



Derrick Van Orden

Republican Incumbent in
Wisconsin's 3rd Congressional District

Online Research Book – 2024

Last Updated September 2024

Prepared by the DCCC Research Department



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Key Findings

Van Orden Is A Danger To Wisconsin's Agriculture, Health Care, Retirement, And Worker Safety, Supported Policies That Hurt Veterans, And Couldn't Deliver For Wisconsin

Van Orden prioritized wealthy and large corporations over Wisconsin dairy farmers. Van Orden prioritized the wealthy and big corporations over Wisconsin dairy farmers. He said “The wealthiest people I know are some of the hardest working people I know.” Wisconsin Farmers Union President Darin Von Ruden said Van Orden “chooses big corporations over Wisconsin dairy farmers” and he “did not include amendments to support small farms in the Farm Bill or stand up to big corporations.” Making matters worse, Van Orden failed to deliver a Farm Bill that worked for Wisconsin’s farmers and families. House Republicans in 2023 and 2024 have failed to get a Farm Bill signed into law or even passed by the House, which has created uncertainty for farmers since the existing Farm Bill expired on September 30, 2023. Van Orden undermined Wisconsin farmers by comparing agriculture exports to China that Wisconsin farmers depended on to “feeding Nazi Germany in 1938,” even though in 2023, Wisconsin exported \$324 million of agricultural products to China, the third most of any country. Van Orden’s criticism of the Chinese Communist Party rings hollow, though, given that from March 2023 to February 2024, he took \$5,000 from Syngenta, a state-owned Chinese company.

Van Orden and his allies threatened Wisconsin's access to health care. Van Orden wanted to remove “the last vestiges of the disastrous Obama Care,” even though more than 290,000 non-elderly people in Wisconsin’s Third District with preexisting conditions would be at risk of losing health coverage without the Affordable Care Act. Van Orden also opposed the American Rescue Plan Act, even though it helped 74,000 Wisconsin residents, including 10,000 residents in the Third District, enroll in Affordable Care Act plans and spent \$400 million improving the health of people in Wisconsin. Van Orden also undermined health care by strongly supporting House Republicans’ continuing resolution, which would have made 29.9% cuts nearly across the board, reducing 13,000 research grants for the National Institutes of Health, threatening efforts to find treatments and cures for cancer and Alzheimer’s, and would have cut resources for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline by 38%, which helped people struggling with mental health and opioid use disorders. Finally, after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on a question upholding a Trump Administration rule that would let employers “opt out of birth control coverage,” Van Orden said, “We will work with [Trump] to protect our religious institutions from the gross government overreach forced on the American public by Obamacare.”

Van Orden cast votes threatening Wisconsin's infrastructure and opposed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, even though it provided billions of dollars for Wisconsin. After 13 House Republicans voted for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Van Orden said they had “voted themselves out of a job” and there was “absolutely no excuse,” opposing the bill. As of November 2023, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act had delivered \$5.6 billion to Wisconsin, investing in roads, bridges, broadband, water, infrastructure, and more, and secured more than \$49 million in Eau Claire County for construction and pavement replacement of the I-94/US 53 interchange to Mallard Road. The law delivered more than \$1 billion to Wisconsin to expand access to high-speed internet, including almost \$15 million for the Dairyland Power Cooperative to implement its Tri-State Fiber Deployment Project, and brought Wisconsin \$369 million to provide clean and safe water across the state and to improve water infrastructure. Van Orden undermined Wisconsin’s transportation safety and infrastructure by voting for the Default on America Act, which would have cut rail inspections, air traffic control towers and transit and highway infrastructure projects.

Van Orden consistently voted against and opposed measures to help seniors, like the Inflation Reduction Act, which capped insulin prices for tens of thousands of Wisconsin residents on Medicare and let Medicare negotiate lower drug prices. Van Orden supported ending federal social welfare programs and replacing them with charity. He introduced a plan that experts said would threaten Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Van

Orden claimed that Democrats' arguments that the Default on America Act would hurt seniors were misinformation and that there was "nothing extreme in there at all," even though it would have worsened Social Security and Medicare assistance wait times for 1.4 million Wisconsin seniors and cut Social Security Administration employees by more than half. Van Orden also strongly backed House Republicans' continuing resolution which could have forced 240 Social Security field offices to close or shorten hours and would have robbed 1 million seniors of Meals on Wheels. The continuing resolution contained 29.9% cuts nearly across the board and Van Orden criticized the 21 Republicans who "voted with every Democrat in the House" against it after it did not pass. Van Orden also opposed the Inflation Reduction Act, even though it capped insulin prices for tens of thousands of Wisconsinites on Medicare and let Medicare negotiate lower drug prices with drug companies.

Van Orden backed policies that would have hurt veterans. Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act, even though the Department of Veterans Affairs and approximately two dozen veterans' groups raised concerns over the impacts it would have on veterans. Van Orden claimed the VA was "fearmongering," that Democrats' arguments that it would hurt veterans were misinformation, and that there was "nothing extreme" in the bill. He inaccurately said that House Republicans were not cutting funds for veterans, but under House Republicans' legislation, the VA said it would face a 22% cut for fiscal year 2024 and be forced to cut staff and offer fewer medical treatments and job training services. However, Van Orden said if the VA or Transportation Secretaries want to "prioritize the bureaucracy over the safety of the rails or the medical care for our veterans, that's on them, not me." Van Orden also opposed legislation to help military spouses. Rep. Chris Deluzio introduced a bill to provide military spouses with employment protections similar to those of activated guard and reserve troops returning to civilian jobs. Surveys showed that military spouses had an unemployment rate above 20% for more than 10 years, and the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States backed Deluzio's bill. However, Van Orden asked about potential waste, fraud, and abuse and said, "we have to balance fiscal responsibility with also making sure the civil liberties of individual companies are not violated." Van Orden backed Republicans' partisan Military Construction, Veterans Affairs funding bill, which made cuts to military construction by \$1.5 billion.

Van Orden supported massive cuts to programs children and their families relied upon. Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act, which was bad for Wisconsin families and would take away Head Start slots, access to childcare, and rental assistance. He also voted for a continuing resolution with nearly 30% cuts across the board and criticized 21 Republicans who "voted with every Democrat in the House" against it, even though it would have cut key programs that children and their families relied upon. Those cuts would have led to 290,000 children losing access to Head Start, less food for children, families, and seniors, increased food prices by threatening food safety and supply, 250,000 children losing access to childcare, 3.2 million women, infants, and children losing nutrition assistance through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children and a 74% cut to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which nearly 195,000 Wisconsinites used to heat their homes during the winter. Van Orden also agreed with someone who called the American Rescue Plan Act's child tax credit "bullshit," even though it cut child poverty almost in half; the bill also supported childcare for up to 289,000 Wisconsin children.

Van Orden cast votes that threatened public safety. Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act, which cut \$17 billion in funding for public safety, threatened nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs and cut nearly \$1 billion in grants for state and local law enforcement. He also voted for a continuing resolution with 29.9% cuts nearly across the board and criticized 21 Republicans who "voted with every Democrat in the House" against Republicans' continuing resolution. However, the continuing resolution would have defunded the police by cutting nearly 1,000 ATF agents, 12,500 FBI personnel (including agents), 2,215 prosecutors, and 500 local law enforcement members.

In January 2024, Van Orden voted to shut down the government, which would have had devastating consequences for Wisconsinites. In January 2024, Van Orden voted against a continuing resolution to keep the government open, even though a government shutdown would have forced American troops and law enforcement officers to stay on the job without being paid and potentially curtail military recruiting and training. In September 2023, the Department of Homeland Security said 72% of its workforce would have to work without pay if the government shutdown, including 19,000 border patrol agents and 25,000 field operations officers.

Van Orden used the border as a political football and did nothing to improve the situation. Van Orden had a chance to help pass what would have been the strongest border legislation ever, but said that he would “have no part of it,” even though passing the bipartisan Senate border bill would improve the asylum screening standard to “ensure that only migrants with legitimate asylum claims” are approved, give the Secretary of Homeland Security the right to determine eligibility of parole “on a case-by-case basis,” create “a new removal authority” out of courts to remove illegal immigrants, close loopholes found in parole, and end “catch-and-release.” Ultimately, Republicans backed out of the bipartisan border security bill at Trump’s request. Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act, which cut billions from Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Van Orden was an anti-choice extremist. In 2020, Van Orden opposed exceptions to abortion bans for victims of rape or incest. He backed the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* and said that life began at conception, a principle that was commonly understood to ban abortion with no exceptions. He voted for appropriations bills with anti-choice riders. Van Orden said, “My first job is to make sure I do everything I can to defund Planned Parenthood and other associated organizations,” and “I’m 100% pro-life and if I get a 0% rating from Planned Parenthood and a 0% rating from NARAL I’ve run a successful political campaign.”

Van Orden consistently opposed labor. In 2023, Van Orden had a 10% score on the AFL-CIO’s key vote scorecard – some of those key votes included backing the CHOICE Arrangement Act, which would roll back basic health protections for workers, the REINS Act, which would cause delays in issuing crucial worker protections, and the “Separation of Powers Restoration Act Of 2023,” which “could jeopardize public health, safety and financial security.”

Van Orden opposed helping cities, towns, and small businesses throughout Wisconsin through the American Rescue Plan Act, even though a consulting firm he co-owned received hundreds of thousands of dollars in federal COVID-19 relief. Van Orden opposed the American Rescue Plan Act, which sent billions of dollars to Wisconsin, \$21 million to La Crosse, \$13 million to Eau Claire, and \$2 million to Onalaska. In 2020 and 2021, Van Orden listed himself as a co-owner of JIC Global, a New Mexico-based consulting firm that received COVID-19 relief dollars. JIC Global held two purchase order contracts with the Department of Health and Human Services worth nearly \$830,000, more than \$500,000 of which was obligated through federal COVID-19 relief spending. Van Orden was also previously criticized for attacking COVID-19 relief after a nonprofit organization he worked with received \$170,000 in aid.

Van Orden was a lackey for Kevin McCarthy, Mike Johnson, and House Republican leadership. From 2020 to 2023, Kevin McCarthy’s leadership PAC gave Van Orden’s campaign \$30,000 and McCarthy’s campaign gave Van Orden’s campaign \$2,000. From 2022 to 2024, Mike Johnson’s American Revival PAC gave Van Orden for Congress \$10,000 and Mike Johnson for Louisiana gave Van Orden for Congress \$4,000. Van Orden frequently attacked Matt Gaetz over his opposition to Kevin McCarthy, calling Gaetz a “little bitch” and “tubby,” as Van Orden angrily lashed out at Republicans who voted to oust Kevin McCarthy.

