

# Charitable Act

(S. 317/H.R. 801)



The bipartisan, bicameral *Charitable Act* restores and expands the expired charitable deduction for those who do not itemize on their tax returns, ensuring that every American—regardless of income—can receive a tax benefit for their charitable giving. Specifically, this legislation raises the cap on the non-itemizer deduction to one-third of the standard deduction, equal to roughly \$5,000 for individuals or \$10,000 for joint filers.

Support Educational Institutions and Incentivize Charitable Giving



Originally enacted as part of the CARES Act, which was signed into law by President Trump, the policy resulted in 90 million tax returns utilizing the deduction, and households making between \$30,000 and \$100,000 saw the largest increase in charitable giving. Charitable organizations received \$74 billion in increased donations as a result.

## The sponsors of this legislation include



**James Lankford**  
(R-OK)



**Chris Coons**  
(D-DE)



**Blake Moore**  
(R-UT)



**Danny Davis**  
(D-IL)



**Carol Miller**  
(R-WV)



**Chris Pappas**  
(D-NH)

in the Senate

in the House

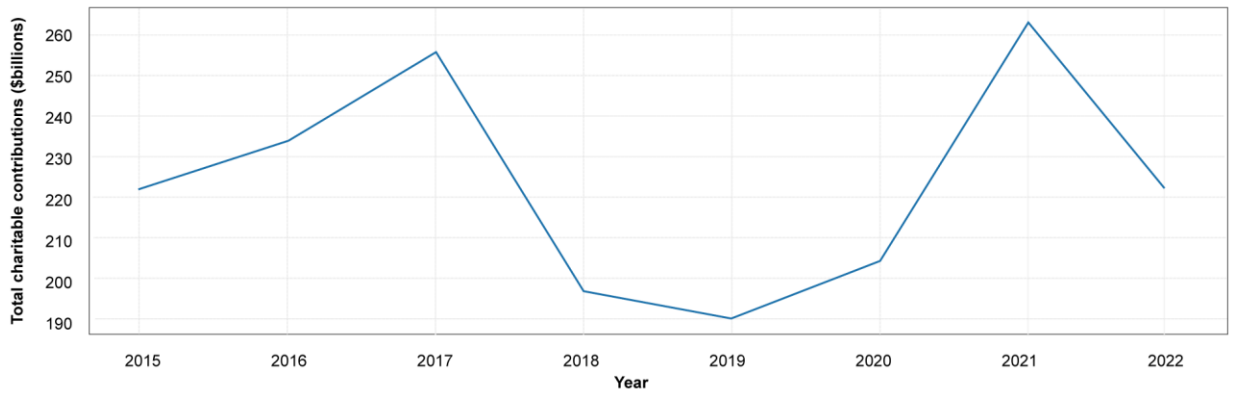
Generous Americans give over \$500 billion annually to charities in their communities. Charitable dollars are essential to maintaining a healthy civil society, vital to nonprofit charities and local governments that depend on charitable partners to deliver critical services.



## Charitable Giving Declined without The Charitable Act

The steep increase in the standard deduction in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 unintentionally effectively eliminated any tax incentive for charitable giving for millions of households, as only those who itemize can deduct their contributions from taxable income. Today, less than ten percent of taxpayers itemize.

After the TCJA took effect in 2018, charitable donations declined by 23 and remained below the long-term trend for donations in subsequent years. In 2020, the CARES Act gave taxpayers who do not itemize a \$300/\$150 deduction for charitable contributions and a \$600/\$300 deduction in 2021. Charitable donations by non-itemizers increased by \$15 billion in 2020 (an 8% increase) and \$59 billion (a 29% increase) in 2021. Figure One shows the amount of charitable giving by non-itemizers in the last decade from an [economic analysis report](#) done by Capital Policy Analytics.



**Figure One: Total Charitable Contributions from all U.S. Non-itemizing Taxpayers**



Source: Capitol Policy Analytics, The Charitable Act Would Boost Donations by \$40 Million a Year, March 2025

According to new data just released by the Association of Fundraising Professionals and Giving Tuesday’s **Fundraising Effectiveness Project**, the latest data shows significant declines in smaller donors and the reliance on mega donors—an unsustainable trend for the charitable sector.



The latest report from Q4 2024 found that all donors who gave less than \$5,000 for the year saw their total fundraising amount drop compared to 2023.



Moreover, 52.5% of all dollars raised in 2024 came from “supersize” donors (those who gave more than \$50,000 for the year).

Restoring and expanding the non-itemizer deduction will encourage all Americans, not just itemizers, to give more. By doing so, we can ensure that nonprofits receive the resources they need to continue providing vital services to communities across the country.

## Congress Should Restore the Non-Itemizer Charitable Deduction

A full list of the hundreds of charities from all 50 states that support the Charitable Act can be found at

[www.charitablegivingcoalition.org](http://www.charitablegivingcoalition.org)

If you have questions, please contact Brian Flahaven at:

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