

Douglas Holtz-Eakin

Former Director, Congressional Budget Office; Economic and Fiscal Policy Expert

Economic & Fiscal Policy Outlook. Dr. Doug Holtz-Eakin examines the current state of our country's economy and provides audiences with a look into the policy side of today's most pressing economic topics, including the budget, the deficit, the financial markets, financial reform, healthcare, taxes, tax reform, and more. Funny and entertaining, he shares insights on the five structural reforms he believes will get our economy back on track—tax, entitlement, education, regulatory, and immigration—and details the economic impact, policy requirements, and political implications of each—always with an eye to the future. With expertise in each of the specific policy areas, Holtz-Eakin can also customize this talk to cover the specific topic the audience is interested in and discuss how the economy affects policy and vice versa. He also forecasts policy changes on the horizon and reveals strategy solutions so organizations can position against the risks.

The Cost of Health Care Reform. As former director of the Congressional Budget Office and the founder of the health care-focused think tank Center for Health and Economy, Doug Holtz-Eakin has seen firsthand the cost associated with and difficulties surrounding passing, repealing, and replacing health care legislation. A frequently cited expert on the topic, Holtz-Eakin takes audiences behind the scenes to reveal the thought process behind dismantling a bill with such a far-reaching impact as well as what's at stake. Comfortable discussing policy as well as procedure and impact, Holtz-Eakin offers incredible analysis on the outlook of the US health care system and evaluates current and proposed legislation. Providing new insights on in the debate for better health care, he is a fantastic choice for groups invested in the outcome of health care reform.

Politics and the Economy. Holtz-Eakin addresses where the economy stands and evaluates where certain economic policy measures are politically (in terms of support and likelihood to pass). Holtz-Eakin has strong connections with House and Senate members, meeting with them nearly daily to discuss the country's most pressing economic concerns. This gives him unique insight into the political process for legislation affecting the country's economy. He covers the status of issues like healthcare, energy, tax reform, tax cuts, and more, and he helps his audience understand what will likely happen, when, and why. He also discusses what the ramifications will be for business and the economy and the policy choices of the current administration.

Immigration Reform and the Economy. Holtz-Eakin addresses immigration reform, the challenge of policy toward undocumented immigrants, and the political and economic ramifications of reform itself. He discusses how the large body of undocumented immigrants is in large part a legacy of economic conditions. Holtz-Eakin believes that immigration reform and the core visa granting system must be built on the recognition that the U.S. must compete aggressively in the global economy, and a flexible, skill-based immigration system is part of building a modern labor force. It must recognize that without immigration, the population shrinks and top-line growth withers. America is a land of immigrants and the greatest economy the globe has ever witnessed. It is time join these two points of national pride in an explicit strategy for the 21st century.

Point/Counterpoint Economic Debate. Doug Holtz-Eakin is an independent economic expert, but he also thrives as the conservative viewpoint when paired with a Democrat in an exciting economic debate. Any of the three aforementioned topics can be formatted as such, roundly covering both political viewpoints of an issue.