Van Orden Is An Extremist, Insurrectionist, And Demagogue Who Has Repeatedly Acted In A Manner Unbecoming Of A Member Of Congress

Van Orden used campaign funds to travel to Washington, DC, on the day of the January 6th Insurrection, where he was on Capitol grounds despite claiming he never did. Van Orden traveled to Washington, DC, for the “Stop The Steal Rally” and while he claimed to have never entered Capitol grounds, a photograph from January 6th showed Van Orden wearing earbuds and standing on a wall on Capitol grounds, which was inside of the restricted area. Michael Fanone, a retired Metropolitan Police officer who suffered life-threatening injuries when he protected the Capitol on January 6th said of Van Orden: “The fact that he’s a member of the United States Congress is a personal affront to me, because of the fact that he was there on Jan. 6.” Van Orden used campaign funds to pay for roughly \$4,000 in transportation and hotel costs around January 6th for himself, his wife, and a campaign staffer,

even though he had not yet launched a 2022 campaign. An FEC complaint was filed over his use of campaign funds as FEC regulations stated that travel expenses must be “directly related to the campaign,” and he was not a candidate at that time. Van Orden said that the Daily Beast’s reporting of his use of campaign funds was “inaccurate” but refused to elaborate. After the January 6th insurrection, Van Orden penned an op-ed both condemning the violence and defending his actions that day. In 2023, Van Orden said he regretted attending the January 6th Stop the Steal rally, but doubled down on baseless claims about the 2020 election. Van Orden also dismissed the January 6th Committee to investigate the insurrection as “political theater” that “abused the committee process for political gain,” even though the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol was formed after Republican leaders rejected the chance to form a bipartisan commission. Van Orden continued to amplify election denialism about more than a year after Biden was elected. In December 2023, Van Orden told Scott Presler, who organized “Stop the Steal” rallies, was present on Capitol grounds during the insurrection, and dismissed the insurrection as a “civil rights protest,” that “We need you here in WI!” After the January 6th Insurrection, Van Orden accused the media of lying about what caused officer Brian Sicknick’s death. In October 2023, Van Orden voted twice to elect Jim Jordan to be Speaker of the House, even though he promoted the Big Lie in Congress and sought to overturn the results of the 2020 election. In 2021, Van Orden received \$500 from Robert Spindell, a fake elector in Wisconsin and later conceded that his actions were “part of an attempt to improperly overturn the 2020 Presidential election results.” After previously spreading disinformation about the 2020 election, Van Orden admitted that early voting was secure. Van Orden supported the ACE Act, which would relax regulations on party committees, shield donor requirements, and try to push states to make voter ID laws. Lastly, Van Orden said that the Wisconsin Elections Commission “needs to go away.”

Van Orden had a long history of ugly confrontations, including more than one involving young people. House Rule XXIII requires members to conduct themselves “at all times in a manner that shall reflect creditably on the House” and that they “adhere to the spirit and the letter of the rules of the House.” As a Congressman, Van Orden swore at U.S. Senate pages who “were lying on their backs in the Capitol Rotunda taking pictures of the building’s dome during their final week at work,” for which he was rebuked by Mitch McConnell and Chuck Schumer in Senate floor speeches. Senate pages were typically teenagers nominated by their home state Senators deliver correspondence, among other tasks. Rep. Pocan said after screaming at Senate pages, Van Orden gave a celebratory bow to the group he was giving a tour to, “like he’s singing an opera.” Van Orden defended his behavior, claiming that they were “acting in a manner not commiserate with the space.” Bottles of alcohol were photographed in Van Orden’s office the same night he swore at the Senate pages, which he claimed were from a gathering with constituents. In July 2024, Van Orden said everyone “but Senate pages” loved his tours of the Capitol at night. In June 2021, when Van Orden was a candidate, he made library staff, including a 17-year-old, feel threatened when he “aggressively” questioned a display in the children’s library section at the Prairie Du Chien Memorial Library celebrating Pride Month and then checked out all but one of the books displayed. The 17-year-old library staffer said she felt threatened and unsafe at work after Van Orden’s outburst, which she described as “very uncomfortable, threatening” and “full on shouting.” Staff said that Van Orden “demanded” to know who set up the displays so that he could “teach them a lesson.”

Van Orden may have sexually harassed a colleague in the military. In his 2015 book, Van Orden bragged about “exposing a man’s genitals to two female officers,” behavior that was sexual harassment. Van Orden wrote that he spotted two young “cute girls,” had them come over, then whipped back a curtain that was covering a lieutenant’s enlarged scrotum, which made them gasp “in horror.” Ellen Haring, a retired Army Colonel, West Point graduate, and professor who specialized in research on women and gender in the military, said Van Orden was immature, problematic, childish, demeaning, and ignorant, but she would not call it sexual harassment if they were medical staff, as Van Orden claimed. However, she said that if Van Orden did this to two random women who had just happened to be there, it would be sexual harassment and added that Van Orden referring to the female officers, who were his superiors, as “cute girls” was problematic and “ridiculously demeaning.” Van Orden wrote that he would not entertain a discussion on how his book could “be construed as misogynistic” and noted he was raised by a single mother.

Van Orden had antiquated views on gender roles. Van Orden said that the “different gender role models that have been erased throughout our nations” starting in the 70s and late 60s had “been a disservice.” He also indicated

that he would prefer to have a society in which women stayed at home with their children, criticized opening SEAL training to women as a “political decision based on a crappy study,” and said women having children would cause them to need two-year breaks from their service in the military.

Van Orden repeatedly engaged in offensive behavior. Van Orden made multiple insensitive comments about the Holocaust. He tweeted a Nazi reference to a Jewish political figure and compared Democrats to “the most oppressive and criminal regimes in world history.” Van Orden made other offensive comments about the Holocaust, including calling a job posting to “pull ‘stunts’” in his congressional race to “Nazi Brown Shirts and Chinese Communist Party members.” Van Orden also called Jen Psaki “Madam Goebbels,” and doubled down when someone said it was “horrendous” of him to do so, saying “I know exactly what I am talking about.” Van Orden has also fearmongered over Afghan refugees who risked their lives to support American troops when he claimed the State Department did not give information on resettling refugees in Eau Claire and said he would not support their resettlement if he did not get the information. Van Orden even introduced a bill to let state and local governments reject federal refugee resettlements. Van Orden cozied up to Scott Presler, when he said “We need you here in WI!” However, Presler was a lead strategist for an anti-Muslim “extreme hate group,” which was the largest anti-Muslim organization in the United States and made at least 50 QAnon related social media posts.

Van Orden’s behavior made it difficult for him to represent all Wisconsinites in his district and deliver for his constituents. On one occasion, Van Orden personally attacked, asked for his home address, and threatened to publish the public information of someone who criticized him unless he stopped his “Stalinist practices.” A Republican lawmaker said Van Orden’s behavior “was threatening everyone” when other House Republicans considered ousting Speaker Mike Johnson. Another time, Van Orden suggested that former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley be tried for treason. After Trump was convicted on 34 counts in his New York trial and became a convicted felon, Van Orden posted an edited image of the American flag with a hammer and sickle and said “the Democratic Party has just put the United States on the same level as Soviet Russia.” Van Orden behaved in an unbecoming matter other times, like when he refused to apologize for shouting “Lies!” at President Biden during his State of the Union address and joked about shaking “Adam Schiff like a bobblehead.” Van Orden personally attacked Rep. Ken Buck after Buck announced he would not run for another term in Congress, calling him a “self-righteous... slipknot” and said, “Don’t let the door hit you in the ass.”

Van Orden was fined for bringing a gun through an airport security checkpoint. Van Orden was cited for having a loaded 9mm Sig Sauer handgun in his bag at an airport security screening checkpoint. As a consequence, he was required to take a firearms safety course and pay a \$360 fine, while he was also fined an unknown amount by the Transportation Security Administration.

Van Orden was close with Marjorie Taylor Greene. Van Orden said that he and Marjorie Taylor Greene were “friends,” and he posted a video with Greene, joking about a Democratic member of Congress. They also appeared to have similar voting records; as of July 2023, Van Orden voted with Greene 91.4% of the time, and as of July 2024, he had voted with her 80% of the time, despite Greene’s continued troubling behavior. Greene spread theories that the Democratic Party was involved in a child sex ring, human trafficking, and organ harvesting. She supported conspiracy theories that the Democratic Party and its allies were involved in satanism and witchcraft and backed conspiracy theories that the Democratic Party, the Clintons, and President Obama arranged murders of political adversaries. Greene agreed with claims that the 2012 Sandy Hook shooting, the 2017 Las Vegas shooting, and the 2018 Parkland shooting were staged, and made repeated antisemitic statements. She also embraced Replacement Theory as well as the Camp Fire Laser Beam Conspiracy, which seemingly accused Rothschild Inc. and Gov. Jerry Brown of burning down the forest to clear the way for high-speed rail or beaming power back to earth from solar stations in space. On top of that, she posted a YouTube video in which she questioned whether a plane really flew into the Pentagon on September 11th, 2001.

Thematics

Van Orden Is A Danger To Wisconsin's Agriculture, Health Care, Retirement, And Worker Safety, Supported Policies That Hurt Veterans, And Couldn't Deliver For Wisconsin

Significant Findings

Van Orden Prioritized Wealth And Big Corporations Over Wisconsin Dairy Farmers

- ✓ Van Orden prioritized wealthy and big corporations over Wisconsin dairy farmers.
- ✓ Van Orden: “The wealthiest people I know are some of the hardest working people I know.”
- ✓ Wisconsin Farmers Union President Darin Von Ruden: “Derrick Van Orden chooses big corporations over Wisconsin dairy farmers,” and he “did not include amendments to support small farms in the Farm Bill or stand up to big corporations.”
- ✓ Van Orden opposed cracking down on child labor, while he took \$7,500 from the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association.
 - ✓ Van Orden helped kill an amendment during the Farm Bill markup to crack down on illegal child labor.
 - ✓ 2023-2024: The National Cattlemen's Beef Association Political Action Committee donated \$7,500 to Van Orden for Congress.
- ✓ Van Orden failed to deliver a Farm Bill that worked for Wisconsin’s farmers and families.
 - ✓ 1930s-present: Congress enacted 18 different Farm Bills, typically around every five years, which provided opportunities to address agricultural and food issues.

2023-2024: House Republicans failed to get a Farm Bill signed into law or even passed by the House, creating uncertainty for agriculture and nutrition programs when the current Farm Bill expired on September 30, 2023.
- ✓ Van Orden compared agriculture exports that Wisconsin farmers depended on to “feeding Nazi Germany in 1938.”
 - ✓ Van Orden compared agriculture exports to China with “feeding Nazi Germany in 1938.”
 - ✓ 2023: Wisconsin exported \$324 million of agricultural products to China, the third most of any country.
- ✓ When Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act, he voted for massive cuts to dairy subsidies, Meals on Wheels, and SNAP.
 - ✓ April 2023: Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act.

- ✓ The Default on America Act had massive cuts to dairy subsidies and Meals on Wheels, even though Wisconsin received as much as \$263,830,000 from the Dairy Margin Coverage Program in 2021 and more than 25% of funds issued nationally in 2022.
 - ✓ Rep. Pocan: Van Orden “voted to force a draconian 22% cut on government programs and services, like Meals on Wheels, vital dairy subsidies.”
 - ✓ 2021: Wisconsin received approximately \$263,830,000 in payments from the Dairy Margin Coverage Program, around 23% of the approximately \$1,148,359,000 issued nationally.
 - ✓ 2022: Wisconsin received approximately \$32,503,000 in payments from the Dairy Margin Coverage Program, around 25.6% of the approximately \$127,121,000 issued nationally.
- ✓ Van Orden claimed to be worried about China buying farmland but took money from Syngenta, a Chinese agricultural company which was the world’s largest producer of agricultural chemicals.
 - ✓ Van Orden said that “China runs concentration camps and ignores blatant sex slavery,” called for sanctions on China and called to hold the Chinese Communist Party accountable for China’s ownership of American agricultural lands.
 - ✓ March 2023-February 2024: Van Orden took \$5,000 from Syngenta, which was owned by a Chinese State Enterprise.
 - ✓ March 2023-February 2024: Van Orden took \$5,000 from Syngenta.

