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POLITICS & POLICY

Paulson, Bowles to Co-Chair New Economic Policy Group



Former U.S. Treasury secretary Hank Paulson, shown in 2010, will co-chair the new group at the Aspen Institute. PHOTO: MANDEL NGAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



By

Nick Timiraos

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Former Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson and former White House chief of staff Erskine Bowles will co-chair a new economic policy group at the Aspen Institute designed to shape policy making that addresses problems such as low productivity, stagnant growth and income disparity.

The bipartisan group of 62 invitation-only members won't focus on front-burner legislative debates such as how to write a tax-code overhaul but rather will focus on broader issues reshaping the economy, such as the changing nature of the employer-employee relationship and the impact of automation and artificial intelligence, Mr. Paulson said.

"There's a range of issues that aren't being dealt with at all, that aren't even being discussed," Mr. Paulson said at a briefing Tuesday.

The group's members include former Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke, 2012 Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney, and former Treasury secretaries Robert Rubin, Lawrence Summers and Timothy Geithner. Business leaders on the forum include Mary Barra of General Motors Co., Ruth Porat of Google and Marillyn Hewson of Lockheed Martin. The group's executive director will be Lanhee Chen, who served as Mr. Romney's policy adviser during his 2012 presidential campaign.

The group, which also includes academics and journalists, will meet as a whole once annually for a retreat in Aspen, Colo., and different working groups within the policy forum will work on their own throughout the year.

Aspen Economic Strategy Group Membership

Co-chairs:

Hank Paulson, former Treasury secretary (President George W. Bush)

Erskine Bowles, former White House chief of staff (President Bill Clinton)

Members:

Wally Adeyemo, senior adviser, BlackRock; and senior adviser, Center for Strategic and International Studies

Kelly Ayotte, former U.S. senator (R., N.H.)

Mary Barra, chief executive, General Motors Co.

Ben Bernanke, former Federal Reserve chairman (Bush, President Barack Obama)

Joshua Bolten, chief executive, Business Roundtable; former White House chief of staff (Bush)

Ursula Burns, retired chief executive, Xerox Corp

Julian Castro, former secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development (Obama)

Lanhee Chen, research fellow, Hoover Institution

David Cote, executive chairman, Honeywell

Jim Crown, president, Henry Crown & Co.

Ray Dalio, founder and co-chief investment officer, Bridgewater Associates LP

Mitch Daniels, president, Purdue University

Brian Deese, former senior adviser to Mr. Obama

Sue Desmond-Hellmann, chief executive, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Laurence Fink, founder and chief executive, BlackRock, Inc.

Kristin Forbes, professor of management and global economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Roland Fryer, professor of economics, Harvard University

Jason Furman, former chair, White House Council of Economic Advisers (Obama)

Timothy Geithner, former Treasury secretary (Obama)

Austan Goolsbee, professor of economics, University of Chicago

Danielle Gray, partner, O'Melveny & Myers LLP

Reed Hastings, founder and chief executive, Netflix Inc.

Keith Hennessey, lecturer, Stanford Graduate School of Business

Marilyn Hewson, chief executive, Lockheed Martin

Fred Hiatt, editorial page editor, The Washington Post

Doug Holtz-Eakin, president, American Action Forum

Glenn Hubbard, dean, Columbia Business School

Neil Irwin, senior economic correspondent, The New York Times

Greg Ip, chief economics commentator, The Wall Street Journal

Joel Kaplan, vice president of global public policy, Facebook Inc.

Neel Kashkari, president, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

Melissa Kearney, professor of economics, University of Maryland

Ellen Kullman, former chief executive, DuPont

Maya MacGuineas, president, Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget

Greg Mankiw, professor of economics, Harvard University

Sylvia Mathews Burwell, president, American University

Jim McNerney, former chief executive, Boeing Co.

Magne Mogstad, professor in economics, University of Chicago

Marc Morial, chief executive, National Urban League

Janet Murguía, chief executive, UnidosUS

Phebe Novakovic, chief executive, General Dynamics

Michael Nutter, former mayor of Philadelphia

Jim Owens, former chief executive, Caterpillar Inc.

John Podesta, counselor to Mr. Obama and former White House chief of staff to Mr. Clinton

Ruth Porat, chief financial officer, Alphabet Inc.

Jim Poterba, professor of economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Penny Pritzker, former Commerce secretary (Obama)

Bruce Reed, chief executive and co-founder, Civic LLC

Mitt Romney, former governor of Massachusetts and 2012 Republican presidential nominee

Robert Rubin, former Treasury secretary (Clinton)

Stephen Schwarzman, chief executive and co-founder, Blackstone Group LP

Margaret Spellings, president, University of North Carolina System

Gene Sperling, former director, White House National Economic Council (Clinton, Obama)

William Spriggs, professor of economics, Howard University

Robert Steel, chief executive, Perella Weinberg Partners LP

Lawrence Summers, former Treasury secretary (Clinton) and professor of economics, Harvard University

Phillip Swagel, professor in international economic policy, University of Maryland School of Public Policy

Kevin Warsh, distinguished visiting fellow in economics, Hoover Institution

Jeff Zients, former director, White House National Economic Council (Obama)

Robert Zoellick, former president of the World Bank and former U.S. Trade Representative (Bush)

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