

FLASHBACK: SENATE REPUBLICANS HAVE BROADLY SUPPORTED KEY PROVISIONS OF BIDEN'S STIMULUS PACKAGE

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SUMMARY: Biden's recovery proposal, the American Rescue Plan, includes \$1,400 stimulus checks, a federal minimum wage increase to \$15 per hour, and expansions of both the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Despite Senate Republicans' current objections to Biden's plan contradicts their previous support for similar provisions in the past:

- Half a dozen Republican Senators previously supported \$2,000 stimulus checks and an additional 10 supported targeted \$1,000 checks.
 - Over 19 days in December, Senator Josh Hawley released six statements and multiple floor speeches about need for stimulus and importance of working people.
 - Senator Lindsey Graham on \$2,000 stimulus checks: "I think a family of four, if they got \$8,000 it would help our economy. I think they need the \$8,000."
 - Senator Marco Rubio admitted "we cannot ignore the fact that millions of working-class families across the nation are in dire need of relief. Congress should quickly pass legislation to increase direct payments to Americans to \$2,000."
- At least 10 have previously voted to increase the federal minimum wage in 2007 and others have made more recent comments indicating the need for higher wages.
 - Senators Richard Burr, Susan Collins, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Lindsey Graham, Chuck Grassley, Mitch McConnell, Lisa Murkowski, Richard Shelby, and John Thune voted in favor of raising the minimum wage in 2007.
 - Senator Mitch McConnell on Senate passage of a 2007 measure to raise the minimum wage: "This is a victory for both those who earn the minimum wage and those who pay it."
- 40 have previously supported efforts to expand the Child Tax Credit, including pushing it as part of the 2017 GOP tax bill.
 - Senator Mike Lee said, "Anyone who wants to increase the CTC will have my support."
 - Senator Marco Rubio's spokesman said, regarding the Child Tax Credit, that "the senator is always looking for opportunities to build on that credit expansion."
- 40 have also previously supported efforts to expand the EITC, including 39 who supported the December 2020 stimulus bill that included a measure that expanded access to the EITC in light of the pandemic.
 - In 2016, Senator Ted Cruz said he wanted to "expand" and "modernize" the EITC.

Biden's January 2021 COVID-19 Recovery Plan Included \$1,400 Stimulus Checks, Federal Minimum Wage Increase To \$15 Per Hour, And Expansions Of Child Tax Credit And Earned Income Tax Credit.

Biden's Recovery Plan Included \$1,400 Stimulus Checks, An Increase Of The Federal Minimum Wage "To \$15 Per Hour," And An "Expanded Child Care Tax Credit." "The incoming Biden administration unveiled a \$1.9 trillion stimulus plan [...] Its proposal would send out \$1,400 per person for those under certain income thresholds [...] After holding steady at \$7.25 for more than a decade, the federal minimum wage would rise to \$15 per hour under the proposal, which would also end the tipped minimum wage and sub-minimum wage for people with disabilities. [...] Under the expanded child care tax credit, families with children up to age 13 could receive a total of up to \$4,000 for one child or \$8,000 for two or more children." [The New York Times, [01/14/21](#)]

Biden's Plan Would Also "Expand The Earned Income Tax Credit For 2021." "Biden's plan would expand the Earned Income Tax Credit for 2021, raising the maximum credit for childless adults from roughly \$530 to close to \$1,500, while also increasing the income limit for the credit from about \$16,000 to about \$21,000, and expanding the age range that is eligible by eliminating the age cap for older workers." [Forbes, [01/14/21](#)]

16 GOP Senators, Including Sens. Hawley, Graham, Fischer, And Rubio, Supported Additional Stimulus Checks.

Following Trump's Support, "More Republicans Clamored To Endorse" Larger Stimulus Checks, Including Former Senators Loeffler And Perdue, As Well As "More Than Two Dozen" House Republicans.

"More Republicans Clamored To Endorse" The Larger Checks Following Trump's Call For Passage.

"Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the majority leader, on Tuesday blocked an effort to hold an immediate vote to increase stimulus checks to \$2,000, saying instead that the Senate would "begin a process" to consider bigger payments, along with other demands issued by President Trump, leaving the fate of the measure unclear as more Republicans clamored to endorse it." [New York Times, [12/29/20](#)]

- **Outgoing Senators David Perdue And Kelly Loeffler "Endorsed Higher Stimulus Payments."** "A growing number of Republican senators have endorsed higher stimulus payments, including Senators Kelly Loeffler and David Perdue, both Georgia lawmakers facing tight runoff elections next week, who announced on Tuesday that they supported larger stimulus checks." [New York Times, [12/29/20](#)]
- **"More Than Two Dozen" House Republicans Also Supported \$2,000 Checks.** "The bill passed by the House for \$2,000 payments was supported by more than two dozen Republicans as well." [Washington Post, [1/6/21](#)]

Over 19 Days In December, Senator Josh Hawley Released Six Statements And Multiple Floor Speeches About Need For Stimulus And Importance Of Working People.

December 10-29, 2020: Hawley Released Six Statements In Support Of Increased Direct Payments. More details can be found in the list below. [Office of Senator Josh Hawley, accessed [1/12/21](#)]

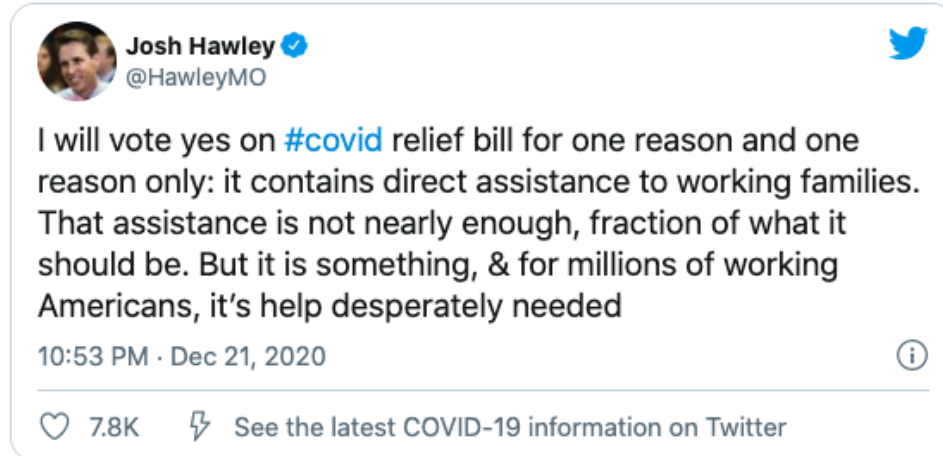
- **12/10/20: “Hawley, Sanders Introduce \$1,200 Direct Payments Amendment to End-of-Year Legislation”**
 - **Hawley Said “It Would Be A Dereliction Of Duty If Congress Adjourns For Christmas Without Having A Vote On Providing Working Families With Direct Payments. [...] They Should Be The First People Given Relief, Not Last.”** “It would be a dereliction of duty if Congress adjourns for Christmas without having a vote on providing working families with direct payments. Working people are struggling. And they should be the first people given relief, not last.” [Office of Senator Josh Hawley, [12/10/20](#)]
- **12/16/20: “Hawley Demands Covid Relief Package Includes Immediate Direct Relief for Working Families”**
 - **Hawley Delivered A Speech On The Senate Floor Demanding Direct Payments, Saying He “Was Prepared To Use Every Tool At [His] Disposal To Make Sure That This Body Acted To Give Direct Assistance To Working People In Need.”** HAWLEY: “I said I was prepared to use every tool at my disposal to make sure that this body acted to give direct assistance to working people in need.” [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/16/20](#)] (VIDEO)
 - **Hawley: “I’m Sure As Heck Going To Continue To Fight To See ... That Any Relief That’s Passed By The Senate Prioritizes Working People With Direct Relief.”** HAWLEY: “I’m sure as heck going to continue to fight to see that it is in the bill, and that any relief that’s passed by the Senate prioritizes working people with direct relief.” [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/16/20](#)] (VIDEO)
 - **Hawley Pushed Back On Criticism Of Direct Payments, Saying, “Is It Not An Emergency That Working People Are Having To Line Up For Food?”** HAWLEY: “Some have questioned whether this is really necessary. Some have said, ‘Well, it’s not an emergency; this bill is only for emergencies, and direct assistance isn’t an emergency.’ To which I say, ‘Is it not an emergency that working people are having to line up for food? Literally line up for food in this country, in this day and age, because they don’t have enough money to go purchase nutrition for their own children.’”
 - **Hawley: “To Those Who Say, ‘It’s Not An Emergency,’ I Urge You To Open Your Eyes And To Look Around At The People Who are Hurting, Who Are Struggling, Who Are Desperate For Help.”** [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/16/20](#)] (VIDEO)
 - **Hawley: “I’m Not Interested In Micromanaging This Economy, I’m Interested In Getting Working People Back Up On Their Feet.”** [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/16/20](#)] (VIDEO)
 - **Hawley: “These Are Working People ... These Are Not Folks Who Want Some Handout.”** HAWLEY: “These are working people, Madam President, these are not folks who want some handout.” [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/16/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **12/17/20: “Hawley to Senate Floor Tomorrow to Ask for Vote on \$1,200 Direct Payment for Americans”**
- **12/20/20: “Hawley Speaks on Continued Need for Direct Relief for Working Americans”**