Van Orden And His Allies Threatened Wisconsinites’ Access To Health Care

- ✓ Van Orden wanted to remove “the last vestiges of the disastrous Obama Care.”
 - ✓ More than 290,000 non-elderly people in Wisconsin’s Third District had a preexisting condition and would be at risk of losing health coverage without the Affordable Care Act.
 - ✓ Urban Institute: 431,000 Wisconsinites would have lost their health insurance coverage in 2019 if the Affordable Care Act had been repealed.
 - ✓ 2023: 213,000 Wisconsinites had Affordable Care Act-related coverage.
- ✓ Van Orden opposed legislation that helped 74,000 Wisconsinites, including 10,000 residents of the Third District, enroll in Affordable Care Act plans.
 - ✓ Van Orden opposed the American Rescue Plan Act.
 - ✓ The American Rescue Plan Act helped 74,000 Wisconsinites access health insurance and spent \$400 million improving the health of Wisconsinites.
- ✓ House Republicans’ continuing resolution, which Van Orden strongly supported, would have reduced 13,000 research grants for the National Institutes of Health, threatening efforts to find treatments and cures for cancer and Alzheimer’s and cut resources for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline by 38%.
 - ✓ Van Orden voted for a continuing resolution that would have made 29.9% cuts nearly across the board and lamented the fact that it did not pass.

- ✓ September 2023: Van Orden criticized 21 Republicans who “voted with every Democrat in the House” against Republicans’ continuing resolution.
- ✓ House Republicans’ continuing resolution would have reduced 13,000 research grants for the National Institutes of Health, threatening efforts to find treatments and cures for cancer and Alzheimer’s.
- ✓ House Republicans’ continuing resolution would have cut resources for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline by 38%, which helped people struggling with mental health and opioid use disorders.
- ✓ July 2020: Van Orden twice tweeted in support of Donald Trump undermining the Affordable Care Act.
 - ✓ Van Orden said, “@realDonaldTrump again proved he stands up for men and women of faith. We will work with him to protect our religious institutions from the gross government overreach forced on the American public by Obamacare.”
 - ✓ Van Orden said, “Today, men and women of faith celebrate the supreme court ruling upholding the exemption to overbearing requirements enacted by Obamacare forcing religious institutions to act against their conscience. Thank you @realdonaldtrump for keeping your word.”
 - ✓ The U.S. Supreme Court ruling in question was upholding a Trump Administration rule that would let employers “opt out of birth control coverage.”

Van Orden Cast Votes Threatening Wisconsin’s Infrastructure And Opposed The Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act, Even Though It Provided Billions Of Dollars For Wisconsin

- ✓ Van Orden condemned House Republicans who voted for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, saying that they had “voted themselves out of a job” and there was “absolutely no excuse.”
 - ✓ 13 House Republicans voted for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
 - ✓ Van Orden condemned House Republicans who voted for the infrastructure bill, saying that they had “voted themselves out of a job” and there was “absolutely no excuse.”
- ✓ November 2023: The infrastructure law delivered \$5.6 billion to Wisconsin two years after its passage, investing in roads, bridges, broadband, water, infrastructure, and more.
 - ✓ The infrastructure law “secured \$3.4 billion for Wisconsin roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects,” including more than \$49 million in Eau Claire County for “I-94 from the I-94/US 53 interchange to Mallard Road for construction and pavement replacement.”
 - ✓ The infrastructure law delivered more than \$1 billion to Wisconsin to “expand access to high-speed internet,” including almost \$15 million for the Dairyland Power Cooperative to implement its Tri-State Fiber Deployment Project.
 - ✓ The infrastructure law brought \$369 million to provide “clean and safe water across” Wisconsin “and improve water infrastructure.”
- ✓ Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act, which would have hurt Wisconsin’s transportation safety and infrastructure.

- ✓ April 2023: Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act.
- ✓ The Default on America Act would have hurt Wisconsin's transportation safety and infrastructure by cutting rail inspections, air traffic control towers and transit and highway infrastructure projects.

Van Orden Consistently Voted To Hurt Seniors And Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Which Capped Insulin Prices For Tens Of Thousands Of Wisconsinites On Medicare And Let Medicare Negotiate Lower Drug Prices

- ✓ Van Orden supported ending federal social welfare programs and replacing them with charity and said that besides Social Security and "Medicaid for our elderly folks," there were "really not a lot of things that are sacrosanct" in the budget.
- ✓ Van Orden introduced a Balanced Budget Amendment, which experts said would threaten Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.
- ✓ 2023: Van Orden proposed a Balanced Budget Amendment, which would prohibit Congress from incurring more debts than revenue during each fiscal year and require a balanced budget in 10 years.
- ✓ Van Orden claimed that Democrats' arguments that the Default on America Act would hurt seniors were misinformation and that there was "nothing extreme in there at all," even though it in fact would have hurt Wisconsin seniors.
- ✓ Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act.
- ✓ The Default on America Act would have worsened Social Security and Medicare assistance wait times for 1.4 million Wisconsin seniors and cut Social Security Administration employees by more than half.
- ✓ House Republicans' continuing resolution, which Van Orden strongly backed, could have forced 240 Social Security field offices to close or shorten hours and would have robbed 1 million seniors of nutrition services.
- ✓ Van Orden voted for a continuing resolution that would have made 29.9% cuts nearly across the board and lamented the fact that it did not pass.
 - ✓ September 2023: Van Orden criticized 21 Republicans who "voted with every Democrat in the House" against Republicans' continuing resolution.
- ✓ House Republicans' continuing resolution could have closed or shortened the hours of 240 Social Security field offices and would have cut Meals on Wheels for more than 1 million seniors.
- ✓ Van Orden opposed the Inflation Reduction Act, which capped insulin prices for tens of thousands of Wisconsinites on Medicare and let Medicare negotiate lower prices with drug companies.
- ✓ Van Orden opposed the Inflation Reduction Act, dubbing it, "the Inflation Creation Act."
- ✓ The Inflation Reduction Act capped insulin prices for tens of thousands of Wisconsinites on Medicare.
- ✓ The Inflation Reduction Act let Medicare negotiate lower drug prices.

Van Orden Backed Policies That Would Have Hurt Veterans

- ✓ Van Orden backed the Default on America Act despite the concerns of approximately two dozen veterans' groups and claimed that the VA was "fearmongering with our veterans" after it raised concerns over the bill.
- ✓ Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act.
- ✓ The VA and approximately two dozen veterans' groups raised concerns over the impacts the Default on America Act would have on veterans.
- ✓ Van Orden: The VA was "fearmongering with our veterans."
- ✓ Van Orden claimed that Democrats' arguments that the Default on America Act would hurt veterans were misinformation and that there was "nothing extreme" in it.
- ✓ Van Orden inaccurately said that House Republicans were not cutting funds for veterans but that if they had worse medical care, it was on the VA Secretary and not himself.
 - ✓ Under House Republicans' legislation, the VA said that it would have to cut staff and offer fewer medical treatments and job training services.
 - ✓ The VA said it would face a 22% cut for fiscal year 2024.
 - ✓ Van Orden: If the VA or Transportation Secretaries want to "prioritize the bureaucracy over the safety of the rails or the medical care for our veterans, that's on them, not me."
- ✓ Van Orden opposed legislation to help military spouses.
 - ✓ Rep. Chris Deluzio introduced a bill to provide military spouses with employment protections similar to those of activated guard and reserve troops returning to civilian jobs.
 - ✓ Surveys showed that military spouses had an unemployment rate above 20% for more than 10 years.
 - ✓ The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States backed Deluzio's bill.
 - ✓ Van Orden had "deep reservations" about helping military spouses and said it was not the government's role to put mandates on companies when the spouses did not sign military contracts.
 - ✓ Van Orden asked about potential waste, fraud and abuse and said, "we have to balance fiscal responsibility with also making sure the civil liberties of individual companies are not violated."
- ✓ Van Orden backed Republicans' partisan Military Construction, Veterans Affairs funding bill which made cuts to military construction by \$1.5 billion and contained unrelated riders.

Van Orden Supported Massive Cuts To Programs Children And Their Families Rely Upon

- ✓ Van Orden supported the Default on America Act, which would have had devastating consequences for Wisconsin's children and families.
 - ✓ Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act.

- ✓ The Default on America Act was bad for Wisconsin families, taking away Head Start slots, access to childcare and rental assistance.

Van Orden backed and lamented the failure to pass a continuing resolution, which would have caused nearly 300,000 children to lose access to head start, 250,000 children to lose childcare, taken food away from children, families and seniors, caused food prices to raise by threatening food safety and supply and taken away heating assistance in winter.

- ✓ Van Orden voted for a continuing resolution that would have made 29.9% cuts nearly across the board and lamented the fact that it did not pass.
 - ✓ September 2023: Van Orden criticized 21 Republicans who “voted with every Democrat in the House” against Republicans’ continuing resolution.
- ✓ Republicans’ continuing resolution would have led to 290,000 children losing access to Head Start.
- ✓ Republicans’ continuing resolution would have taken food away from children, families and seniors, while causing food prices to raise by threatening food safety and supply.
- ✓ House Republicans’ continuing resolution would have caused 250,000 children to lose access to childcare, and 3.2 million women, infants and children would have lost nutrition assistance through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.
- ✓ House Republicans’ continuing resolution would have cut the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program by roughly 74%, gutting a program that nearly 195,000 Wisconsinites used to heat their homes during the winter.
- ✓ Van Orden agreed with someone who called the American Rescue Plan Act’s child tax credit “bullshit,” even though it cut child poverty almost in half; the bill also supported childcare for up to 289,000 Wisconsin children.
 - ✓ Van Orden opposed the American Rescue Plan Act.
 - ✓ Van Orden specifically opposed the American Rescue Plan Act’s child tax credit, even expressing agreement with someone who called it “bullshit.”
 - ✓ The child tax credit was projected to benefit an estimated 651,000 families, more than 1.1 million children in Wisconsin and led to a 46% decline in child poverty.
 - ✓ The American Rescue Plan supported 7,370 childcare programs and up to 289,000 children in Wisconsin.

Van Orden Cast Votes That Threatened Public Safety

- ✓ The Default on America Act, which Van Orden supported, would have harmed public safety.
- ✓ Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act.
- ✓ The Default on America Act cut \$17 billion in funding for public safety, threatened nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs and cut nearly \$1 billion in grants for state and local law enforcement.

- ✓ Van Orden backed House Republicans' continuing resolution, which would have defunded the police.
- ✓ Van Orden voted for a continuing resolution that would have made 29.9% cuts nearly across the board and lamented the fact that it did not pass.
- ✓ September 2023: Van Orden criticized 21 Republicans who "voted with every Democrat in the House" against Republicans' continuing resolution.
- ✓ House Republicans' continuing resolution would have cut nearly 1,000 ATF agents, 12,500 FBI personnel, including agents, 2,215 prosecutors and 500 members of local law enforcement.

January 2024: Van Orden Voted To Shut Down The Government, Which Would Have Had Devastating Consequences For Wisconsinites

- ✓ January 2024: Van Orden voted against a continuing resolution to keep government open.
- ✓ A government shutdown would have forced American troops and law enforcement officers to stay on the job without being paid and potentially curtailed military recruiting and training.
- ✓ September 2023: The Department of Homeland Security said 72% of its workforce would have to work without pay if the government shutdown, including 19,000 Border Patrol agents and 25,000 field operations officers.

