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What's more secret than the NSA, JFK's assassination, and Nicolas Cage's secret map on the back of the Declaration of Independence?

Max and Dave's "tax reform" auction!

U.S. Senators begging for tax code carve-outs are so afraid of the public's wrath they want the favors they ask for to be kept secret until after they're dead.

The Senate's top tax writers, Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and ranking Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch (Utah), have promised lawmakers that any requests they make for tax breaks on behalf of special interests will be kept under lock and key in the National Archives until the end of 2064.

One can assume the crony capitalists' wish list will be given the same level of security as the <u>investigation into</u> the Kennedy assassination, and the <u>coded map on the back of the Declaration of Independence discovered by Nicolas Cage</u>.

"The Fair Tax® Plan requires no secrecy, no begging, has no carve outs and doesn't need the National Archives to provide a cloak of darkness for cowardly Senators who do the bidding of special interests while pretending to represent the hard working people who elected them," said Cynthia Canevaro, Executive Director of Americans For Fair Taxation®. "It's ironic that the government gives itself the right to know everyone we call and email, but it won't tell us what public servants are doing even though we pay them."

In the carefully choreographed Washington two-step called "tax reform," Sen. Baucus and Rep. Camp start by saying they will do away with all tax breaks. It's followed immediately by step two, where partners come forward presenting carve-outs they want to save. This part takes place behind a veil, putting the lie to the promise on Baucus/Camp web site to write "bills in an open and transparent fashion. No cutting deals behind closed doors."

Lawmakers are so afraid the public will find out which special interests they are carrying water for, Sen. Hatch expects his colleagues to whisper suggestions in his ear rather than write anything down, The Hill reports. "All I want is input. I don't care how they do it, whether it's in writing or whether it's personally," Hatch said.

Of course, if lawmakers can't defend the current system of preferences and favors, they don't need a dungeon-master to hide their secrets: they could support the alternative.

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Americans For Fair Taxation® was formed in 1995. It is a nonprofit, nonpartisan grassroots organization solely dedicated to replacing the current income tax system with a progressive national consumption tax, and through companion legislation, the repeal of the 16th Amendment.