$95 Million/Year)

Effective (linear) and gradual (LG) tax simplification has been developed and supported by our 12 publications at http://taxsimplecenter.net/publication.html More tax brackets mean more smooth tax rates, complex, more cost and more tax revenue relatively. Less tax brackets mean rough tax rate changes, simple, less cost and less tax revenue relatively. The LG tax simplification can be used to have many benefits for lawmakers, companies, taxpayers and departments of revenue. Its value ( $\$ 95$ million/year) is based on 1.6 million tax returns per year. \#

Benefits
Value

1. Existing $\mathbf{9}$ tax brackets are matched and reduced to $\mathbf{3}$ or $\mathbf{2}$ comparably. Less time/More simple
2. Lawmakers select tax bracket \#, taxable income ranges, tax rates and computations for tax reforms now. With the tax simplification, only 4 tax rates are needed for tax projection. Less time/hustle
3. Simpler formulas contribute to Fiscal Note (by Department of Revenue) ? $\$ 5$ million
4. Withholding Tables (13 pages) are not needed for companies to have 3 simple formulas with filing period (F) and tax status (S). If at $\$(1+0.2) /$ person/period ( $1.2 \times 26 \times 1.6$ million) $\quad \$ 50$ million ( $* *$ Page 5)
5. Tax Table (5 or 3 pages) is optional. Two formulas can be used. If (( $1+0.5$ )x1.6 million): $\$ 2.4$ million
6. Combining two existing sub tax systems (4\&5) together without time delay (13 M) for: Real \& quick tax
7. One tax credit formula for simple \& complex tax credits (including EITC)
( 1 non-refundable and 1 refundable tax credit formulas) If (( $1.5+0.5) x 1.6$ million): $\quad \$ 3.2$ million
8. Many incomers with standard deductions and credits (50\%) file simple tax returns/tax withholding report modifications. If ((15+5) x50\%x1.6 million):
\$16 million
9. Postcard (or $1 / 2$ page) tax return form can be used ( $50 \%$ ). If (( $10+4$ )x50\%x1.6 million): $\$ 11.2$ million
10. Tax Status (S) is numbered with such as 2 for Married Filing Jointly or 1 for Single.
(Also more detail numbers can be applied for Standard Deductions). If (( $1+0.5$ ) x1.6 million): $\$ 2.4$ million
11. A checking tool of two tax rate ranges $(0.33 \%-4.33 \%-5.87 \%-8.53 \%)$ is provided to check and reduce tax rate and tax calculation mistakes. If $((2+1) x 1.6$ million $) \quad \$ 4.8$ million
12. Fraud crime is inspected and reduced by comparing tax returns and tax withholding reports. Less crime
13. Tax refunds with $\$ 100$ or less are delayed to next-year refunds (Postcard Form). Less time/cost
14. State Department of Revenue will process less tax returns during busy tax season and have more time to inspect more tax returns for possible more taxes.

More tax
15. The LG tax simplification can be used to simplify tax calculation, payroll, tax analysis, tax reform and projection.

Less time/costs

## Total: Less time/hustle, less mistake, less crime, less cost, more tax and $\$ 95$ million/year <br> (To Department of Revenue: $\$ 25.8$ million/year)

For more information and questions, contact us at johnlee@taxsimplecenter.net or 913-710-0957.

## Summary for IA Tax Calculation Simplification

Existing IA tax system has 9 tax brackets, 13-page Withholding Tables, and 5-page Tax Table, which are complex. Tax brackets, tax rates, taxable income ranges, tables, analysis, and projection are related each other.

Tax simplification has been developed with smooth tax rates, which can reduce existing 9 tax brackets of $0.033 \%, 0.67 \%, 2.25 \%, 4.14 \%, 5.63 \%, 5.96 \%, 6.25 \%, 7.44 \%$, and $8.53 \%$ (2019-2021) or $0.036 \%, 0.72 \%$, $2.43 \%, 6.12 \%, 6.48 \%, 6.80 \%, 7.92 \%$, and $8.98 \%$ (2018) to 3 (or 2) comparably, simplify IA tax system, reduce political arguments, eliminate withholding and tax tables, and save millions of dollars. The 3 tax rate ranges of $0.33 \%-3.92 \%-5.75 \%-8.53 \%$ in 2021 or $0.33 \%-3.96 \%-5.87 \%-8.53 \%$ in 2019 are used as a checking tool to reduce calculation mistakes. A filing \# of $365,52,26,24,12,4,2$, or 1 is used to match and simplify existing Withholding Tables ( 13 pages). 3 or 2 tax rate brackets/ranges are good enough. Many taxpayers with standard deductions may not need to file normal tax returns and do modifications with Withholding Tax Report. Dept of Revenue may process less normal tax returns (goal: $50 \%$ ) during busy tax seasons and inspect more tax returns.