Van Orden Used The Border As A Political Football And Did Nothing To Improve The Situation

- ✓ When Van Orden had a chance to help pass what would have been the strongest border legislation ever, he said he would "have no part of it."
- ✓ Van Orden said he would "have no part of" passing the bipartisan U.S. Senate border bill.
- ✓ The bipartisan border package would improve the asylum screening standard to "ensure that only migrants with legitimate asylum claims" are approved.
- ✓ The border package would give the Secretary of Homeland Security the right to determine eligibility of parole "on a case-by-case basis."
- ✓ The border package would end the current parole process by creating "a new removal authority" and closing loopholes.
 - ✓ The border package "creates a new removal authority" out of courts to remove illegal immigrants.
 - ✓ The border package would close loopholes found in parole by stopping the use of parole to enter at ports of entry or land borders.
- ✓ The bipartisan border security package would end catch-and-release.
- ✓ Republicans backed out of the bipartisan border security bill at Trump's request.
- ✓ The Default on America Act, which Van Orden supported, cut billions in funding from border security.

- ✓ Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act.
- ✓ The Default on American Act cut billions from Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Van Orden Was An Anti-Choice Extremist

- ✓ 2020: Van Orden opposed exceptions to abortion bans for victims of rape or incest.
- ✓ Van Orden backed the overturning of Roe v. Wade and said that life began at conception.
- ✓ Van Orden voted for appropriations bills with anti-choice riders.
- ✓ Van Orden said he would do everything he could to defund Planned Parenthood and he hoped to get a zero rating from it.
- ✓ Van Orden: “My first job is to make sure I do everything I can to defund Planned Parenthood and other associated organizations.”
- ✓ Van Orden: “I’m 100% pro-life and if I get a 0% rating from Planned Parenthood and a 0% rating from NARAL I’ve run a successful political campaign.”

Van Orden Consistently Opposed Labor

- ✓ 2023: Van Orden had a 10% score on the AFL-CIO’s key vote scorecard.
- ✓ June 2023: Van Orden voted for the CHOICE Arrangement Act, which would roll back basic health protections for workers.
- ✓ June 2023: Van Orden voted for the REINS Act, which would cause delays in issuing crucial worker protections.
- ✓ Van Orden voted for the “Separation of Powers Restoration Act Of 2023,” which “could jeopardize public health, safety and financial security.”

Van Orden Opposed Helping Cities, Towns, And Small Businesses Throughout Wisconsin Through The American Rescue Plan Act, Even Though A Consulting Firm He Co-Owned Received Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars In Federal COVID-19 Relief

- ✓ Van Orden opposed the American Rescue Plan Act.
- ✓ The American Rescue Plan Act sent billions of dollars to Wisconsin, \$21 million to La Crosse, \$13 million to Eau Claire and \$2 million to Onalaska.
- ✓ 2020-2021: Van Orden listed himself as a co-owner of JIC Global, a New Mexico-based consulting firm which received COVID relief dollars, but he did not report any income from the company.
- ✓ JIC Global held two purchase order contracts with the Department of Health and Human Services worth nearly \$830,000, over \$500,000 of which was obligated through federal COVID relief spending.

- ✓ Van Orden was previously criticized for attacking COVID relief after a nonprofit organization he worked with received \$170,000 in aid.

Van Orden Was A Lucky For Kevin McCarthy, Mike Johnson And House GOP Leadership

- ✓ 2020-2023: Van Orden received more than \$30,000 combined from McCarthy’s campaign committee and leadership PAC.
- ✓ 2020-2023: McCarthy’s leadership PAC gave Van Orden’s campaign \$30,000.
- ✓ June 2023: McCarthy’s campaign gave Van Orden’s campaign \$2,000.
- ✓ 2022-2024: Van Orden received \$14,000 combined from Mike Johnson’s campaign committee and leadership PAC.
- ✓ 2023-2024: Johnson’s American Revival PAC gave Van Orden for Congress \$10,000.
- ✓ 2022-2024: Mike Johnson for Louisiana gave Van Orden for Congress \$4,000.
- ✓ Van Orden frequently attacked Matt Gaetz over his opposition to Kevin McCarthy, calling Gaetz a “little bitch” and “tubby.”
- ✓ Van Orden angrily lashed out at Republicans who voted to oust Kevin McCarthy.

Van Orden Prioritized Wealth And Big Corporations Over Wisconsin Dairy Farmers

Van Orden Prioritized Wealthy And Big Corporations Over Wisconsin Dairy Farmers

Van Orden: “The Wealthiest People I Know Are Some Of The Hardest Working People I Know”

Van Orden: “The Wealthiest People I Know Are Some Of The Hardest Working People I Know.” VAN ORDEN: “People demonize businesspeople. I’m like, the hardest- I would say the wealthiest people I know are some of the hardest working people I know.” [Jocko Podcast via Listen Notes, 353: If You Have The Wherewithal To Do Things, Then You Should Do Things. Congressman Candidate (WI) Derrick Van Orden, 3:17:42, [9/28/22](#)] (AUDIO)

Wisconsin Farmers Union President Darin Von Ruden: “Derrick Van Orden Chooses Big Corporations Over Wisconsin Dairy Farmers,” And He “Did Not Include Amendments To Support Small Farms In The Farm Bill Or Stand Up To Big Corporations”

Wisconsin Dairy Farmer Darin Von Ruden Column: “Derrick Van Orden Chooses Big Corporations Over Wisconsin Dairy Farmers.” Darin Von Ruden penned a guest column titled, “Derrick Van Orden chooses big corporations over Wisconsin dairy farmers.” “Darin Von Ruden is a third-generation dairy farmer and advocate for Wisconsin farmers from Westby.” [Cap Times, Darin Von Ruden Guest Column, [10/22/23](#)]

- **Von Ruden: Despite Concerns Being Raised With Van Orden’s Office, He Did Not Include Amendments To Support Small Farms In The Farm Bill Or Stand Up To Big Corporations.** “We need a Farm Bill that looks out for smaller farmers and cracks down on the unwarranted expansion of the largest operations. The truth is, the greed and blind pursuit of capitalism is making it harder for producers here in the Third District. But despite raising these concerns with Van Orden’s office, he hasn’t included amendments to help small farms

in the Farm Bill and hasn't stood up to the big corporations who are using the current policies to put family farms out of business." [Cap Times, Darin Von Ruden Guest Column, [10/22/23](#)]

- **Von Ruden: "Wisconsin's Farmers Need A Champion More Than Ever, But So Far Van Orden Has Failed To Deliver Anything Other Than Empty Slogans."** "Wisconsin's farmers need a champion more than ever, but so far Van Orden has failed to deliver anything other than empty slogans. Just days after he took office, Van Orden crowned himself the 'Cheese King' of Congress, but dairy farmers like me are still waiting to see the results of his self-appointed royalty." [Cap Times, Darin Von Ruden Guest Column, [10/22/23](#)]
- **Von Ruden Was The President Of The Wisconsin Farmers Union.** "Last week, Wisconsin Farmers Union President Darin Von Ruden ripped into Van Orden for the congressman's record of 'prioritizing the wealthy and big corporations.'" [Cap Times, John Nichols Column, [10/24/23](#)]

Van Orden Failed To Deliver A Farm Bill That Worked For Wisconsin's Farmers And Families

1930s-Present: Congress Enacted 18 Different Farm Bills, Typically Around Every Five Years, Which Provided Opportunities To Address Agricultural And Food Issues

1930's-Present: Congress Enacted 18 Farm Bills, Typically Around Every Five Years, Which Delt With Agriculture And Food Issues. "The farm bill is an omnibus, multiyear law that governs an array of agricultural and food programs. It provides an opportunity for policymakers to comprehensively and periodically address agricultural and food issues. In addition to developing and enacting farm legislation, Congress is involved in overseeing its implementation. The farm bill typically is renewed about every five years. Since the 1930s, Congress has enacted 18 farm bills." [Congressional Research Service, [2/29/24](#)]

Farm Bills Included Support For Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, Cotton, Rice, Peanuts, Dairy, Sugar And Were Expanded To Include Nutrition, Horticulture, Bioenergy, Conservation Research And Rural Development. "Farm bills traditionally have focused on farm commodity program support for a handful of staple commodities— corn, soybeans, wheat, cotton, rice, peanuts, dairy, and sugar. Farm bills have become increasingly expansive in nature since 1973, when a nutrition title was first included. Other prominent additions since then include horticulture and bioenergy titles and expansion of conservation, research, and rural development titles." [Congressional Research Service, [2/29/24](#)]

2023-2024: House Republicans Failed To Get A New Farm Bill Signed Into Law Or Even Passed By The House, Creating Uncertainty For Agriculture And Nutrition Programs When The 2018 Farm Bill Expired On September 30, 2023

September 30, 2023: The 2018 Farm Bill Expired. "The 2018 farm bill expired on September 30th, meaning as of October 1st, many programs lost funding and/or legal authorization to operate." [Farm Aid, [11/14/23](#)]

2024: Members Of Congress Expressed Uncertainty That Any Farm Bill Reauthorization Would Pass In 2024. "Unfortunately, there is no such movement on the Farm Bill. Congress is as divisive as ever and some members have expressed uncertainty that a new reauthorization could pass this year." [Farm Aid, [3/11/24](#)]

The Lack Of A New Farm Bill Created Uncertainty For Agriculture And Nutrition Programs. "Key federal legislation to support farmers and consumers could get delayed due to the looming government shutdown, causing uncertainty for agriculture and nutrition programs in Texas. The must-pass package of legislation known as the farm bill, which is reauthorized every five years, is critical to funding a wide range of programs that include providing crop insurance and loans to farmers and food access to low-income families." [Texas Tribune, [9/27/23](#)]

Van Orden Compared Agriculture Exports To China That Wisconsin Farmers Depended On To “Feeding Nazi Germany In 1938”

Van Orden Compared Agriculture Exports To China With “Feeding Nazi Germany In 1938”

Van Orden Compared Agriculture Exports To China With “Feeding Nazi Germany In 1938.” Van Orden asked questions of former US ambassador to UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture Kip Tom at a hearing. VAN ORDEN: “One question for you tom, do you think the US should be feeding Nazi Germany in 1938 before their invasion on Poland in 1939. Should we be providing them with food and aid?” TOM: “You want to talk about China today on that?” Van Orden: “I want to highlight the fact that we’re basically feeding Nazi Germany in 1938 and do you think that's an appropriate use of American resources. Would it have been then and is it now with China? Because that's where we are with China. We’re in 1938. They haven't invaded Poland yet but it's on their horizon.” [Heartland Signal via Twitter, 0:00, [3/20/24](#)] (VIDEO)

2023: Wisconsin Exported \$324 Million Of Agricultural Products To China, The Third Most Of Any Country

2023: Wisconsin Exported \$324 Million Of Agricultural Products To China, The Third Most Of Any Country. [State of Wisconsin, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, accessed [5/31/24](#)]

2023 Top Three Markets for Wisconsin Exports - Agricultural Products	
Country	Value Export
Canada	\$1.4 billion
Mexico	\$454 million
China	\$324 million

[State of Wisconsin, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, accessed [5/31/24](#)]

When Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act, He Voted For Massive Cuts To Dairy Subsidies, Meals On Wheels, And SNAP

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act [DOA] – Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until \$1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify

pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all “major” federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change.” The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, [Vote #199](#), 4/26/23; CQ, [4/26/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Had Massive Cuts To Dairy Subsidies And Meals On Wheels, Even Though Wisconsin Received As Much As \$263,830,000 From The Dairy Margin Coverage Program In 2021 And More Than 25% Of Funds Issued Nationally In 2022

Rep. Pocan: Van Orden “Voted To Force A Draconian 22% Cut On Government Programs And Services, Like Meals On Wheels, Vital Dairy Subsidies”

Rep. Pocan: Van Orden “Voted To Force A Draconian 22% Cut On Government Programs And Services, Like Meals On Wheels, Vital Dairy Subsidies.” “U.S. Representatives Mark Pocan (WI-02) and Gwen Moore (WI-04) released the following statements after Representative Derrick Van Orden (WI-03) and the Republican leadership adjourned the House of Representatives for the long weekend without a debt limit deal in place, risking default on the United States and a collapse of the US economy: ‘When Rep. Van Orden voted for the Default on America Act last month, he voted to force a draconian 22% cut on government programs and services, like Meals on Wheels, vital dairy subsidies, and housing vouchers for veterans, effectively kicking homeless veterans to the curb,’ Rep. Pocan said.” [U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, Press Release, [5/25/23](#)]

2021: Wisconsin Received Approximately \$263,830,000 In Payments From The Dairy Margin Coverage Program, Around 23% Of The Approximately \$1,148,359,000 Issued Nationally

2021: Wisconsin Received Approximately \$263,830,000 In Government Payments From The Dairy Margin Coverage Program. [U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Government Payments by Program, Wisconsin, accessed [8/12/24](#)]

2021: The Federal Government Spent Approximately \$1,148,359,000 Nationally On The Dairy Margin Coverage Program. [U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Government Payments by Program, United States, accessed [8/12/24](#)]

NOTE: The USDA rounded its totals to the nearest \$1,000, and 263,830,000 was 23.0% of 1,148,359,000.