- **Hawley: \$600 Was “Hardly Adequate And We Should Not Pretend Otherwise.”** HAWLEY: “I have to say that the levels of support that I understand will be offered to working people are hardly adequate, and we should not pretend otherwise, Mr. President. \$600 per person, \$600 per child; this is a fraction of what was offered to working people in the CARES legislation just a few months ago. Legislation, I might add, that every member of this body voted for—every member voted for—and now they’ll only be getting a portion of that. It all adds up to about a hundred billion dollars, and we’re told that there just wasn’t enough leftover—there just wasn’t any more available for working people.” [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/20/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **Hawley Called Direct Checks “A Step In The Right Direction, But It Is Only A Step.”** HAWLEY: “So, the work that we’re going to do today—and I hope to see a vote on this floor yet today on this relief—it is a step, a step in the right direction, but it is only a step.” [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/20/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **Hawley: “Actually Putting Working Americans First [...] Ought To Be The Economic Policy Of This Body.”** HAWLEY: “And I hope that it will be the beginning, Mr. President, of a better approach. The beginning of actually putting working Americans first, putting their needs, putting their independence, putting their strength, their families, their communities first. That ought to be the economic policy of this nation. That ought to be the economic policy of this body. And I can assure you that is the foundation on which economic recovery will be built, because it’s the working people of this nation who powered the American economy.” [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/20/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **Hawley: “Wall Street, Capital, The Financial Markets; They’re Not The Foundation Of This Economy,” Working People Are “And It Is Time They Were Put First. First For COVID Relief, First In Economic Policy, First In Everything We Do.”** HAWLEY: Wall Street, capital, the financial markets, they’re not the foundation of this economy. The working people of this nation, the working people of Missouri, the working people of out other states, they are the foundation of this economy. And it is time that they were put first. First for COVID relief, first in economic policy, first in all that we do.” [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/20/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **Hawley Gave An Impassioned Thanks To Working People And Concluded, “Help Is On The Way ... But There Is Much More To Do, And I For One Stand Ready To Work To Do It.”** HAWLEY: “I want to end by saying thank you to them. Thank you to the working people of Missouri who have endured through this crisis, day in and day out. Who have gone to work as essential workers. Who have taken care of children at home. Who have missed shifts at work in order to care for loved ones. Who have contributed food to others in need even when they didn’t have enough food for themselves. Who have gone without in order to see that their children could eat. The people of this country, the working people who have sacrificed again and again and again and have borne the brunt of this pandemic and have continued to show up for their families, for their communities, and for this country: Thank you. Thank you for making this country work. Thank you for building this country as we know it. Help is on the way. Help is on the way in this bill, which I hope will become law tonight, but there is much more to do, and I for one stand ready to work to do it. [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/20/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **[12/21/20](#): “Senator Hawley Votes in Favor of Covid Relief, Direct Assistance for Working Americans”**

