

\$12 trillion protection gap

Finseca is here to change that. Helping make America financially stronger, one family at a time.

Permanent and Sustainable Estate and Gift Tax



What you need to know:
Inconsistent estate and gift tax laws lead to paralysis in planning.



Why it matters:
Proper planning protects families and businesses from having to sell assets while grieving a death.

Finseca champions a bipartisan, permanent estate and gift tax policy.

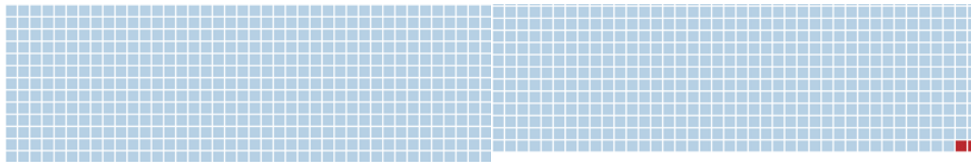
The 2013 compromise proved that balance is possible. Long-term consistency gives families, business owners, and farmers the clarity to plan with confidence. Temporary fixes and political games, on the other hand, only create uncertainty—and force families to make painful choices when taxes come due.

Estate Tax Reform That Lasts: American Taxpayer Relief Act



In 2013, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA) set the top estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer (GST) tax rate at 40% and established unified lifetime exemptions for estate, gift, and GST taxes: \$5M per individual and \$10M per couple, indexed for inflation.

Under the 2013 bipartisan deal only 2 out of every 1,000 estates nationwide were subject to any estate tax meaning that 99.8% of American households would owe zero estate tax, including family farms.



Source: Joint Committee on Taxation

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Temporary and unsustainable Estate Tax Policy: The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act



The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (TCJA) made estate and gift tax planning more complicated, not less. By temporarily doubling the exemptions—now **\$13.61 million** for individuals and **\$27.22 million** for couples—it created short-term relief but long-term uncertainty. Unless Congress acts, those exemptions **expire at the end of 2025** and revert back to 2016 levels, adjusted for inflation. Families and business owners are once again left wondering how to plan.

Unified Estate and Gift Tax Exemptions



The ATRA permanently unified lifetime exemption levels for estate and gift taxes, promoting earlier transfers that encourage the next generation to engage in business management and development. It also ensured permanent spousal portability, allowing surviving spouses to utilize any unused exemption from the first spouse. These reforms are crucial and should be maintained.

People delay planning to “wait and see” due to the politicalization of the estate tax. Now is the time to plan – early death or disability can occur at any time.

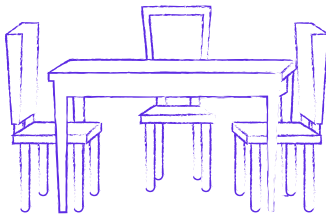


Repeal is Not a Solution



Repealing the estate tax is unsustainable; it has been repealed before, only to return. This inconsistency means only beneficiaries within that short repeal period benefit. Uncertainty about future tax laws leads many to delay estate planning, resulting in higher taxes for families and increased risks for business liquidation and job loss.

REAL WORLD EXAMPLES



Restaurateur’s Lack of Succession Plan Shatters Family Chain and Shakes Community

Anthony, the owner of second-generation family restaurant group, envisioned a future where his son would take over and continue the business's legacy upon his retirement. Unfortunately, **Anthony passed away without having established an estate or succession plan**. As a result, **all of the restaurants closed their doors, leaving dozens of employees out of work and the community without a cornerstone**. Now that the exemption is permanent, future generations can plan with certainty.

How Strategic Life Insurance Saved a Business: A Finseca Member’s Success Story

Finseca member Steve T. assisted a client who owned a small business in **creating a comprehensive plan that included securing appropriate life insurance to ensure his children could smoothly take over the business**. When the client, at just 45 years old, was diagnosed with cancer, he was **relieved to have the plan in place**. Without it, his 30 employees would have faced uncertainty and disruption.