2022: Wisconsin Received Approximately \$32,503,000 In Payments From The Dairy Margin Coverage Program, Around 25.6% Of The Approximately \$127,121,000 Issued Nationally

2022: Wisconsin Received Approximately \$32,503,000 In Government Payments From The Dairy Margin Coverage Program. [U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Government Payments by Program, Wisconsin, accessed [8/12/24](#)]

2022: The Federal Government Spent Approximately \$127,121,000 Nationally On The Dairy Margin Coverage Program. [U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Government Payments by Program, United States, accessed [8/12/24](#)]

NOTE: The USDA rounded its totals to the nearest \$1,000, and \$32,503,000 was 25.6% of 127,121,000.

The Default On America Act Would Take Away Nutrition Assistance Through The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children For 24,000 Women And Children

The Default On America Act Would Take Away Nutrition Assistance Through The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children For 24,000 Women And Children. “Strip Nutrition Food Assistance from Women and Children in Wisconsin. The Default on America Act would also mean 24,000 women, infants, and children would lose vital nutrition assistance through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), increasing child poverty and hunger.” [White House, State Fact Sheet, [5/2/23](#)]

Van Orden Claimed To Be Worried About China Buying Farmland But Took Money From Syngenta, A Chinese Agricultural Company That Was The World’s Largest Producer Of Agricultural Chemicals

Syngenta Was A Chinese Owned Agricultural Chemical Company That Was The World’s Largest Producer Of Agricultural Chemicals. “ChemChina, a state-owned enterprise, has filed for an IPO of Syngenta, the world’s largest producer of agricultural chemicals, which it bought for \$43 billion in 2017 (a deal that Fortune chronicled in detail). It remains China’s biggest foreign acquisition. Now the IPO could be one of China’s biggest.” [Fortune, [7/1/21](#)]

- **Syngenta Was Bought For \$43 Billion In 2017.** “ChemChina, a state-owned enterprise, has filed for an IPO of Syngenta, the world’s largest producer of agricultural chemicals, which it bought for \$43 billion in 2017 (a deal that Fortune chronicled in detail). It remains China’s biggest foreign acquisition. Now the IPO could be one of China’s biggest.” [Fortune, [7/1/21](#)]

Van Orden Said That “China Runs Concentration Camps And Ignores Blatant Sex Slavery,” Called For Sanctions On China And Called To Hold The Chinese Communist Party Accountable For China’s Ownership Of American Agricultural Lands

Van Orden Said That China Runs Concentration Camps And Ignores Blatant Sex Slavery. [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [3/26/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [3/26/23](#)]

Van Orden Called For Sanctions On China. [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [2/18/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [2/18/23](#)]

Van Orden Called To Hold The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Accountable For Holding 192,000 Of American Agricultural Land. [Rep. Van Orden, Twitter, [1/10/23](#)]



[Rep. Van Orden, Twitter, [1/10/23](#)]

March 2023-February 2024: Van Orden Took \$5,000 From Syngenta, Which Was Owned By A Chinese State Enterprise

March 2023-February 2024: Van Orden Took \$5,000 From Syngenta

March 2023: Van Orden For Congress Received \$2,500 From The Syngenta Corporation Employee Political Action Committee. [FEC, Receipts, accessed [5/30/24](#)]

February 2024: Van Orden For Congress Received \$2,500 From The Syngenta Corporation Employee Political Action Committee. [FEC, Receipts, accessed [5/30/24](#)]

Van Orden And His Allies Threatened Wisconsinites' Access To Health Care

Van Orden Wanted To Remove “The Last Vestiges Of The Disastrous Obama Care”

Van Orden Supported Removing “The Last Vestiges Of The Disastrous Obama Care.” “Regarding health care, Van Orden supports removing ‘the last vestiges of the disastrous Obama Care’ (the Affordable Care Act), according to his website, and also wants the price of prescription drugs to be lowered.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [7/30/20](#)]

- **As Of June 2021, Van Orden Appeared To Have Removed The “Last Vestiges” Language From His Campaign Website But Still Indicated Repeal For Having “Obamacare” Be “Fully Repealed.”** “Derrick will work to make sure individuals with preexisting conditions are protected when Obamacare is fully repealed

and a new system is implemented allowing for true competition in healthcare, driving costs down.” [Van Orden for Congress via Internet Archive, Issues, archived [6/16/21](#)]

Van Orden Said He Supported Repealing The Affordable Care Act. “Van Orden said he supports repealing the ACA, and that Kind supports the plan because he is at the mercy of health care special interest groups, but emphasized again that he would only support a replacement that ensured coverage for preexisting conditions.” [Chippewa Herald, 10/26/20]

More Than 290,000 Nonelderly People In Wisconsin’s Third District Had A Preexisting Condition And Would Be At Risk Of Losing Health Coverage Without The Affordable Care Act

An Estimated 293,800 Nonelderly People In Wisconsin’s Third Congressional District Had A Preexisting Condition. [Center For American Progress, [10/2/19](#)]

Repealing The Affordable Care Act Would Eliminate Protections Preventing Insurance Companies From Discriminating Against People With Preexisting Conditions. “In Texas v. United States, 18 states’ attorneys general—with support from the Trump administration—are challenging the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), including the law’s consumer protections that prevent insurance companies in the individual market from discriminating against people with preexisting conditions. These protections include a ban on varying rates according to gender or health status, a guarantee that plans issue coverage to anyone who wants to enroll, and a requirement that all plans cover 10 categories of essential health benefits. If the court rules in the plaintiffs’ favor, the lawsuit could bring down the entire ACA in the plaintiff states or for the whole country. Among those who would suffer from nationwide repeal of the ACA through the courts are the 20 million people who would become uninsured and those, whether uninsured or not, with preexisting conditions.” [Center For American Progress, [10/2/19](#)]

Urban Institute: 431,000 Wisconsinites Would Have Lost Their Health Insurance Coverage In 2019 If The Affordable Care Act Had Been Repealed

Urban Institute: 431,000 Wisconsinites Would Have Lost Their Health Insurance Coverage In 2019 If The Affordable Care Act Had Been Repealed. “431,000 fewer people in Wisconsin would have health insurance in 2019 if the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is repealed, new Urban Institute estimates show.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

2023: 213,000 Wisconsinites Had Affordable Care Act-Related Coverage

February 2023: 213,000 Wisconsinites Had Affordable Care Act-Related Coverage. According to the Department of Health and Human Services’ Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, 213,000 Wisconsinites had “ACA-Related Coverage.” [Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Issue Brief, [3/23/23](#)]

Van Orden Opposed Legislation That Helped 74,000 Wisconsinites, Including 10,000 Residents Of The Third District, Enroll In Affordable Care Act Plans

Van Orden Opposed The American Rescue Plan Act

Van Orden Called The American Rescue Plan Act A “Disaster,” “Wasteful” And A “Bribery Bill.” “Van Orden, who is running for the second time to unseat Democratic Rep. Ron Kind in Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District, spent much of this winter criticizing the aid provided in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that was passed by a Democratically held Congress and signed by President Joe Biden.” [Wisconsin Examiner, [6/29/21](#)]

The American Rescue Plan Act Helped 74,000 Wisconsinites Access Health Insurance And Spent \$400 Million Improving The Health Of Wisconsinites

Estimates From The Joint Economic Committee Revealed That The American Rescue Plan Helped 10,000 People In Wisconsin's Third District And 74,000 Statewide Enroll In Affordable Care Act Plans. “Estimates from the Joint Economic Committee show that Representative Ron Kind’s vote for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) helped 10,000 people in the WI-03 newly enroll in health insurance plans on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces last year. For Wisconsin as a whole, Democrats helped a total of 74,000 people newly enroll in ACA plans.” [Joint Economic Committee Democrats, Rep. Ron Kind, Press Release, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

\$400 Million From The American Rescue Plan Act Improved The Health Of Wisconsinites. “President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into law on March 11, 2021. It provides \$1.9 trillion in economic stimulus to aid the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has access to more than \$400 million of that funding to improve the health of Wisconsinites, including for mental health and substance use disorders, as well as home and community-based services (HCBS).” [Wisconsin Department of Health Services, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution, Which Van Orden Strongly Supported, Would Have Reduced 13,000 Research Grants For The National Institutes Of Health, Threatening Efforts To Find Treatments And Cures For Cancer And Alzheimer's And Cut Resources For The 988 Suicide And Crisis Lifeline By 38%

Van Orden Voted For A Continuing Resolution That Would Have Made 29.9% Cuts Nearly Across The Board And Lamented The Fact That It Did Not Pass

9/29/23: Van Orden Voted For Passing The Republican-Backed Continuing Resolution. In September 2023, Van Orden voted for “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs. It would fund veterans’ programs, the Department of Homeland Security, national security programs and disaster assistance at full fiscal 2023 levels. It would also implement nearly all provisions of House Republicans’ border security and immigration bill (HR 2), which the House passed in May 2023. It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans’ fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs. Among its border security and immigration provisions, it would require DHS, within seven days of enactment, to resume all activities related to “border wall” construction on the U.S.-Mexico border that were underway or planned prior to Jan. 20, 2021; require DHS to reopen or restore, no later than Sept. 30, 2023, the use of all Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facilities that were in operation on Jan. 20, 2021; and require DHS to return all unaccompanied children to their country of origin, regardless of whether they are from a contiguous country to the U.S. In addition to provisions of HR 2, it would place limitations on the use of DHS funding provided by the bill, including prohibitions on removing existing U.S.-Mexico border barriers, transporting inadmissible adults into the U.S., and the use of Customs and Border Protection’s “CBP One” app to facilitate the parole of an individual into the U.S. It also would prohibit the use of funds provided by the bill to initiate or resume any project or activity not funded during fiscal 2023 and would establish a congressional fiscal commission tasked with identifying policies to “improve the fiscal situation.” The bill was rejected by a vote of 198-232. [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

- **9/29/23: The CR Failed By A Vote Of 198-232.** [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

The Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Funding For All Government Programs By 29.9%, With Exceptions For U.S. Defense, Department Of Veterans Affairs, And Disaster Relief Programs. “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023,

with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs [...] It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans' fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs." [H.R. 5525, CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

September 2023: Van Orden Criticized 21 Republicans Who "Voted With Every Democrat In The House" Against Republicans' Continuing Resolution

Van Orden Said That "21 Republicans Voted With Every Democrat In The House To: Defund The Military," "Keep The Border Open" And "Embolden China." VAN ORDEN: "21 Republicans voted with every Democrat in The House to: Defund the US military Keep the border open Embolden China." [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Have Reduced 13,000 Research Grants For The National Institutes Of Health, Threatening Efforts To Find Treatments And Cures For Cancer And Alzheimer's

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Have Reduced 13,000 Research Grants For The National Institutes Of Health, Threatening Efforts To Find Treatments And Cures For Cancer And Alzheimer's.