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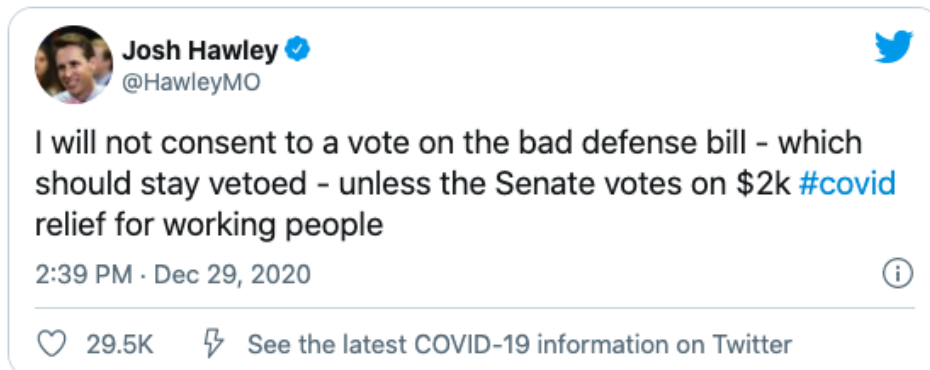
SENATE

- **“Senator Hawley Led The Push To Include Direct Assistance In The Bill.”** “Senator Hawley led the push to include direct assistance in the bill and criticized negotiators for giving billions of dollars to bureaucrats and corporations while ignoring working Americans.” [Office of Senator Josh Hawley, [12/21/20](#)]
- **Hawley “Voted In Favor Of Covid Relief Legislation Only Because It Contains Direct Assistance For Working Americans. Senator Hawley Said That The Assistance Was A Fraction Of What It Could Be But Is Desperately Needed For Millions Of Americans.”** [Office of Josh Hawley, [12/21/20](#)]



[Twitter, @HawleyMO, [12/21/20](#)]

- **Hawley: “I Will Vote Yes On #COVID Relief Bill For One Reason And One Reason Only: It Contains Direct Assistance To Working Families.”** [Office of Senator Josh Hawley, [12/21/20](#)] ([TWEET](#))
- **Hawley: “That Assistance Is Not Nearly Enough, Fraction Of What It Should Be.”** [Office of Senator Josh Hawley, [12/21/20](#)] ([TWEET](#))
- **[12/29/20](#): “Hawley Won’t Consent to NDAA Vote Without Vote on \$2,000 Direct Assistance”**



[Twitter, @HawleyMO, [12/29/20](#)]

Senator Lindsey Graham Explained Away Debt Concerns, Saying “Facts On The Ground Throughout The Country Would Require Us To Do More Than \$600,” Saying If Family Of Four Got \$8,000 It “Would Help Our Economy.”

Graham, December 2020: Graham Acknowledged Concerns Over The Debt But, “I’m In South Carolina, Our Economy Is Really Hurting Here.” GRAHAM: “Here’s the facts: 70 percent of Republicans don’t want to go to \$2,000. They think it’s a \$430 billion cost to the treasury; they think it’s an inefficient way of giving money to people who are hurting cause a lot of people making \$75,000 or less haven’t been out of work. But I’m with the president on this, I’m in South Carolina; our economy is really hurting here.” [FOX News, [12/31/20](#)] (VIDEO)

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- **Graham: “I’ve Seen With My Own Eyes The Destruction Of Small Businesses In South Carolina.”** [FOX News, [12/31/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **Graham: “I’m With President Trump On This. I Think A Family Of Four, If They Got \$8,000 It Would Help Our Economy. I Think They Need The \$8,000.”** [FOX News, [12/31/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **Graham: Until Vaccine Can Be Widely Distributed, “Our Economy Is Hanging By A Thread In South Carolina.”** GRAHAM: “If the vaccine is on the way, I can’t wait until it gets here in large numbers, but until then our economy is hanging by a thread in South Carolina.” [FOX News, [12/31/20](#)] (VIDEO)
- **Graham Said He Understood The Fiscal Conservative Argument, But “The Facts On The Ground Throughout The Country Would Require Us To Do More Than \$600.”** GRAHAM: “To my fiscal conservative friends, I understand your argument, but I think the facts on the ground throughout the country would require us to do more than \$600. \$600 is not enough, \$2,000 is about right in my opinion.” [FOX News, [12/31/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Senator Marco Rubio Endorsed \$2,000 Checks, Saying He Shared Concerns Over Debt But, “We Cannot Ignore The Fact That Millions Of Working Class Families Across The Nation Are In Dire Need Of Relief.”

