Information Security – Tax administration must protect taxpayer information from all forms of unintended and improper disclosure.

Simplicity - Simple tax laws are necessary so that taxpayers understand the rules and comply with them correctly and in a cost-efficient manner.

Neutrality – Minimizing the effect of the tax law on a taxpayer's decisions as to how to carry out a particular transaction or whether to engage in a transaction is important

Economic Growth and Efficiency - The tax system should not unduly impede or reduce the productive capacity of the economy.

Transparency and Visibility - Taxpayers should know that a tax exists and how and when it is imposed upon them and others.

Minimum Tax Gap – Structuring tax laws to minimize non-compliance is essential

Accountability to Taxpayers – Accessibility and visibility of information on tax laws and their development, modification and purpose, are necessary for taxpayers.

Appropriate Government Revenues – Tax systems should have appropriate levels of predictability, stability and reliability to enable the government to determine the timing and amount of tax collections.

Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network - In 2001, the Tax Policy Group of Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network turned the AICPA's 10 principles (now 12) into a workbook to help elected officials and others in applying the 10 principles to analyze tax proposals. In doing so, they organized the principles into three categories as follows:

Fairness

- Equity and Fairness
- Transparency

Operability

- Certainty
- Convenience of Payment
- Economy of Collection
- Simplicity
- Minimum Tax Gap
- Appropriate Government Revenues

Appropriate Purpose and Goals

- Neutrality
- Economic Growth and Efficiency

Joint Committee on Taxation – Description and Analysis of Proposals To Replace the Federal Income Tax, JCS-18-95, 6/5/95, pages 58 – 59. https://www.jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=2481

Excerpt:

"Analysts generally judge tax systems in term so how well the tax system answers four different questions.

First, does the tax system promote or hinder economic efficiency. That is, to what extent does the tax system distort taxpayer behavior? Does the tax system create a bias against the domestic production of goods and services? To what extent does it promote economic growth?

Second, is the tax system fair? Does the tax system treat similarly situated individuals similarly? Does the tax system account for individuals' different capacities to bear the burden of taxation?

“Principles of a High-Quality State Revenue System

1. A high-quality revenue system comprises elements that are complementary, including the finances of both state and local governments.
2. A high-quality revenue system produces revenue in a reliable manner. Reliability involves stability, certainty and sufficiency.
3. A high-quality revenue system relies on a balanced variety of revenue sources.
4. A high-quality revenue system treats individuals equitably. Minimum requirements of an equitable system are that it imposes similar tax burdens on people in similar circumstances, that it minimizes regressivity, and that it minimizes taxes on low-income individuals.
5. A high-quality revenue system facilitates taxpayer compliance. It is easy to understand and minimizes compliance costs.
6. A high-quality revenue system promotes fair, efficient and effective administration. It is as simple as possible to administer, raises revenue efficiently, is administered professionally, and is applied uniformly.
7. A high-quality revenue system is responsive to interstate and international economic competition.
8. A high-quality revenue system minimizes its involvement in spending decisions and makes any such involvement explicit.
9. A high-quality revenue system is accountable to taxpayers.”

California Legislative Analyst’s Office – The 2003-04 Budget Bill: Perspectives and Issues – The Governor’s Tax Proposal: Evaluation and Alternatives, February 2003, http://www.lao.ca.gov/analysis_2003/2003_pandi/pi_part_5a_taxes_anl03.html

“Excerpt (Figure 2)

Essential Criteria for Evaluating The Governor’s Tax Proposals:

Growth Performance—Will the new tax revenues grow along with the economy and/or the program responsibilities they are expected to fund?

Reliability and Volatility—Are new revenues raised by the

The charge of the committee was to study Washington's existing tax structure and recommend alternatives to improve the system. The extensive report issued in 2002 begins with an explanation of tax principles for a "well-designed tax system." It also explains the existing structure and where it does and does not meet the tax principles. The study also explains various constraints to change that exist in the U.S. and state constitutions and local government funding limitations. Such constraints are important in reform efforts as they are limitations that likely can't be changed.

Various proposals are analyzed including major ones such as replacing a portion of the tax structure with some type of value-adde l3(m)1.1(ef/4(s)4(uc)2656 -1.153 Td [(so)-3.7(m)]nuc)2656 -1.153t inecom por-3.8(esi)

This Georgia Council was formed in 2010 via legislation. Its final report was released in January 2011. The Council established seven principles to guide its work:

1) Growth Enhancing – "Tax policy should foster strong economic growth, job creation, and a rising standard of living for all Georgians."

Comparing Sets of Tax Principles

As noted above, reports of governments and various tax organizations and committees have used a set of tax principles to analyze tax structures and tax proposals. A logical question arises from looking at all of this — is there a common set of principles? The answer is yes. While terminology and layout may vary, the concepts are the same. Some reports either ignored a principle that others used or did not find it to be as important, perhaps, in its particular analysis. The following chart helps to illustrate the similarities among the principles utilized.

AICPA	Joint Committee on Taxation	GAO

	economic efficiency?		explicit		other states Economic neutrality and efficiency Home ownership[9]			
Economic								

Accountability to taxpayers								
Information security								
AICPA	JCT	GAO	NCSL	CA LAO	Washington	Hawaii	Georgia	Vermont

Note: The 2017 AICPA principles document includes a table comparing its 12 principles to those laid out by the OECD, JCT and GAO.