"With one day before the end of the fiscal year, instead of following the bipartisan lead of the Senate to keep the government open, 90% of House Republicans just voted for a partisan bill to eviscerate programs millions of hardworking families count on—with a devastating 30% cut to law enforcement, Meals on Wheels, Head Start, and more. [...] IMPACTS OF EXTREME REPUBLICANS' 30% CUTS: [...] 13,000 fewer National Institutes of Health research project grants, stalling research progress cancer and Alzheimer's." [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Resources For The 988 Suicide And Crisis Lifeline By 38%, Which Helped People Struggling With Mental Health And Opioid Use Disorders

Republicans' Continuing Resolution Cut Funding For The 988 Suicide And Crisis Lifeline, Which Supported People Dealing With A Suicidal Or Mental Health Crisis, By 38%. "Slashing resources for the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and Opioid Use Disorder treatment. The Republican CR cuts funding for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline by 38 percent. More than 1 million people facing a suicidal or mental health crisis would be unable to access support services through the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and tens of thousands of individuals would be denied admission to opioid use disorder treatment, denying them a potentially life-saving path to recovery." [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

The 988 Suicide And Crisis Lifeline Helped People With Opioid Use Disorder Access Treatment And Recovery Services. "More than 1 million people facing a suicidal or mental health crisis would be unable to access support services through the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and tens of thousands of individuals would be denied admission to opioid use disorder treatment, denying them a potentially life-saving path to recovery." [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Have Led To 37,000 Fewer Americans Receiving Substance Use Treatment Services. "IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS' EXTREME CR: [...] 37,000

fewer Americans would receive substance use treatment services.” [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

July 2020: Van Orden Twice Tweeted In Support Of Donald Trump And Curtailing The Affordable Care Act

Van Orden Said, “@RealDoanldTrump Again Proved He Stands Up For Men And Women Of Faith. We Will Work With Him To Protect Our Religious Institutions From The Gross Government Overreach Forced On The American Public By Obamacare”

Van Orden Said, “@realDoanldTrump Again Proved He Stands Up For Men And Women Of Faith. We Will Work With Him To Protect Our Religious Institutions From The Gross Government Overreach Forced On The American Public By Obamacare.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [7/8/20](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [7/8/20](#)]

Van Orden Said, “Today, Men And Women Of Faith Celebrate The Supreme Court Ruling Upholding The Exemption To Overbearing Requirements Enacted By Obamacare Forcing Religious Institutions To Act Against Their Conscience. Thank You @Realdonaldtrump For Keeping Your Word”

Van Orden Said, “Today, Men And Women Of Faith Celebrate The Supreme Court Ruling Upholding The Exemption To Overbearing Requirements Enacted By Obamacare Forcing Religious Institutions To Act Against Their Conscience. Thank You @Realdonaldtrump For Keeping Your Word.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [7/8/20](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [7/8/20](#)]

The U.S. Supreme Court Ruling In Question Was Upholding A Trump Administration Rule That Would Let Employers “Opt Out Of Birth Control Coverage”

HEADLINE: “Supreme Court Upholds Trump Administration Regulation Letting Employers Opt Out of Birth Control Coverage.” [New York Times, [7/8/20](#)]

- **The Ruling Said That Employers With “Religious Or Moral Objections [Could] Limit Women’s Access To Birth Control Coverage Under The Affordable Care Act.”** “The Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld a Trump administration regulation that lets employers with religious or moral objections limit women’s access to birth control coverage under the Affordable Care Act and could result in as many as 126,000 women losing contraceptive coverage from their employers.” [New York Times, [7/8/20](#)]

Van Orden Cast Votes Threatening Wisconsin's Infrastructure And Opposed The Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act, Even Though It Provided Major Benefits To Wisconsin

Van Orden Condemned House Republicans Who Voted For The Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act, Saying That They Had "Voted Themselves Out Of A Job" And There Was "Absolutely No Excuse,"

13 House Republicans Voted For The Infrastructure Investment And Jobs Act

Trump Condemned The 13 House Republicans Who Voted For The Infrastructure Package. "At a private event hosted by the House Republican campaign arm Monday night in Florida, Trump took time out of his 90 minute speech that focused mostly on his baseless claims about the election and attacking Biden to throw a jab at the 13 House GOP lawmakers who supported the infrastructure package. 'I love all the House Republicans. Well, actually I don't love all of you. I don't love the 13 that voted for Biden's infrastructure plan,' Trump said, according to the recollection of a person who attended the event and spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe the private gathering." [Washington Post, [11/9/21](#)]

Van Orden Condemned House Republicans Who Voted For The Infrastructure Bill, Saying They Had "Voted Themselves Out Of A Job" And There Was "Absolutely No Excuse"

Van Orden Said The 13 House Republicans Who Voted For The Infrastructure Package "Just Voted Themselves Out Of A Job, And Rightly So." "Some of the National Republican Congressional Committee's star recruits are starting to bash GOP lawmakers who supported the infrastructure package even as these candidates must run in seats held by Democrats where voters are likely to be more supportive of the legislation. In an interview Saturday with Breitbart News, Wisconsin Republican candidate Derrick Van Orden said the 13 Republicans 'just voted themselves out of a job, and rightly so,' questioning the nation's drift toward socialism." [Washington Post, [11/9/21](#)]

Speaking Of House Republicans Who Voted For The Infrastructure Package, Van Orden Said, "There's Absolutely No Excuse For Doing That." "Some of the National Republican Congressional Committee's star recruits are starting to bash GOP lawmakers who supported the infrastructure package even as these candidates must run in seats held by Democrats where voters are likely to be more supportive of the legislation. In an interview Saturday with Breitbart News, Wisconsin Republican candidate Derrick Van Orden said the 13 Republicans 'just voted themselves out of a job, and rightly so,' questioning the nation's drift toward socialism. 'There's absolutely no excuse for doing that,' Van Orden told the conservative news site." [Washington Post, [11/9/21](#)]

November 2023: The Infrastructure Law Delivered \$5.6 Billion To Wisconsin Two Years After Its Passage, Investing In "Roads, Bridges, Broadband, Water, Infrastructure, And More"

November 15, 2023: Two Years After The Passage Of The Infrastructure Law, It Had Delivered \$5.6 Billion In Funds For "Wisconsin Roads, Bridges, Broadband, Water Infrastructure, And More." "Today, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) released the following statement celebrating the two-year anniversary of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which has delivered over \$5.6 billion in funding for Wisconsin roads, bridges, broadband, water infrastructure, and more." [U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, Press Release, [11/15/23](#)]

The Infrastructure Law "Secured \$3.4 Billion For Wisconsin Roads, Bridges, Roadway Safety, And Major Projects," Including More Than \$49 Million In Eau Claire County For "I-94 From The I-94/US 53 Interchange To Mallard Road For Construction And Pavement Replacement"

The Infrastructure Law “Secured \$3.4 Billion For Wisconsin Roads, Bridges, Roadway Safety, And Major Projects.” “Senator Baldwin secured \$3.4 billion for Wisconsin roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects, including: \$3.1 billion in highway formula funding and \$135 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges. \$66.2 million through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program and \$80 million through the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight & Highway Projects (INFRA) program.” [U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, Press Release, [11/15/23](#)]

The Infrastructure Law Secured More Than \$49 Million In Eau Claire County For “I-94 From The I-94/US 53 Interchange To Mallard Road For Construction And Pavement Replacement.” “Senator Baldwin secured \$3.4 billion for Wisconsin roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects, including: [...] Eau Claire County: Over \$49 million through the National Highway Freight Program and National Highway Performance Program for I-94 from the I-94/US 53 interchange to Mallard Road for construction and pavement replacement.” [U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, Press Release, [11/15/23](#)]

The Infrastructure Law Delivered More Than \$1 Billion To Wisconsin To “Expand Access To High-Speed Internet,” Including Almost \$15 Million For The Dairyland Power Cooperative To Implement Its Tri-State Fiber Deployment Project

The Infrastructure Law Delivered More Than \$1 Billion To Wisconsin To “Expand Access To High-Speed Internet.” “Senator Baldwin successfully delivered Wisconsin more than \$1 billion through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) to expand access to high-speed internet. Wisconsin also received \$14.9 million in funding to expand middle-mile infrastructure in the state. In addition, about 413,000 households in Wisconsin have saved on the cost of internet from the Affordable Connectivity Program, a program funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.” [U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, Press Release, [11/15/23](#)]

The Infrastructure Law Delivered Almost \$15 Million For The Dairyland Power Cooperative To Implement Its Tri-State Fiber Development Project. “Senator Baldwin successfully delivered Wisconsin more than \$1 billion through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) to expand access to high-speed internet. Wisconsin also received \$14.9 million in funding to expand middle-mile infrastructure in the state. In addition, about 413,000 households in Wisconsin have saved on the cost of internet from the Affordable Connectivity Program, a program funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. [...] Dairyland Power Cooperative (Western Wisconsin): Nearly \$15 million to Dairyland Power Cooperative to implement its Tri-State Fiber Deployment Project (TSFDP), which will retrofit 240.23 miles of fiber optic communications network using mostly optical ground wire (OPGW) on DPCs transmission lines in 3 years. Through the TSFDP, last mile providers in Barron, Polk, Burnett, and Washburn Counties will have enhanced capacity to reach unserved and underserved residents at affordable rates and help bridge the nations digital divide.” [U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, Press Release, [11/15/23](#)]

The Infrastructure Law Brought \$369 Million To Provide “Clean And Safe Water Across” Wisconsin “And Improve Water Infrastructure”

The Infrastructure Law Brought \$369 Million To Provide “Clean And Safe Water Across” Wisconsin “And Improve Water Infrastructure.” “Today, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) released the following statement celebrating the two-year anniversary of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which has delivered over \$5.6 billion in funding for Wisconsin roads, bridges, broadband, water infrastructure, and more. [...] Senator Baldwin brought home \$369 million to Wisconsin to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes \$336 million available to date to provide clean and safe water across the state through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Of this funding, \$129.5 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$66.7 million for safe drinking water investments that can also support lead pipe replacement.” [U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin, Press Release, [11/15/23](#)]

Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act, Which Would Have Hurt Wisconsin's Transportation Safety And Infrastructure

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act [DOA] – Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until \$1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all “major” federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change.” The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, [Vote #199](#), 4/26/23; CQ, [4/26/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Would Have Hurt Wisconsin's Transportation Safety And Infrastructure By Cutting Rail Inspections, Air Traffic Control Towers And Transit And Highway Infrastructure Projects

