

## **Securing Our Children's Future: A 2% Solution for Debt, Prosperity, and Opportunity**

We stand at a pivotal moment in our nation's history. The staggering national debt now exceeding \$36.2 trillion and standing at over 121% of our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a silent mortgage on our children's future—a bill run up on a credit card, passed on to the next generation without their consent. Our current fiscal path marked by a projected \$1.9 trillion deficit in 2025 is unsustainable, risking the very American Dream we promise to pass down. It's time for a bold, generational solution that tackles our debt, secures our social safety nets, and unleashes true economic opportunity for all. My platform proposes a prudent and powerful step: A targeted 2% national sales tax on consumption, strategically designed to strengthen our nation's fiscal health and economic engine.

This isn't just a tax; it's an investment in a better America for the next 100 years.

### **The Foundational Strategy: A Consumption-Based Economy and the Multiplier Effect**

America is a \$30 trillion consumption-driven economy, the largest and most dynamic in the world. Our prosperity relies on the continuous flow of money through individual spending. My plan recognizes this fundamental truth by shifting a small portion of the tax burden from production and income to consumption, leveraging the power of the economic multiplier effect. Every dollar injected into the hands of those with a higher propensity to spend—like seniors and low-income families—doesn't just buy a single item. It circulates, becoming income for a business, then wages for an employee, who then spends it again. This creates a ripple effect where each dollar can generate two or even three dollars in broader economic activity. This is precisely why our approach is so effective: it strategically injects capital where it will circulate most dynamically.

### **The 2% Solution: Precisely Targeted for Maximum Impact**

My proposal for a 2% national sales tax on consumption is specifically structured for maximum economic benefit and fairness:

#### **1. Untaxing Social Security Benefits: Billions Back into Our Economy**

We will completely untax all Social Security benefits. This is a matter of fundamental fairness to our seniors who have paid into the system their entire lives.

**The Impact:** Currently, taxing Social Security benefits brings in an estimated \$1.45 trillion over 10 years. Eliminating this tax means seniors will have more disposable income.

**The Multiplier:** Social Security recipients by necessity have a high propensity to spend their income on goods and services. By untaxing their benefits, we are not only honoring their contributions but also injecting over \$1.45 trillion directly back into local economies over the next decade, ensuring this money immediately stimulates demand through the multiplier effect.

#### **2. Securing Social Security for Generations: 1% for Solvency**

To offset the revenue lost from untaxing Social Security benefits and to secure its long-term future, 1% of the new national sales tax revenue will be dedicated directly and exclusively to the Social Security Trust Fund.

**The Numbers:** Our economy's estimated annual consumption base (excluding essential food and clothing) is roughly \$18.4 trillion. A 1% sales tax on this base would generate approximately \$184 billion annually, totaling ~\$1.84 trillion over 10 years.

**The Guarantee:** The 2025 Social Security Board of Trustees Report projects the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) Trust Fund to be depleted by 2033, facing a \$25.1 trillion unfunded obligation over the next 75 years. Our dedicated 1% sales tax, generating \$1.84 trillion over the next decade, provides a substantial and recurring revenue stream that is projected to be sufficient to offset the loss from untaxed benefits and begin to close the long-term solvency gap, pushing back and ultimately eliminating the threat of benefit cuts for future generations. This ensures that the promise of Social Security remains inviolable.

### 3. Lowering Taxes for All Americans: 1% for Income Tax Relief

The other 1% of the national sales tax revenue will be dedicated to significantly lowering personal income taxes for all Americans.

**The Numbers:** This 1% will generate another ~\$1.84 trillion over 10 years, providing substantial fiscal space to reduce income tax burdens.

**The Path Forward:** This revenue will enable us to lower marginal income tax rates across the board and increase the amount of income that is entirely untaxed. In a consumption-based economy, this means more take-home pay for every American worker, giving them greater financial flexibility to spend, save, or invest as they see fit. This strategic reduction in income tax, funded by broad-based consumption, ensures that every American benefits, recognizing that their spending is the true engine of our economic growth.

### 4. The Universal Income: Ensuring Fairness and Maximizing Impact

We understand concerns about any consumption tax. That's why a robust universal income for low-income earners is a necessary and integral part of this platform. This is not a handout; it's a strategic investment to guarantee that the transition to a consumption-based tax system does not inadvertently burden those who can least afford it.

**The Necessity:** While the sales tax excludes essentials like food and clothing, a universal income ensures that low-income households, who spend a larger proportion of their total income, are not made worse off.

**The Multiplier Effect Amplified:** Low-income earners have the highest marginal propensity to consume. Providing them with a dependable income floor ensures that these funds are rapidly injected back into local economies, dramatically amplifying the multiplier effect and boosting

demand from the ground up. This direct stimulus reduces poverty, empowers families, and strengthens local businesses, acting as a powerful engine for broad-based prosperity.

### **The De Minimis Investment for an Extraordinary Outcome**

Let's be clear about the individual impact of this 2% national sales tax. For every \$1,000 spent on non-essential goods and services, this tax amounts to an additional \$20. This is a truly negligible investment from individual Americans, yet it unlocks an extraordinary outcome: the solvency of Social Security, significant income tax relief for all, and a powerful economic stimulus that strengthens our nation for generations. In these terms, the minimal investment and the profound, positive result cannot be made clearer.

#### **Securing Our Future, Today**

This platform isn't just about balancing books; it's about investing in the long-term health of our nation. By shifting our tax structure to embrace a consumption-based economy, by dedicating new revenue to Social Security, by directly empowering consumers through untaxed benefits and universal income, and by reducing the overall income tax burden, we create a more stable, dynamic, and fair system. This plan ensures that we stop purchasing on the credit card with the expectation of the bill going to our children. Instead, we lay the foundation for a prosperous America for the next 100 years, a legacy of responsibility, opportunity, and fiscal health that our children and grandchildren will inherit with pride.