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BOB McCORMICK: Now to Washington, and, of course, federal prosecutors plan to charge former officers of WorldCom sometime next week for their suspected roles in the massive fraud and financial wrongdoing at the second largest long-distance carrier.

They would not identify which individuals would be charged, but the Wall Street Journal reports former chief financial officer Scott Sullivan and the former controller David Meyers [sp] are expected to be indicted. And the government is likely to seek an indictment of former chief executive Bernie Ebbers [sp].

Now, we got to the USC Tax Institute, where director Ed McCaffrey says they are just jumping all over themselves to try to appease the voters, the Democrats and the Republicans wanting to show that they're doing something about corporate corruption.

Now, could it result in a tax break for us, those who've suffered stock losses, Ed McCaffrey?

ED McCAFFREY: Well, I'm nervous, because I think there's an old saying that Congress is probably best when it strikes when the iron is cold. And I think they're trying to strike while the iron is hot now. There's a lot going on, and Congress is sort of swat-bashing things together, some of which to sort of make up for their delay and inertia in doing anything at all.

So, some of the tax breaks we're talking about now – probably overdue and good. But they're talking about maybe doubling, tripling the amount of capital losses one can take against ordinary income. That's an obvious sort of palliative to the stock market fall.

They're finally talking about making some 401K modifications.

I think a lot of the individual ideas are probably good. I'm troubled that they're ad hoc and rather small, and they're getting mixed up in this sort of very tense situation in Washington now where everybody's rushing to do something.

McCORMICK: All right, Ed McCaffrey, director of the USC Tax Institute.

Currently, taxpayers can deduct capital losses to the extent of your gains. You can also deduct as much as \$3,000 for capital losses in one year. Republicans plan to double or even triple the \$3,000 cap. So that would allow investors to use more of their losses in other tax years, according to the GOP.

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