2024: Under The Default On America Act, Wisconsin Would Have Had 140 Fewer Rail Safety Inspection Days And 430 Fewer Miles Of Track Inspected. “At a time when train derailments are wreaking havoc on community safety, House Republicans’ Default on America Act would lead to 140 fewer rail safety inspection days and 430 fewer miles of track inspected in Wisconsin next year alone.” [White House, State Fact Sheet, [5/2/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Would Have Shut Down Services At Nine Wisconsin Air Traffic Control Towers And Increased Wait Times At TSA Airport Security Checkpoints By More Than Two Hours. “The Default on America Act would shut down services at 9 Contract Air Traffic Control Towers in Wisconsin, likely also require shut down of additional Federally-staffed facilities, and increase wait times at TSA security check points at large airports across the country by over 2 hours.” [White House, State Fact Sheet, [5/2/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Would Have Cost Wisconsin Nearly \$80 Million In Funds For Transit And Highway Infrastructure Projects. “Under the Default on America Act, Wisconsin would stand to lose nearly \$80 million in funding for transit and highway infrastructure projects all across the state.” [White House, State Fact Sheet, [5/2/23](#)]

Van Orden Consistently Voted To Hurt Seniors And Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Which Capped Insulin Prices For Tens Of Thousands Of Wisconsinites On Medicare And Let Medicare Negotiate Lower Prices With Drug Companies

Van Orden Introduced A Balanced Budget Amendment, Which Experts Said Would Threaten Social Security, Medicare And Medicaid

2023: Van Orden Proposed A Balanced Budget Amendment, Which Would Prohibit Congress From Incurring More Debts Than Revenue During Each Fiscal Year And Require A Balanced Budget In 10 Years

2023: Van Orden Proposed A Balanced Budget Amendment, Which Would Prohibit Congress From Incurring More Debts Than Revenue During Each Fiscal Year And Require A Balanced Budget In 10 Years. “Van Orden’s Balanced Budget Amendment will prohibit Congress from incurring more debts than revenue during each fiscal year and require a balanced budget within ten years.” [U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden, Press Release, [1/12/23](#)]

2018: An Analysis Of A Proposed Balanced Budget Amendment Found That Without Tax Increases There Would Be Cuts To Social Security By \$308 Billion, Medicare By \$239 Billion And Medicaid By \$114 Billion In A Single Year If Spending Cuts Were Applied Evenly

2018: CBO Estimates For FY 2023 Found That Government Revenues Would Be 23% Short Of Government Outlays, Meaning That A Balanced Budget Amendment Would Require The Budget Being Cut By Almost One Quarter. “The proposed amendment would take effect in the fifth fiscal year after its ratification. For example, if it were enacted in FY 2018, it would take effect in FY 2023. That year, the CBO estimates that government revenues will fall 23 percent short of government outlays. This means that without tax increases, reaching a balanced budget would require slashing the government budget by nearly one-quarter.” [Center for American Progress, [4/11/18](#)]

- **If Spending Cuts Were Applied Evenly, Social Security Would Be Slashed By \$308 Billion In Just One Year.** “This means that without tax increases, reaching a balanced budget would require slashing the government budget by nearly one-quarter. If done across the board, without exempting the military or any other function, that would slash Social Security by \$308 billion, Medicare by \$239 billion, and Medicaid by \$114 billion in a single year alone.” [Center for American Progress, [4/11/18](#)]
- **If Spending Cuts Were Applied Evenly, Medicare Would Be Slashed By \$239 Billion In Just One Year.** “This means that without tax increases, reaching a balanced budget would require slashing the government budget by nearly one-quarter. If done across the board, without exempting the military or any other function, that would slash Social Security by \$308 billion, Medicare by \$239 billion, and Medicaid by \$114 billion in a single year alone.” [Center for American Progress, [4/11/18](#)]
- **If Spending Cuts Were Applied Evenly, Medicaid Would Be Slashed By \$114 Billion In Just One Year.** “This means that without tax increases, reaching a balanced budget would require slashing the government budget by nearly one-quarter. If done across the board, without exempting the military or any other function, that would slash Social Security by \$308 billion, Medicare by \$239 billion, and Medicaid by \$114 billion in a single year alone.” [Center for American Progress, [4/11/18](#)]

Van Orden Claimed That Democrats' Arguments That The Default On America Act Would Hurt Seniors Were Misinformation And That There Was "Nothing Extreme In There At All," Even Though It In Fact Would Have Hurt Wisconsin Seniors**Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act**

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act [DOA] – Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until \$1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Van Orden voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all "major" federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change." The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, [Vote #199](#), 4/26/23; CQ, [4/26/23](#)]

Van Orden Said That Nothing In The "Limit, Save Grow Act" Would Hurt Seniors' Social Security And Medicare Or Veterans' Benefits. VAN ORDEN: "Limit, save, grow. If we could limit the amount of Democrat disinformation about this bill, we would save our elderly, the most vulnerable amongst us and our veterans a lot of concern, because they're just being lied to. There's nothing in this bill that affects veterans' benefits, Social Security or Medicare. They're just not in there. And if we can do this, we're all going to grow old together in peace as we should, as Americans. That's my goal." [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, 0:00. [5/8/23](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Said That "There Is Nothing Extreme" In The "Limit, Save, Grow Act." House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries tweeted, "Everyday Americans pay their bills. The country must do the same. And avoid a dangerous right-wing extremist default." Van Orden quote tweeted Leader Jeffries, saying, "If you really thought this, you would have voted for the Limit, Save, Grow Act. You know there is nothing extreme in there at all. Prove you actually care about America. Pick up the phone, call Chuck and Joe, and tell them to do their jobs. -DVO" [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, [5/7/23](#)]



[Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, [5/7/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Would Have Worsened Social Security And Medicare Assistance Wait Times For 1.4 Million Wisconsin Seniors And Cut Social Security Administration Employees By More Than Half

The Default On America Act Would Have Worsened Social Security And Medicare Assistance Wait Times For 1.4 Million Wisconsin Seniors. “Under the House Republicans’ Default on America Act, people applying for disability benefits would have to wait at least two months longer for a decision. With fewer staff available, 1.4 million seniors and people with disabilities in Wisconsin would be forced to endure longer wait times when they call for assistance for both Social Security and Medicare.” [White House, State Fact Sheet, [5/2/23](#)]

Republican Spending Cuts Were Expected To Cut The Social Security Administration Employees By More Than Half. “The charts above show how exempting big categories of spending would make the budget caps more draconian. Universal discretionary caps would cut spending by an average of 18 percent over a decade, compared with what’s expected if current levels grew according to inflation. But with defense, veterans’ care and homeland security exempted, the caps would result in cutting the rest of the discretionary budget by more than half. Defense is the largest category of discretionary spending in the budget. Veterans’ health care is the second largest. The programs that would be subject to such deeper cuts include nutrition assistance for poor mothers and infants, air traffic control, the State Department, cancer research and Social Security Administration employees.” [New York Times, [5/8/23](#)]

House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution, Which Van Orden Strongly Backed, Could Have Forced 240 Social Security Field Offices To Close Or Shorten Hours And Would Have Robbed 1 Million Seniors Of Nutrition Services

Van Orden Voted For A Continuing Resolution That Would Have Made 29.9% Cuts Nearly Across The Board And Lamented The Fact That It Did Not Pass

9/29/23: Van Orden Voted For Passing The Republican-Backed Continuing Resolution. In September 2023, Van Orden voted for “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs. It would fund veterans’ programs, the Department of Homeland Security, national security programs and disaster assistance at full fiscal 2023 levels. It would also implement nearly all provisions of House Republicans’ border security and immigration bill (HR 2), which the House passed in May 2023. It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans’ fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs. Among its border security and immigration provisions, it would require

DHS, within seven days of enactment, to resume all activities related to “border wall” construction on the U.S.-Mexico border that were underway or planned prior to Jan. 20, 2021; require DHS to reopen or restore, no later than Sept. 30, 2023, the use of all Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facilities that were in operation on Jan. 20, 2021; and require DHS to return all unaccompanied children to their country of origin, regardless of whether they are from a contiguous country to the U.S. In addition to provisions of HR 2, it would place limitations on the use of DHS funding provided by the bill, including prohibitions on removing existing U.S.-Mexico border barriers, transporting inadmissible adults into the U.S., and the use of Customs and Border Protection’s “CBP One” app to facilitate the parole of an individual into the U.S. It also would prohibit the use of funds provided by the bill to initiate or resume any project or activity not funded during fiscal 2023 and would establish a congressional fiscal commission tasked with identifying policies to “improve the fiscal situation.” The bill was rejected by a vote of 198-232. [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

- **9/29/23: The CR Failed By A Vote Of 198-232.** [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

The Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Funding For All Government Programs By 29.9%, With Exceptions For U.S. Defense, Department Of Veterans Affairs, And Disaster Relief Programs. “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs [...] It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans’ fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs.” [H.R. 5525, CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

September 2023: Van Orden Criticized 21 Republicans Who “Voted With Every Democrat In The House” Against Republicans’ Continuing Resolution

Van Orden Said That “21 Republicans Voted With Every Democrat In The House To: Defund The Military,” “Keep The Border Open” And “Embolden China.” VAN ORDEN: “21 Republicans voted with every Democrat in The House to: Defund the US military Keep the border open Embolden China.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Could Have Closed Or Shortened The Hours Of 240 Social Security Field Offices And Would Have Cut Meals On Wheels For More Than 1 Million Seniors

Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Meals On Wheels For More Than 1 Million Seniors. “With the introduction of this even more unreasonable Continuing Resolution, House Republicans are still more focused on introducing extreme funding bills than working on a bipartisan solution that could be enacted. [...] Other nutrition services, such as Meals on Wheels, would also be cut for more than 1 million seniors.” [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

240 Social Security Field Offices Could Have Been Forced To Close Or Shorten Their Hours Under House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution. “IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS’ EXTREME CR: [...] 240 Social Security field offices could be forced to close or shorten the hours they are open to the public.” [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

Van Orden Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Which Capped Insulin Prices For Tens Of Thousands Of Wisconsinites On Medicare And Let Medicare Negotiate Lower Prices With Drug Companies

Van Orden Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Dubbing It, “The Inflation Creation Act”

Van Orden Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Calling It, “The Inflation Creation Act.” Van Orden tweeted a link to a New York Post article with the headline, “Inflation Reduction Act will cost middle class \$20B in new taxes: CBO.” In Van Orden’s tweet accompanying the article, he said, “The truth about the Inflation Creation Act: Congressional Budget Office estimates those earning less than \$400,000 — the group on which Biden promised not to raise taxes — will pay an estimated \$20 billion more in taxes over the next decade.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [8/15/22](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [8/15/22](#)]

The Inflation Reduction Act Capped Insulin Prices For Tens Of Thousands Of Wisconsinites On Medicare

The Inflation Reduction Act Capped Insulin Prices For Tens Of Thousands Of Wisconsinites On Medicare. “The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 will lower health care costs for millions of Americans and put money back in the pockets of American families and seniors. The Act will cap prescription drug costs for hundreds of thousands of Wisconsin Medicare beneficiaries, reduce health insurance premiums for hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites by about \$1,080 per year on average while expanding coverage to about 43,000 Wisconsinites, and cap insulin co-payments for the tens of thousands of Wisconsin Medicare beneficiaries that use insulin. [...] Saving Wisconsin Medicare Beneficiaries Money by Capping Insulin Copays at \$35 per Month. Drug manufacturers have raised insulin prices so rapidly over the last few decades that some Medicare beneficiaries struggle to afford this life-saving drug that costs less than \$10 a vial to manufacture. Starting in 2023, the legislation will cap the out-of-pocket cost of insulin for Medicare beneficiaries at no more than \$35 for a month’s supply. Some 59,000 Wisconsin Medicare beneficiaries used insulin in 2020.” [White House, The Inflation Reduction Act Wisconsin Fact Sheet, accessed [7/30/24](#)]