Rubio, December 2020: “I Share Many Of My Colleagues’ Concern About The Long-Term Effects Of Additional Spending, But We Cannot Ignore The Fact That Millions Of Working Class Families Across The Nation Are In Dire Need Of Relief. Congress Should Quickly Pass Legislation To Increase Direct Payments To Americans To \$2,000.” [Office of Senator Marco Rubio, “I Support \$2000 Payments to Americans in Need,” [12/28/20](#)]

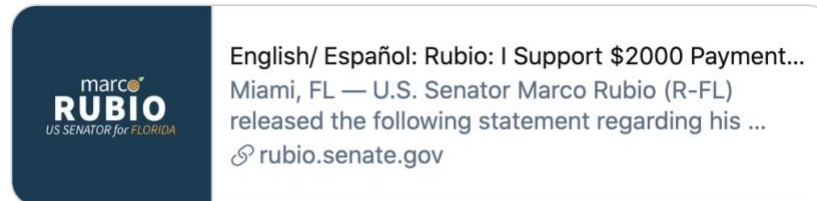
- **Rubio: “I Am Concerned About The Debt, But Working Families Have Been Hurt Badly By The Pandemic[.] This Is Why I Supported \$600 Direct Payments To Working Families & If Given The Chance Will Vote To Increase The Amount.”** [Twitter, @marcorubio, [12/28/20](#)]



Marco Rubio ✓ @marcorubio · Dec 28, 2020

I am concerned about the debt, but working families have been hurt badly by the pandemic

This is why I supported \$600 direct payments to working families & if given the chance will vote to increase the amount



8.4K

1.3K

4K



[Twitter, @marcorubio, [12/28/20](#)]

Senator Deb Fischer Supported Increased Checks, Saying, “People Are Hurting And We Need To Get Them More Aid.”

December 29, 2020: Senator Deb Fischer Voiced Support For Increased Checks, Saying “People Are Hurting And We Need To Get Them More Aid.” “Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) also lent support Tuesday, declaring that ‘people are hurting and we need to get them more aid.’” [Washington Post, [12/29/20](#)]

10 GOP Senators Proposed Reduced Stimulus Checks “From \$1,400 Per Individual To \$1,000” And Lower Income Limits For Determining Check Eligibility.

Biden Met “With 10 GOP Senators Who Are Calling On Him To Make A Bipartisan Deal” That Included Reduced Stimulus Checks “From \$1,400 Per Individual To \$1,000” And Significantly Reduced “The Income Limits That Determine Eligibility For The Stimulus Payments.” “President Biden intends to meet on Monday with 10 GOP senators who are calling on him to make a bipartisan deal instead of forging ahead with a party-line vote on his \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief plan. [...] It would also reduce the size of a new round of checks Biden wants to send to Americans, from \$1,400 per individual to \$1,000 — while significantly reducing the income limits that determine eligibility for the stimulus payments.” [The Washington Post, [01/31/21](#)]

- Senators Bill Cassidy, Susan Collins, Shelley Moore Capito, Jerry Moran, Lisa Murkowski, Rob Portman, Mitt Romney, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, And Todd Young Were The Ten Republican Senators Who Met “With President Joe Biden Monday To Discuss A Coronavirus Relief Package Counterproposal In Response To Biden’s \$1.9 Trillion Plan.” [USA Today, [01/01/21](#)]

At Least 10 Senate Republicans Have Previously Voted To Raise Minimum Wage.

10 Current Senate Republicans Voted In 2007 To Raise Federal Minimum Wage For First Time In A Decade.

10 Current Sitting Republican Senators Voted To Raise Minimum Wage In 2007 As A Stand Alone Proposal, Which Was Not Signed Into Law.

10 Currently Sitting Republicans Supported H.R. 2, The Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007, And Only Three Total Senate Republicans Voted Against The Measure, Which Passed 94-3-3. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]

- **Senator Richard Burr Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator Susan Collins Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator John Cornyn Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator Mike Crapo Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator Lindsey Graham Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator Chuck Grassley Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator Mitch McConnell Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator Lisa Murkowski Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator Richard Shelby Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**
- **Senator John Thune Voted In Favor Of Raising The Minimum Wage In 2007. [United States Senate, [02/01/07](#)]**

H.R. 2, The Fair Minimum Wage Act, Passed The House And Senate But Was Not Signed Into Law As A Stand Alone Bill. [Congress.gov, accessed [02/08/21](#)]

Nine Of Those Ten Senators—All Except Burr—Voted For Second Measure That Year That Would To Raise Federal Minimum Wage, Which Passed Into Law As Part Of Iraq Spending Bill.

