



## Rep. Tom Emmer on THE TAKEOUT – 2025

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**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**

\*\* House Majority Whip Tom Emmer. He joins me now from Capitol Hill. Tom, it's great to have you with us.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Thank you.

**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**

\*\* I will, I know you're jumping out of your shoes, eager to talk about the Elon Musk, Donald Trump confrontation. We're gonna set that aside for just a second. Because I know you're bullish on this bill. I know you think it's gonna have positive economic effects for the country. But I just wanna run a couple of numbers by you and ask for your interpretation of them. So, this is not a CBO number. This is a Penn, University of Penn, Wharton School of Finance, or School of Business, budget model. And it says if you're an American making \$22,000 or less, the House bill, which you're an advocate for, will reduce your income over the next 10 years by \$1,500. If you make more than \$5 million, it will increase your revenue by \$104,000. Why, distributionally, is that a good idea for America?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, wait, you're assuming that those poor kids at Wharton are actually doing the math correctly. You tell me, Garrett, how they can say the tax policy that's been in place for seven years that is not changing, it's simply being renewed and made permanent, how is that gonna change people's position? And by the way, when you add no taxes on tips and you add no taxes on overtime, huh, that's gonna cost people money? No, that's actually going to increase wages and take home for working men and women in this country. So I don't know what they're doing over at Wharton, but I don't accept that at all. Maybe we should get some of them over here so we can walk them through what the numbers are.

**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**

\*\* I'm sure they'll appreciate the invitation. The Congressional Budget Office says that under the policy that they reviewed in the House-passed bill up to 11 million Americans, either through the Affordable Care Act changes or Medicaid, will lose coverage. Ross Vogt, head of OMB, says no one, no one in America will lose coverage. No one or 11 million. Is it somewhere in between?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Yeah, no one's gonna lose coverage except for, where I would disagree with Russ, is 1.4 million illegal aliens are no longer going to be on Medicaid. And I think Americans, regardless of their political persuasion, agree with that. Everyone else, no one was kicked off, Garrett, Major, sorry, the...

**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**



\*\* You do that all the time, Tom, but I always forgive you.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* I'm sorry, too many hits to the head. Nobody's gonna be kicked off. Under the Biden administration, they stopped checking verification, they stopped verifying eligibility. I suppose if there are people who are not eligible for Medicaid who have been receiving it, they won't receive it because they're not supposed to be on the program. And then we have these very modest work requirements. Someone has to, an able-bodied, working-age, single adult without dependents will have to work looking for a job or being trained for a job 20 hours a week or volunteer 20 hours a week or be in school full-time, or they aren't gonna be eligible. I think it's pretty reasonable. And by the way, that means that no one is losing their coverage that is supposed to have coverage unless it's by their choice and or you're an illegal alien. Then you will not be covered by Medicaid.

**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**

\*\* Tom, I wanna play for you a soundbite from an interview that my colleague Maurice Dubois did with the House Minority Leader, Hakeem Jeffries. And Hakeem Jeffries, who I know you're an enormous fan of, was describing what he regards as a civil war within the Republican Party. Please listen. What we see right now is a Republican civil war. Elon Musk is attacking the GOP tax scam, this reckless budget that's gonna hurt everyday Americans. House Republicans are attacking Senate Republicans. Senate Republicans are attacking House Republicans. Tom, is that what's happening?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Yeah. Well, actually, it's really interesting to hear that from my friend, Hakeem Jeffries, because the civil war is actually in my grandfather's Democrat Party. I mean, you've got the progressives, the Marxists, the socialists attacking the swing seat members. You've got DNC vice chairs who are bringing primaries against longstanding governing-type Democrats. It's pretty wild over there. It's pretty interesting to hear Hakeem try to take the civil war that he is not gonna be able to manage on his side and try to equate that to what's happening on the Republican side. The Republican side has never been more unified. Donald Trump is doing exactly what 77 million people elected him to do. Look, Republicans are great at having debate, but as you've seen in the House, Major, when it comes time to get the job done, we get the job done and we'll keep doing it.

**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**

\*\* What about Trump and Elon Musk? It really blew up today and got very personal, very quickly, pretty nasty. Musk talking about Trump and the Epstein files, Trump talking about canceling federal contracts with Musk companies. How do you read all that?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, that's between the president and Elon. Here's what I know. Elon disagrees with the bill. President Trump is the guy I agree with. This is a great bill, and I've already told you why. This is going to be the greatest deficit reduction bill in the history of this country. It is going to prevent the largest tax increase in this country, and those young people over at Wharton may wanna look, because in my district, if we have a \$4.5 trillion tax increase because we don't get this thing done, the average family's gonna have a almost 20% increase in their taxes, Major. This is gonna seal the southern border. It provides money for defense. I agree with the president that the big, beautiful bill is a great bill for America, and it's going to kick off his golden age that he campaigned on and that he's assured the American people they are going to experience.

**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**



\*\* Tom, what are the conversations you and House Republican leaders having with Senate Republicans about changes that are coming? Can the House conference accept those changes, and will all this get done by January 4th?

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Well, I'm not gonna get into specific conversations. July, July, July 4th, forgive me, July 4th. I don't do that, but I'm not gonna tell you I talked to this person or that person. I'll let other people do that. I'll tell you, the one conversation, well, one of the conversations that I may have had was more about what's gonna happen in the House, and do you expect we're just gonna take whatever you send us? My answer was no. I expect you're gonna make some changes. Hopefully, you're gonna keep those changes modest, because if you do anything dramatic, then we might have a problem, but I expect that they will do the things that they think are important. I think they will leave the structure of the bill intact, and they will send it back with the savings that are in it, and the changes that they make, and then we're gonna pass it and get it to the President's desk. Yes, on or before July 4th.

**\*\*MAJOR GARRETT:**

\*\* Tom Emmer, the House Majority Whip from Minnesota. Tom, I appreciate it. Thanks so much. You're always welcome here in the studio.

**\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Thank you, Major.

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