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NYT: Republican Agenda Hits Familiar Obstacle: State and Local Taxes

A small group of Republicans is threatening to torpedo President Trump's agenda over the state and local tax deduction, long a headache for both parties.

It was perhaps inevitable that the Republican effort to pass a vast fiscal package this year would, at some point, get caught up in the thicket of the state and local tax deduction.

After all, the deduction, often called SALT, has long had the potential to cause a political standoff. Many G.O.P. lawmakers abhor it and, in 2017, imposed a $10,000 limit on the amount of state and local taxes Americans can write off on their federal returns. But to pass a tax bill this year, the party will need the support of a motivated clutch of Republicans who have made lifting that cap the animating promise of their political careers.

Those lawmakers, who represent high-tax states like New York and New Jersey where the deduction is cherished, say they are willing to tank the package over the issue. Representative Nick LaLota, Republican of New York, can already visualize voting against the bill.

Continue reading.

The New York Times

By Andrew Duehren
Reporting from Capitol Hill

May 9, 2025

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