Nine Currently Sitting Republicans Supported H.R. 2206, And Only Three Total Senate Republicans Voted Against The Measure, Which Passed 80-14-6. [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]

- **Senator Susan Collins Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206. [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]**
- **Senator John Cornyn Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206. [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]**
- **Senator Mike Crapo Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206. [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]**

- **Senator Lindsey Graham Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206.** [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]
- **Senator Chuck Grassley Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206.** [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]
- **Senator Mitch McConnell Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206.** [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]
- **Senator Lisa Murkowski Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206.** [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]
- **Senator Richard Shelby Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206.** [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]
- **Senator John Thune Voted In Favor Of H.R. 2206.** [United States Senate, [05/24/07](#)]

H.R. 2206, A Bill On Iraq Spending, Included A Measure To Approve “The First Increase In The Federal Minimum Wage Rate In A Decade.” “Congress handed a major victory to low-income workers on Thursday night by approving the first increase in the federal minimum wage rate in a decade. By a vote of 348 to 73, the House approved the measure as part of a deal on Iraq spending. Less than two hours later, the wage increase was approved in the Senate, where it was combined with a bill providing more money for the Iraq war. That vote was 80 to 14.” [The New York Times, [05/25/07](#)]

5/25/07: H.R. 2206 Was Signed Into Law. [United States Senate, [5/25/07](#)]

In 2007, After Voting To Raise The Minimum Wage, Senator Mitch McConnell Said About To Measure’s Passage, “This Is A Victory.”

Senator Mitch McConnell On Raising The Minimum Wage: “This Is A Victory For Both Those Who Earn The Minimum Wage And Those Who Pay It.” [Office of Senator Mitch McConnell, [02/01/07](#)]

In 2007, After Voting To Raise The Minimum Wage, Senator John Cornyn Said The Legislation ““Helps Low-Income Workers.””

Senator John Cornyn On Raising The Minimum Wage: ““This Bipartisan Legislation, Which I Supported, Helps Low-Income Workers.”” [Office of Senator John Cornyn, [02/01/07](#)]

In 2014, Senator Susan Collins Led Bipartisan Negotiations To Raise Federal Minimum Wage; Collins Recently Claimed “It Is Overdue For Us To Look At Increasing The Federal Minimum Wage.”

Senator Susan Collins Pledged To Continue Her Efforts To Raise The Federal Minimum Wage And Had Been Working With Senators From Both Parties To “Broker A Compromise That Would Raise The Minimum Wage To A Level That Both Parties Find Acceptable.” “Maine Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King say they will not back down from their efforts to raise the federal minimum wage despite a setback Wednesday when Senate Republicans blocked further debate on the measure. Democrats tried to win approval for a new minimum wage of \$10.10 an hour on Wednesday, [...] Collins, a Republican who has been meeting with a group of Democrats and Republicans, said she intends to broker a compromise that would raise the minimum wage to a level that both parties find acceptable.” [Press Herald, [5/1/14](#)]

Senator Susan Collins Has Said A Minimum Wage Increase Is Needed And “Overdue.” “Republican U.S. Sen. Susan Collins says the question of increasing the minimum wage should be debated separately and not be part of the stimulus package. She says an increase is needed, but she is unsure the \$15 an hour is the right

level. 'It is overdue for us to look at increasing the federal minimum wage, but it should be considered separately,' she says." [Maine Public Radio, [01/18/21](#)]

In 2015, Marco Rubio Admitted People Cannot Live On \$10-\$11 An Hour.

In 2015, Marco Rubio Said “Even The Jobs That Are Being Created Now Don’t Pay Enough. You Can’t Live On \$10 An Hour. You Can’t Live On \$11 An Hour.” “I have the full confidence that the American private sector, made up of the most innovative and productive people on this planet, won’t just create millions of jobs,’ Rubio said at a campaign event in New Hampshire. ‘They will create millions of jobs that pay more. Because even the jobs that are being created now don’t pay enough. You can’t live on \$10 an hour. You can’t live on \$11 an hour.’” [MSNBC, [10/14/15](#)]

- **Marco Rubio Has Previously Opposed Efforts To Raise The Minimum Wage.** “In 2014 he voted against raising the minimum wage to \$10.10. He also opposed President Barack Obama’s proposal in 2013 for a \$9 an hour minimum wage. The senator said then he doesn’t think increasing the minimum wage will help bring people out of poverty.” [MSNBC, [10/14/15](#)]

At Least 40 Senate Republicans Have Previously Supported Efforts To Expand The Child Tax Credit.

