# Most will feel tax changes, experts predict

Many taxpayers in Oakland and Wayne counties will be shocked at the impact the deficit-reduction bill will have on their wallets, some area tax experts predicted Tuesday. Higher income taxes will hit middle- and upper-income households

Higher income taxes will hit mid-die- and upper-income households the hardest, they said, though virtu-ally every. American will feel the pinch of tax hikes on such Items as gasoline, alcohol and cigarettes. Analysis this week continued to sit through the details of the budget Congress approved Saturday after a month of wrangling that angered constituents back home.

"IT'S DEFINITELY A tax increase that will hit heavy in the middle- and upper-income brackets. I think It's going to surprise people how really heavy it will hit," said cregory liendel, a Bloomfield Township tax expert who works for the Defroit firm of KPMG Peat Marwick."

Detroit firm of KPMG Peat Marwick.

"I don't think it's really sunk in for "I don't think it's really sunk in for most people how hig of a change we may be facing." Hendel adder he plan that will be proceed to the plan that will be proved to the plan that will be proceed to the plan that will be proceed to the plan that will be plan t

Some experts, however, doubt that Some experts, however, doubt that Some experts, however, doubt that Isome tar-rate changes will have much of an affect on middle-income bouscholds.

"I deal with a lot of middle America, and from what I'm hearing the (lax-bracket changes) aren't going to thit Mom and Dad Lunchbucket that hard, 'sald Phyllis Worthouse, president of the Phymouth-based Worthouse & Associates, a financial planning firm that also teaches adult money-management courses in such communities as Livonia, Farmington Hills and Westland.

Middle-income Americans will be

Middle-income Americans will be hit harder by the consumer-based taxes, including gasoline, as opposed to the income tax-rate changes, she indicated.

"If they're saving money for a trip to Grandma's house at Christmas, they might want to make some

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(spending) cutbacks now," Word-house said.

AS PART OF the new tax rates, the deflict-reduction bill will eliminate the so-called "tax bubble" that taxes joint-filler incomes of 378,400 to \$185,780 at 33 percent. While their gains may be offset by losses in Itemized deductions and exemptions, said Jack Reinhart, a Troy tax expert and partner in the Detroit firm of Deloitte & Touche.

Although the bill sets a top tax rate of 31 percent, Reinhart said,

"you might still be in a higher tax rate, in effect, because of the elimi-nation of exemptions." Reinhart provided some examples of how an average married couple

CUTTING THE

DEFICIT

with two children will be affected under the tax plan. A couple with a \$30,000 income would pay about the same amount as before in income taxes, he said, while a couple earn-ing \$75,000 would pay an additional \$300.

300.
A couple whose income is \$150,000 would pay about \$151 more in taxes, while a couple earning \$1 million would sea at an increase of \$250,066, Richhard said. He said he doubted that the tax increases could be offset much by changes in how taxpayers invest their money.

However, Aggie Monfette, invest-

ment counselor with the Bloomfield Hills-based firm of A.G. Edwards & Sons Inc., disagreed, though she said counted majorily of her upper-income the said of the stock market's on sale right to the stock market's on sale right to the stock market's on sale right to the said. Although upper-income taxpayers will support the said to the stock market and support to the said will be able to virtually offset their tax increases by invest ing in tax-deferred annuties, municipal bonds and retirement plans, monfette said distinct the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said will be said to said the said will be said the said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said the said will be said to said the said the said will be said to said the said will be said to said the said the sa







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