Public Finance

Tax and budget policies that promote fiscal stability for the federal government are the foundation of a strong economy that provides everyone—including struggling Americans—with greater economic opportunity, mobility, and security.

Too often, federal tax policy creates perverse incentives that benefit those who least need it, while mismanagement and practices that allow billions of taxpayer dollars to go to waste weaken the impact of vital government programs. At the same time, the country is facing a mismatch between revenue and spending that will burden future generations with debt, undermine our national security, and damage our economy. Sound tax and fiscal policy solutions will make better use of taxpayer dollars and support healthy, stable communities.

PROGRAM INTEGRITY
Vital government programs should run more efficiently. To be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, programs require controls to fight fraud and mismanagement that waste billions of dollars.

1. Reducing waste, fraud, and abuse, especially with respect to large federal programs and emergency measures such as Unemployment Insurance.
2. Improving tax administration through a modernized IRS and improved oversight.

FEDERAL TAX POLICY
We advance smart, principled tax reforms that prioritize broadening the tax base, simplifying the tax code, improving fairness, and providing stability through permanent reforms.

1. Enhance the Child Tax Credit to support lower- and middle-income children and families while encouraging work.
2. International tax reform to prevent corporations from abusing tax havens while keeping us globally competitive.
3. Place-based policies that enhance opportunity in depressed regions.
4. Fair and efficient taxation of high-net-worth taxpayers.

FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY
The federal budget imposes a massive financial burden on future generations and limits our ability to respond to future crises through irresponsible spending during boom times, a tax system full of loopholes and special-interest benefits, and political resistance to fixing critical entitlement programs.

ABOUT ARNOLD VENTURES
Arnold Ventures is a philanthropy committed to improving the lives of American families, strengthening their communities, and promoting their economic opportunity. Arnold Ventures invests in research to understand the root causes of America’s most persistent and pressing problems, and supports evidence-based solutions to address them.