In December 2020, Senator Marco Rubio’s Spokesman Claimed Rubio “Is Always Looking For Opportunities To Build On” Expansion Of Child Tax Credit And Previously Pushed For Provisions In 2017 GOP Tax Bill That Doubled Credit To \$2,000 And Made It Refundable Up To \$1,400.

December 2020: Rubio’s Spokesman Said “The Senator Is Always Looking For Opportunities To Build On That Credit Expansion.” “Rubio and Lee both seem ready to do more: a Rubio spokesman told Bloomberg Tax that the senator is always looking for opportunities to build on that credit expansion.” [Bloomberg Tax, [12/12/20](#)]

Rubio, Along With Lee, Advocated For The Child Tax Credit To Be Doubled In The 2017 Tax Bill.

“Sens. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) and Mike Lee (R-Utah) were behind the most recent enhancement of the Child Tax Credit. They pushed for provisions in the 2017 tax law that doubled the credit to \$2,000, while making it refundable up to \$1,400. The credit is available for children under 17.” [Bloomberg Tax, [12/12/20](#)]

In December 2020, Senator Mike Lee Said “Anyone Who Wants To Increase The CTC Will Have My Support” And Previously Pushed For Provisions In 2017 GOP Tax Bill That Doubled Credit To \$2,000 And Made It Refundable Up To \$1,400.

Bloomberg Tax: In December 2020, Lee Said “The Child Tax Credit Has Overwhelming Bipartisan Support” As “Anyone Who Wants To Increase The CTC Will Have My Support.” “Lee pledged his backing in a statement provided to Bloomberg Tax. ‘The child tax credit has overwhelming bipartisan support for a reason,’ Lee said. ‘Whoever controls the White House, the House, and the Senate, anyone who wants to increase the CTC will have my support.’” [Bloomberg Tax, [12/12/20](#)]

- **Lee, Along With Rubio, Advocated For The Child Tax Credit To Be Doubled In The 2017 Tax Bill.** “Sens. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) and Mike Lee (R-Utah) were behind the most recent enhancement of the Child Tax Credit. They pushed for provisions in the 2017 tax law that doubled the credit to \$2,000, while making it refundable up to \$1,400. The credit is available for children under 17.” [Bloomberg Tax, [12/12/20](#)]

Senator Tim Scott Supported Doubling Child Tax Credit As Part Of 2017 GOP Tax Bill.

Brookings: Senator Tim Scott “Tout[ed] The Senate Plan To Double The Current Child Tax Credit” As Part Of The Senate Tax Cuts And Jobs Act. “During a CNN debate on tax reform last week, a single mother of four earning \$23,000 a year asked Senator Tim Scott (R-S.C.) how the Senate Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will help families like hers. Scott responded by touting the Senate plan to double the current child tax credit. ‘Our goal in this tax reform conversation is to deliver your money back in your paychecks,’ he said.” [Brookings, [12/07/17](#)]

In 2017, 39 Now-Sitting Republican Senators Voted For GOP Tax Bill, Which Expanded Child Tax Credit.

The 2017 GOP Tax Bill Expanded The Child Tax Credit. “An expansion of the child tax credit would likely be more popular among Republicans than other Democratic tax proposals. Trump’s 2017 tax-cut law made changes to the credit that included increasing the credit amount from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and increasing the amount that families can get as a refund from \$1,000 to \$1,400.” [The Hill, [10/07/20](#)]

- **39 Currently Sitting Republican Senators Voted In Favor Of The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act.** Senators Barrasso (R-WY), Blunt (R-MO), Boozman (R-AR), Burr (R-NC), Capito (R-WV), Cassidy (R-LA), Collins (R-ME), Cornyn (R-TX), Cotton (R-AR), Crapo (R-ID), Cruz (R-TX), Daines (R-MT), Ernst (R-IA), Fischer (R-NE), Graham (R-SC), Grassley (R-IA), Hoeven (R-ND), Inhofe (R-OK), Johnson (R-WI), Kennedy (R-LA), Lankford (R-OK), Lee (R-UT), McConnell (R-KY), Moran (R-KS), Murkowski (R-AK), Paul (R-KY), Portman (R-OH), Risch (R-ID), Rounds (R-SD), Rubio (R-FL), Sasse (R-NE), Scott (R-SC), Shelby (R-AL), Sullivan (R-AK), Thune (R-SD), Tillis (R-NC), Toomey (R-PA), Wicker (R-MS), and Young (R-IN) voted in favor of the Tax Cuts And Jobs Act. [U.S. Senate, [12/20/17](#)]

In 2019, Sen. Mitt Romney Proposed Expansion Of Child Tax Credit With Sen. Michael Bennet.

