

## Twitter Thread by [Parker Molloy](#)



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2017 <https://t.co/kiqQoWR57e>



**The New York Times**

# *Republican Tax Bill Passes Senate in 51-48 Vote*

Sen. [@JohnCornyn](#) on budget reconciliation: "Chipping away at the rights of the minority may help you now. But you're sure to regret that someday." [pic.twitter.com/12wwUkq43r](https://pic.twitter.com/12wwUkq43r)

— The Hill ([@thehill](#)) [February 1, 2021](#)

<https://t.co/W18nqFILru>

Dec. 19, 2017

WASHINGTON — Republicans took a critical step toward notching their first significant legislative victory since assuming full political control, [as the House and Senate voted along party lines on Tuesday and into early Wednesday](#) to pass the most sweeping rewrite of the tax code in decades.

The \$1.5 trillion tax bill, which is expected to head to President Trump's desk in the coming days, will have broad effects on the economy, making deep and lasting cuts to corporate taxes as well as temporarily lowering individual taxes.

The endeavor was not without hiccups, however, as three small provisions in the final tax bill agreed to by the House and Senate were found by the Senate parliamentarian to violate the [budget rules that Republicans must follow to pass their bill through a process that shields it from a Democratic filibuster](#). As a result, the bill changed slightly in the Senate, and the House will now need to vote on it again since both chambers must approve identical legislation. Among the items that were deemed out of order was the title of the bill: the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

The approval of the bill in the House and Senate came over the strenuous objections of Democrats, who have accused Republicans of giving a gift to corporations and the wealthy and driving up the federal debt in the process.

The GOP got rid of the SCOTUS filibuster so they could jam through three fringy right-wing Alito clones, including one right before the election, but sure thing, bud.

“Uh, actually, they got rid of the SCOTUS filibuster because Harry Reid did it first for something totally different! I am very smart!”

No. Knock it off.

Here's the thing about the “But Harry Reid...” excuse:

1. McConnell was holding up Obama nominees, some \*for literal years\* without a vote.
2. Had he \*not\* done that, Trump would have inherited \*even more\* vacant seats.
3. If you honestly think that McConnell would have sat quietly waiting 4 whole years without putting a judge on the court with Trump in office, you're delusional. Harry Reid or no Harry Reid, McConnell was going to blow up the SCOTUS filibuster.
4. Don't think for a single second that McConnell wouldn't have gotten rid of the legislative filibuster had it been advantageous for him to do so. There just wasn't a need to do it. (The major pieces of legislation they tried to pass during Trump's term were being pushed...  
  
... through reconciliation. Once Dems won the House back, that dashed GOP hopes for their legislative agenda, so again, it wasn't to his advantage to get rid of the filibuster then.)
5. The GOP governing philosophy has always been “If we can legally get away with doing it, we will do it.” Don't believe this “But the institution!” nonsense they constantly pull. They're liars.