

# Eli Lilly Gave \$32,500 To The Sedition Caucus After Claiming It Would Only Support Lawmakers Who "Respect For Our Democratic Process And Institutions"

**SUMMARY:** So far in 2021, Eli Lilly has given \$32,500 to the Sedition Caucus despite claiming it would stop contributions to members of Congress who voted against certifying the 2020 presidential election and only support those who have "[respect for our democratic process and institutions](#)."

Eli Lilly also has a mixed record on supporting democracy in the wave of voter restrictions that state-level Republicans advanced following the 2020 election:

- Eli Lilly was among a slew of corporations who have at least one top executive that [spoke out](#) against Georgia's "[sweeping](#)" restrictive voting bill—although it has given [\\$4,300](#) to the state's Governor Brian Kemp, who [signed](#) the restrictions into law.
- Eli Lilly's Senior Vice President said the company believed a proposed Indiana voter restriction bill would "[perpetuate the narrative that the 2020 election outcome was flawed or compromised](#)."

Additionally, Eli Lilly's donations to the Sedition Caucus may have also been influenced by the fact that its [former US President](#), Alex Azar, served as Trump's Secretary of Health and Human Services from [2018 to 2021](#), and [reaped millions from the company](#) as he transitioned to the Trump administration.

## Eli Lilly Has Given \$32,500 To The Sedition Caucus In 2021 After It Claimed It Would Stop Donations To Public Officials That Voted Against Certifying The Election Or Anyone Who Contributed To The Events Of January 6.

### So Far In 2021, Eli Lilly Has Given \$32,500 To The Sedition Caucus.

Eli Lilly Has Given \$32,500 To The Sedition Caucus, In 2021.

PAC	Member	Amount	Date
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Jackie Walorski (IN-2)	\$5,000	07/26/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Jim Baird (IN-4)	\$2,500	10/08/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Kevin McCarthy (CA-23)	\$2,500	07/26/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Richard Hudson (NC-8)	\$3,000	07/21/21; 11/15/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Mike Kelly (PA-16)	\$2,500	09/22/21; 11/01/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Buddy Carter (GA-1)	\$2,500	11/15/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Lloyd Smucker (PA-11)	\$2,500	11/01/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Greg Pence (IN-6)	\$2,500	11/15/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Markwayne Mullin (OK-2)	\$1,000	09/22/21

Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Adrian Smith (NE-3)	\$2,000	10/08/21; 11/01/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Jason Smith (MO-8)	\$1,000	09/22/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Gary Palmer (AL-6)	\$1,000	11/15/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Neal Dunn (FL-2)	\$1,000	11/15/21
Eli Lilly and Company Political Action Committee	Jodey Arrington (TX-19)	\$1,000	09/22/21
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$32,500</b>	

[Accountable.US, Corporate Donations Tracker, accessed [12/21/21](#)]

**Eli Lilly Is An Indiana-Based Pharmaceutical Company With More Than 34,000 Employees Worldwide.**  
[Lilly.com, Accessed [11/15/21](#)]

**Eli Lilly Announced It Would Stop Donations To Public Officials Who Voted Against Certifying The Election Or Anyone Who Contributed To The Events Of January 6, Saying The Corporation Expected The Candidates It Supported To “Demonstrate Respect For People And Respect For Our Democratic Process And Institutions.”**

**HEADLINE: “Drug Lobby, Eli Lilly Freeze Donations To GOP Election Deniers.”** [Bloomberg Law, [1/13/21](#)]

**Eli Lilly’s PAC Decided To Stop Contributing To Members Of Congress Who Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election.** “The political arm of Indianapolis-based Eli Lilly has decided to stop contributing to the campaigns of those who voted against certifying the Electoral College results last week, including four members of Indiana’s congressional delegation.” [Indianapolis Star, [1/13/21](#)]

**Eli Lilly And Co. Suspended Donations To Four Indiana Members Of Congress, Where The Corporation Is Based, After They Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election Results.** “Eli Lilly and Co. has suspended political contributions to four Indiana members of Congress who voted last week against certifying the Electoral College results. Several other Indiana companies also say they are suspending contributions to all candidates or are taking a close look at the matter.” [Indianapolis Business Journal, [1/13/21](#)]