## FORM IA-1040 IOWA INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN

Check one: $\quad$ Married Filing Separately/Single Married filing jointly Head of household
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { Standard deduction (\$) } & \text { 2,130 } & 5,240 & 5,240\end{array}$
Standard exemption (\$):
Tax credit (\$): 40/Dependent \# $\qquad$ ; 20/Senior 65 or older \# $\qquad$ and/or Blind \# $\qquad$
Address:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Your Name | SS\# | Spouse Name | Spouse SS\# | Exemptions |  | 1 |
| 2022 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| Gross income You/Spouse | Adjustments You/Spouse | Federal addition and deduction | Standard/Itemized Deduction | Taxable income You/Spouse | Partial/Non Resident,\% | Credits: for F3 | 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 |
| YTI | Yearly TI range |  | LG tax rate formula | Tax rate check | Tax rate | Tax | 6 |
| You/Spouse | 0-24,000 |  | YTI $\div 662,983+0.003$ | 0.003-0.0392 | You/Spouse | You/Spouse | 7 |
|  | 24,000-72,000 |  | YTI $\div 2,622,951+0.03005$ | 0.0392-0.0575 |  |  | 8 |
|  | Over 72,000 |  | 0.0853-2,002/TI/F | 0.0575-0.0853 |  |  | 9 |
| Non-refundable tax credits | Tax balance $<0$, enter 0 | Contributions You/Spouse | Refundable tax credits You/Spouse | $\begin{gathered} \text { Tax refund } \\ \text { (last year): } \leq \$ 100 \end{gathered}$ | IA withheld tax (W-2) | Tax(Owe+ /Refund-) | 10 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 11 |
|  |  |  |  | (Together) |  | (Together) | 2 |

(1) Taxable income (E4/5) $=\mathrm{YTI}=\mathrm{A} 4 / 5 \pm \mathrm{B} 4 / 5 \pm \mathrm{C} 4 / 5-\mathrm{D} 4 / 5-\mathrm{F} 2$
(2) Tax balance (B11/12)=Tax-Partial/Non-resident credit-Non-refundable tax credits
(3) Tax (Owe+/Refund-) $=\mathrm{B} 11 / 12+\mathrm{C} 11 / 12-\mathrm{D} 11 / 12-\mathrm{E} 11-\mathrm{F} 11 / 12$
(4) Attach related documents except standard deduction. If tax refund (G11) is not over $\$ 100$, delay it to next year (E11) and file tax return. If tax refund is over $\$ 100$, please fill in:

## Tax Return <br> Barcode

Bank routing\# $\qquad$ Account \# $\qquad$ Name $\qquad$
Signature: Your $\qquad$ Spouse $\qquad$ Date
Third-party preparer name $\qquad$ Address $\qquad$
EIN/SS\# $\qquad$ Phone\# $\qquad$ Date $\qquad$ Signature $\qquad$

## FORM IA-1040 Instruction:

## Tax Reform, Analysis, Budget, and Projection:

Total Tax $=0.003 \sum($ TIa $)+\sum(\text { TIa })^{2} \div 662,983+0.03005 \sum(\mathrm{TIb})+\sum(\mathrm{TIb})^{2} \div 2,622,951+0.0853 \sum($ TIc $)-2,002 \mathrm{C}$
There are 3 tax rate ranges of 0.003-0.0392-0.0575-0.0853, which can be adjusted for tax revenue and budget. Above $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ and c are tax return numbers with $0-24,000-72,000-$. Then calculations of withholding taxes, payrolls, tax analysis, reform, and projection are simplified with the 3 brackets instead of existing 9 brackets.
** Existing 13-page withholding tables can be eliminated for significant savings for Department of Revenue and companies to file withholding taxes. Existing 13-page withholding table and related formulas (10x6) can be replaced by the two formulas and one withholding income tax formula to cover all allowances. After the formulas are set in such as Excel or Spreadsheet, related calculations are repeated simply. Related costs \$50 million ( $=1.2 \times 26 \times 1.6$ millions, 26 is biweekly filing and 1.6 millions are tax returns) from (1) making the 13page table, (2) publication, (3) checking tax numbers under 0-10 allowances ( $>10$ ?), (4) inputs, (5) using calculation formulas (10x6+) for high incomes and the >10, (6) filings, (7) transfers, (8) rechecking mistakes, (9) data analysis, (10) software, and (11) tax recalculations can be reduced for Dept of Revenue and companies.

Withholding/Income Tax=(Incomes-Adjustments-(Deductions+Exemptions) $\div \mathrm{F}) \times$ Tax rate-Tax credits $\div \mathrm{F}$
*** Existing 3 tax rate ranges of 0.0033-0.0392-0.0575-0.0853 at 0-24,000-72,000- may be reduced to 2 tax rate ranges such as $0.003-0.0532-0.0853$ at $0-60,000-$. The 3 formulas are reduced to 2 :

If the yearly taxable income (YTI) is:
Not over $\$ 60,000$ r
The tax rate and tax are: Tax rate range:
Over \$60,000
$(\mathrm{YTI} \div \mathrm{D}+0.003) \times \mathrm{TI}$
$(0.0853-(\mathrm{C} \div \mathrm{YTI})) \times \mathrm{TI}$
0.3\%-5.32\%
5.32\%-8.53\%

D (constant) $=60,000 \div 1$-st tax rate difference $=60,000 \div(0.0532-0.003)=1,195,219$ and
$\mathrm{C}=60,000 \times 2$-nd tax rate difference $=60,000 \times(0.0853-0.0532)=1,926$

## Tax Reform, Analysis, Budget, and Projection:

Total Tax $=0.003 \operatorname{Sum}($ YTId $)+\operatorname{Sum}(\text { YTId })^{2} \div 1,195,219+0.0853$ Sum $($ YTIc $)-1,926 \mathrm{C}$
There are 2 tax rate ranges of $0.003-0.0532-0.0853$, which can be adjusted for tax revenue and budget balance. The above $d$ and $c$ are tax return numbers for not over and over $\$ 60,000$. Another option may be $0-0.054-0.0853$ (needing to check tax revenue and adjust). Calculations of withholding taxes, payrolls, tax analysis, reform, and projection are simplified with the 2 brackets instead of existing 9 brackets.

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