Romney Worked With Democratic Sen. Michael Bennet On A Smaller Version Of A Child Tax Credit Expansion. “A bid by Sens. Marco Rubio (R., Fla.) and Mike Lee (R., Utah) to expand the credit even further failed. It split Republicans, and most Democrats withheld their votes in favor of their own, larger proposal. [...] Democrats—led by Sens. Michael Bennet of Colorado and Sherrod Brown of Ohio, Rep. Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut and Ms. DelBene—have been building support for their plan for years. Most House and Senate Democrats have endorsed it and Mr. Bennet has worked with Sen. Mitt Romney (R., Utah) on a smaller version.” [The Wall Street Journal, [11/18/20](#)]

The Bennet-Romney Plan Would “Expand and Reform Child Tax Credits.” [Office Of Senator Romney, [12/15/19](#)]

At Least 40 Senate Republicans Have Previously Supported Efforts To Expand The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

In December 2020, 39 Now-Sitting Republican Senators Voted For A Stimulus Package That Included Provision Expanding Access To EITC In Light Of Pandemic.

The Stimulus Package Passed In December 2020 Included An Adjustment To How “The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Are Calculated For The 2020 Tax Year” To Accommodate Changes In Income Due To The Pandemic That May Have Decreased Eligibility. “On December 27, 2020, President Donald Trump signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (H.R. 133) into law. [...] Adjustments to how the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) are calculated for the 2020 tax year. During the pandemic, many individuals eligible for those credits have earned lower incomes due to job loss or underemployment. This may reduce the credits they are eligible for when filing taxes next spring. This provision would use 2019 income to determine an individual’s credit eligibility for the 2020 tax year.” [Tax Foundation, [12/21/20](#)]

- **39 Currently Sitting Republican Senators Voted In Favor Of H.R. 133.** Senators Barrasso (R-WY), Blunt (R-MO), Boozman (R-AR), Braun (R-IN), Burr (R-NC), Capito (R-WV), Cassidy (R-LA), Collins (R-ME), Cornyn (R-TX), Cotton (R-AR), Cramer (R-ND), Crapo (R-ID), Daines (R-MT), Ernst (R-IA), Fischer (R-NE), Graham (R-SC), Grassley (R-IA), Hawley (R-MO), Hoeven (R-ND), Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Inhofe (R-OK), Kennedy (R-LA), Lankford (R-OK), McConnell (R-KY), Moran (R-KS), Murkowski (R-AK), Portman (R-OH), Risch (R-ID), Romney (R-UT), Rubio (R-FL), Sasse (R-NE), Scott (R-SC), Shelby (R-AL), Sullivan (R-AK), Thune (R-SD), Tillis (R-NC), Toomey (R-PA), Wicker (R-MS), and Young (R-IN) voted in favor of H.R. 133. [U.S. Senate, [12/21/20](#)]

In 2016, Ted Cruz Said He Wanted “To ‘Expand’ And ‘Modernize’” EITC.

In 2016, Ted Cruz Said “He Wants To ‘Expand’ And ‘Modernize’ The Earned Income Tax Credit.” “Now here’s where things get a little ambiguous. Theoretically, Cruz has a proposal to deal with all these issues. The candidate says he wants to ‘expand’ and ‘modernize’ the Earned Income Tax Credit, which boosts after-tax earnings for low-wage workers, and could offset the the VAT’s erosive effect on their wages. Unfortunately, the public version of Cruz’s tax plan doesn’t offer any further detail, so the Tax Policy Center assumes he won’t actually increase the credit. The Tax Foundation, on the other hand, says Cruz is going to boost the EITC by 20 percent, which would more than make up for the VAT.” [Slate, 02/16/16]