



The Policy Studies Organization

DUPONT SUMMIT 2012

..... Pressing Issues Amid the Political Maelstrom

December 7, 2012 * Carnegie Institution for Science, Washington, DC
Sponsored by the American Public University and the George Mason University

Panel Speakers

Rob Wolcott, *Get America Working*, former USEPA Deputy Asst. Administrator, Office of Policy
Robert Shapiro, PhD, *Sonecon, LLC*, former Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs
Roberton Williams, PhD, *Resources for the Future* and *University of Maryland*

Topic

“Smarter Sustained Growth: How Tax Reform/Shifting Can Spur the U.S. economy, Jobs and Cut Pollution”

This session will address tax shifting – cutting taxes on workers and employers (the payroll tax) and offsetting those revenues with taxes/fees on pollution to yield accelerated economic growth, employment expansion and enhanced environmental quality. By removing distortions in our tax code such shifting puts a price on pollution (and resource/energy inefficiency) and reduces the cost of hiring while advancing sustainability and efficiency throughout the supply chain. The Congressional Budget Office scored the payroll tax cut the most effective job creating part of the recent stimulus.

This type of tax shifting has garnered considerable bi-partisan support over the years, but like all reform, faces hurdles.

This Panel of economists with great experience in both research and policy making will describe why this approach should be a major part of our coming tax reform debate.