**Eli Lilly Spokesperson Bradley Jacklin Said LillyPAC Expected The Candidates It Supported To “Demonstrate Respect For People And Respect For Our Democratic Process And Institutions.”**  
“Bradley Jacklin, a spokesman for Eli Lilly, said LillyPAC only supports candidates that share Eli Lilly’s values. ‘While we support candidates from both parties with a variety of political views, we expect any candidate we support to demonstrate respect for people and respect for our democratic process and institutions,’ Jacklin said. ‘This certainly covers anyone who promoted violence or sedition that contributed to the appalling events on January 6th or who continues to support violence to disrupt the peaceful transfer of power our democracy is founded upon.’” [Indianapolis Star, [1/13/21](#)]

- **Eli Lilly Said This Expectation Extended To “Anyone Who Promoted Violence Or Sedition That Contributed To The Appalling Events On January 6th Or Who Continues To Support Violence To Disrupt The Peaceful Transfer Of Power.”** “‘While we support candidates from both parties with a variety of political views, we expect any candidate we support to demonstrate respect for people and respect for our democratic process and institutions,’ the company said in a statement. ‘This certainly covers anyone who promoted violence or sedition that contributed to the appalling events on January 6th or who continues to support violence to disrupt the peaceful transfer of power our democracy is founded upon. As such, LillyPAC will suspend political giving to those who voted against certification of the 2020 election results,’ the company said.” [Bloomberg Law, [1/13/21](#)]

## **Eli Lilly Spoke Out Against Restrictive Voting Bills In Indiana And Georgia, Where A "Sweeping" Voter Suppression Bill Was Signed Into Law By Gov. Brian Kemp, Who Has Taken \$4,300 From Eli Lilly.**

### **Eli Lilly's Senior Vice President Said The Company Believed A Proposed Indiana Bill To Require Voter ID For Mail-In Voting Would "Perpetuate The Narrative That The 2020 Election Outcome Was Flawed Or Compromised."**

**Eli Lilly Criticized An Indiana Proposal To Make Voting By Mail Harder By Having Similar Voter ID Requirements For Mail Voting As The State Requires For In-Person Voting.** "One of Indiana's most prominent corporations is criticizing an Indiana proposal that opponents maintain will make mail-in voting more difficult by requiring voters to submit identification numbers with their ballot applications. The bill's Republican sponsors say the proposal is aimed at preventing voter fraud by having similar voter ID requirements for mail voting as the state requires of people casting ballots in-person at polling sites. Eli Lilly and Co. senior vice president Stephen Fry told a legislative committee Tuesday that the company believed the bill wasn't needed and will 'perpetuate the narrative that the 2020 election outcome was flawed or compromised.'" [WVPE, [4/6/21](#)]

**Eli Lilly And Co. Senior Vice President Stephen Fry Said The Company Believed The Bill "Perpetuate The Narrative That The 2020 Election Outcome Was Flawed Or Compromised."** "One of Indiana's most prominent corporations is criticizing an Indiana proposal that opponents maintain will make mail-in voting more difficult by requiring voters to submit identification numbers with their ballot applications. The bill's Republican sponsors say the proposal is aimed at preventing voter fraud by having similar voter ID requirements for mail voting as the state requires of people casting ballots in-person at polling sites. Eli Lilly and Co. senior vice president Stephen Fry told a legislative committee Tuesday that the company believed the bill wasn't needed and will 'perpetuate the narrative that the 2020 election outcome was flawed or compromised.'" [WVPE, [4/6/21](#)]

### **Eli Lilly Was Among A Slew Of Corporations Who Have At Least One Top Executive That Spoke Out Against Georgia's "Sweeping" Restrictive Voting Bill—Although It Has Given \$4,300 To The State's Governor Brian Kemp, Who Signed The Restrictions Into Law.**

**After A New Restrictive Voting Bill Was Signed Into Law In Georgia, Eli Lilly Was Among A Slew Of Companies That Had At Least One Top Executive That Publicly Opposed The Georgia Bill.** "A growing number of companies and top executives are blasting a new election law in Georgia that some critics have assailed as a concerted effort to suppress minority voters. [...] The following companies have at least one top executive who has publicly opposed the Georgia law. [...] Eli Lilly and Company." [The Hill, [4/2/21](#)]

**Georgia's "Sweeping" Voting Restrictions Were Criticized For Creating "Longer Lines, Partisan Control Of Elections And More Difficult Procedures For Voters."** "Republican Gov. Brian Kemp on Thursday signed into law a sweeping voting measure that proponents said is necessary to shore up confidence in the state's elections but that critics countered will lead to longer lines, partisan control of elections and more difficult procedures for voters trying to cast their ballots by mail." [The Washington Post, [03/25/21](#)]

**Voting Rights Advocates Have Dubbed Georgia's Voter Restrictions "Jim Crow 2.0" Because It Blocks Ballot Access Via "Legal Maneuvering And Political Schemes" In The Same Way The Original Jim Crow Laws Did.** "The long struggle to block access to the ballot has always relied on legal maneuvering and political schemes to achieve what bullets and bombs alone could not. What legislators in Georgia and across the country have reminded us is that backlash to expanded voting rights has often arrived by a method that our eras have in common: by laws, like Georgia's Senate Bill 202, passed by elected politicians. Opponents of the new Georgia law denounce the legislation as 'Jim Crow 2.0' precisely because they recognize the continuities between past and present." [The New York Times, [03/31/21](#)]

**Eli Lilly Has Given \$4,300 To Georgia Governor Brian Kemp.** [FollowTheMoney.org, accessed [11/29/21](#)]

**Georgia Governor Brian Kemp Signed Georgia's Voter Restrictions Into Law.** “Corporate America has, once again, found itself in the crosshairs of politics with the passage of Georgia’s restrictive new voting law, which was signed by Gov. Brian Kemp last week. The bill, known as SB 202, will increase voting restrictions for Georgians by requiring identification for mail-in ballots, shrinking the window for early and absentee voting, limiting the number of ballot drop boxes, banning the provision of food and water to voters waiting in line, and shifting control over local election rules to the state legislature, among other changes.” [Vox, [04/05/21](#)]

## **Eli Lilly Has Connections To The Trump Administration Through Former Lilly USA President Alex Azar, Who Served As Secretary Of Health And Human Services From 2018 To 2021.**

### **Lilly USA’s Former President Alex Azar Served As Trump's Secretary Of The Department Of Health And Human Services After Receiving Millions Of Dollars From Eli Lilly During And After His Departure.**

**Former Trump Health And Human Services Secretary Alex Azar Was Lilly USA's President Until January 2017.** “President Donald Trump on Monday announced he is nominating Alex Azar, a former pharmaceutical company executive and George W. Bush administration official, to succeed Tom Price as the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. In tweeting the announcement, Trump called Azar a ‘star for better healthcare and lower drug prices.’” [CNN, [11/13/17](#)]

- **Azar Was President Of Lilly USA From 2012 To January 2017.** "He previously served as HHS general counsel and deputy secretary for President George W. Bush. Following his time with the administration, he worked for pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly & Co. and became president of Lilly USA in 2012. As part of his role at Lilly USA, Azar was on the board of directors for the Boards of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), a drug lobbying group. He left Lilly USA and BIO in January." [CNN, [11/13/17](#)]
- **Trump Called Azar A “Star For Better Healthcare And Lower Drug Prices.”** “President Donald Trump on Monday announced he is nominating Alex Azar, a former pharmaceutical company executive and George W. Bush administration official, to succeed Tom Price as the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. In tweeting the announcement, Trump called Azar a ‘star for better healthcare and lower drug prices.’” [CNN, [11/13/17](#)]
- **Azar Was Trump's Health And Human Services Secretary From 2018 To 2021.** "In June 2007, Azar was hired by Eli Lilly, a leading pharmaceutical firm. And from 2012-2017, he headed the U.S. division. In his position as health secretary from 2018-2021." [University of Miami, [08/04/21](#)]

**After He Was Nominated To Serve As The Secretary Of The Department Of Health And Human Services Under Trump, Azar Received \$1.6 Million In Severance From Eli Lilly And Made As Much As \$1 Million From His Sale Of His Eli Lilly Stock.** “President Donald Trump's pick for secretary of Health and Human Services collected nearly \$2 million in compensation during his final year as president of drug giant Eli Lilly's U.S. operations, new public financial disclosures show. Alex Azar, who left the company in January, also pocketed \$1.6 million in severance connected to his departure — and more recently made as much as \$1 million from his sale of Eli Lilly stock.” [Politico, [11/20/17](#)]

- **Azar Also Received More Than \$700,000 From Eli Lilly After His Departure In “Assorted Payouts” That Ranged From “Compensation For Unused Vacation Time To An Employer Match For His Savings Plan.”** “Those combined earnings don't include the more than \$700,000 that Azar received in assorted payouts at the end of his tenure, ranging from compensation for unused vacation time to an employer match for his savings plan.” [Politico, [11/20/17](#)]