The Inflation Reduction Act Let Medicare Negotiate Lower Drug Prices

The Inflation Reduction Act Let Medicare Negotiate Lower Drug Prices. “Americans pay two to three times what citizens of other countries pay for prescription drugs. For some drugs, U.S. prices are even higher than that. For example, a GAO study found that Spiriva, used to control asthma and used by about 700,000 Medicare beneficiaries in 2020, had an estimated U.S. net price of \$250 in 2020 and cost between \$30 and \$52 in France, Australia and Canada. Myrbetriq, used to control overactive bladder and used by over 600,000 Medicare beneficiaries in 2020, had an estimated U.S. net price of \$164 and cost \$43 in Canada. The Inflation Reduction Act finally takes on this problem by allowing Medicare to negotiate prices for high-cost drugs. It also provides seniors and people with disabilities who have Medicare coverage with new protections against unaffordable prescription drug bills. [...] Saving Billions of Dollars for Seniors and People with Disabilities and the Federal Government by Allowing Medicare to Negotiate Prices for High-Cost Drugs. By bringing down the cost of these drugs, the legislation will save billions of dollars for both Medicare beneficiaries, who will see reduced out-of-pocket costs, and the federal government. Nationwide, KFF estimates suggest that some 5 to 7 million

beneficiaries each year use the types of high-cost drugs that would be subject to negotiation and could see reduced cost sharing as a result.” [White House, The Inflation Reduction Act Wisconsin Fact Sheet, accessed [7/30/24](#)]

Van Orden Backed Policies That Would Have Hurt Veterans

Van Orden Backed The Default On America Act Despite The Concerns Of Approximately Two Dozen Veterans’ Groups And Claimed That The VA Was “Fearmongering With Our Veterans” After It Raised Concerns Over The Bill

Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act [DOA] – Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until \$1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all “major” federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change.” The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, [Vote #199](#), 4/26/23; CQ, [4/26/23](#)]

The VA And Approximately Two Dozen Veterans’ Groups Raised Concerns Over The Impacts The Default On America Act Would Have On Veterans

Under House Republicans’ Legislation, The VA Said That It Would Have To Cut Staff And Offer Fewer Medical Treatments And Job Training Services. “Fewer medical appointments and backlogged benefits could be a reality for veterans in the Coulee Region and nationwide, according to a report from the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. [...] The VA department released a fact sheet on how the House Republican spending bill would affect veterans’ operations for fiscal year 2024. The budgetary change will lead to staff reductions, fewer medical treatments and job training services, the fact sheet stated.” [La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

- **Van Orden Claimed There Were “Zero Cuts For Vets” In The “Limit, Save, Grow Act” In A Tweet That Was Linked To In The La Crosse Tribune’s Article.** VAN ORDEN: “The Biden Administration is fear mongering with my fellow Vets. This is irresponsible and reprehensible. There are zero cuts for vets in the Limit, Save, Grow act. Knock it off.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/1/23](#); La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

Approximately Two Dozen Veterans Groups Wrote To Members Of Congress Saying That Its Debt Limit Bill Would “Endanger Funding For VA And Veterans’ Programs.” “The House-passed "Limit, Save Grow Act" debt ceiling legislation would raise the nation's borrowing limit by \$1.5 trillion, but would also scale back federal spending. [...] A group of approximately two dozen veterans groups have written to members of Congress urging any debt ceiling legislation be tailored to prevent reductions in veterans services. The letter said, ‘If enacted, the proposed legislation would dramatically reduce total federal discretionary spending and could endanger funding for VA and veterans' programs. Without specific language to explicitly protect VA from the impact of the proposed budget reductions, it would leave many veteran resources open to cuts, potentially undoing years of progress VA has made for those that have earned it.’” [CBS News, [5/1/23](#)]

Van Orden: The VA Was “Fearmongering With Our Veterans”

Van Orden: The VA Was “Fearmongering With Our Veterans.” “Today, Rep. Derrick Van Orden (WI-03) co-led a letter to U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Denis McDonough alongside Rep. Jen Kiggans (VA-02) and 54 colleagues, in which they call out the Department’s “dishonest and shameless” lies regarding the Limit, Save, Grow Act. ‘As a retired Navy SEAL, 100 percent service-connected veteran, Chairman of a Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee in Congress, and most importantly, someone who has actually read the bill, I am telling you that the Limit, Save, Grow Act sets a topline number for the entire federal budget,’ said Van Orden. ‘It does not cut the VA budget. If the VA chooses to spend this money on a bloated bureaucracy instead of veterans' health care, we will hold them publicly accountable. They are fearmongering with our veterans and that is reprehensible.’” [U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden, Press Release, [5/4/23](#)]

Van Orden Claimed That Democrats’ Arguments That The Default On America Act Would Hurt Veterans Were Misinformation And That There Was “Nothing Extreme” In It

Van Orden Said That Nothing In The “Limit, Save Grow Act” Would Hurt Seniors’ Social Security And Medicare Or Veterans’ Benefits. VAN ORDEN: “Limit, save, grow. If we could limit the amount of Democrat disinformation about this bill, we would save our elderly, the most vulnerable amongst us and our veterans a lot of concern, because they’re just being lied to. There’s nothing in this bill that affects veterans’ benefits, Social Security or Medicare. They’re just not in there. And if we can do this, we’re all going to grow old together in peace as we should, as Americans. That’s my goal.” [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, 0:00, [5/8/23](#)]
(VIDEO)

Van Orden Said That “There Is Nothing Extreme” In The “Limit, Save, Grow Act.” House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries tweeted, “Everyday Americans pay their bills. The country must do the same. And avoid a dangerous right-wing extremist default.” Van Orden quote tweeted Leader Jeffries, saying, “If you really thought this, you would have voted for the Limit, Save, Grow Act. You know there is nothing extreme in there at all. Prove you actually care about America. Pick up the phone, call Chuck and Joe, and tell them to do their jobs. -DVO” [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, [5/7/23](#)]



[Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, [5/7/23](#)]

Van Orden Inaccurately Said That House Republicans Were Not Cutting Funds For Veterans But That If They Had Worse Medical Care, It Was On The VA Secretary And Not Himself

Under House Republicans' Legislation, The VA Said That It Would Have To Cut Staff And Offer Fewer Medical Treatments And Job Training Services

The Veterans Benefits Administration Said It Would Have To Cut More Than 6,000 Of Its Staff, Increasing The Disability Claims Backlog By An Estimated 134,000 Claims. “Under the proposal, the Veterans Benefits Administration stated it would have to eliminate more than 6,000 staff, increasing the disability claims backlog by an estimated 134,000 claims. ‘Forcing veterans and their surviving loved ones to wait longer for the benefits they have earned, including pensions, life insurance, GI Bill educational support and employment services,’ the department stated.” [La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

The VA Would Cut More Than 80,000 Jobs, Leading To 30 Million Fewer Medical Appointments, Including Wellness Visits, Cancer Screenings, Mental Health Services And Substance Use Disorder Treatment. “More than 80,000 jobs would be cut from the Veterans’ Health Administration leading to 30 million fewer medical appointments for care, including wellness visits, cancer screenings, mental health services and substance use disorder treatment, the fact sheet stated.” [La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

4,200 Fewer Veterans Experiencing Or At Risk Of Homelessness Would Receive Job Training, Counseling And Job Readiness Services. “The proposed spending reduction would mean 4,200 fewer veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness would receive job training, counseling and job readiness services provided through the Department of Labor’s Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program.” [La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

As Many As 50,000 Veterans Would Be At Increased Risk Of Homelessness With The Elimination Of Housing Choice Vouchers. “The proposal would eliminate funding for Housing Choice Vouchers for as many as 50,000 veterans, putting them at greater risk of homelessness, according to the fact sheet.” [La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

The VA Said It Would Face A 22% Cut For Fiscal Year 2024

Under House Republicans' Legislation, The VA Said It Would Face A 22%, Or \$29.7 Billion, Cut For Fiscal Year 2024. “Because there is no specific language in the House-passed measure to exempt veteran funding from the reduction, the Veterans’ Affairs assumed a full, 22% cut for fiscal year 2024 compared with 2023 funding, an estimated reduction as high as \$29.7 billion.” [La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

Van Orden: If The VA Or Transportation Secretaries Want To “Prioritize The Bureaucracy Over The Safety Of The Rails Or The Medical Care For Our Veterans, That’s On Them, Not Me”

Van Orden: If The VA Or Transportation Secretaries Want To “Prioritize The Bureaucracy Over The Safety Of The Rails Or The Medical Care For Our Veterans, That’s On Them, Not Me.” “In an interview with the Tribune, Van Orden affirmed his statement and added that Congress just approved the top line budget levels but does not tell departments how to spend the money. ‘The secretaries of these departments are solely responsible for how these monies are applied,’ Van Orden said in an interview. ‘So if the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or the Secretary of Transportation wants to prioritize the bureaucracy over the safety of the rails or the medical care for our veterans, that’s on them, not me.’” [La Crosse Tribune, [5/18/23](#)]

Van Orden Opposed Legislation To Help Military Spouses

Rep. Chris Deluzio Introduced A Bill To Provide Military Spouses With Employment Protections Similar To Those Of Activated Guard And Reserve Troops Returning To Civilian Jobs

Rep. Chris Deluzio Introduced A Bill That Would Incorporate Spouses Into Most Provisions Of The Uniformed Services Employment And Reemployment Act. “A U.S. lawmaker wants to give military spouses employment protections similar to those given to activated Guard and Reserve troops returning to civilian jobs, but some experts worry it will cause more harm than good. The legislation, introduced June 7 by Rep. Chris Deluzio, D-Pa., a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, would incorporate spouses into most of the provisions of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act — and go further.” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

The Legislation Would Give Spouses Reemployment Rights If Their Job Absences Were Due To A Permanent Change Of Station Move And The Absence Was Less Than Two Consecutive Or Five Cumulative Years. “This new proposal, for example, would add a provision giving spouses reemployment rights if their absence from a job is due to a permanent change of station move and the absence doesn’t exceed two consecutive years, or up to five years cumulatively.” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

Surveys Showed That Military Spouses Had An Unemployment Rate Above 20% For More Than 10 Years

Surveys Showed That Military Spouses Had An Unemployment Rate Above 20% For More Than 10 Years. “Although military spouse unemployment isn’t tracked by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on a regular basis, surveys show the unemployment rate among military spouses has remained at above 20% for more than 10 years.” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

The Enlisted Association Of The National Guard Of The United States Backed Deluzio’s Bill

The Enlisted Association Of The National Guard Of The United States Backed Deluzio’s Bill. “The legislation, introduced June 7 by Rep. Chris Deluzio, D-Pa., a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, would incorporate spouses into most of the provisions of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act — and go further. [...] The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States supports the change, said Kevin Hollinger, the group’s legislative director. ‘We believe if there was a contract that was signed with the United States government, it was called ‘I do,’” he told lawmakers.” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

Van Orden Had “Deep Reservations” About Helping Military Spouses And Said It Was Not The Government’s Role To Put Mandates On Companies When The Spouses Did Not Sign Military Contracts

Van Orden: “I Have Deep Reservations About This.” “But lawmakers and advocates had questions — and mixed opinions — about the proposal during a June 14 hearing before the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs economic opportunity subcommittee. ‘I have deep reservations about this,’ said Rep. Derrick Van Orden, R-Wisc., the panel’s chairman. ‘I don’t think it’s the United States government’s place to exercise these mandates on companies when the person that’s involved didn’t sign [a military service] contract.’” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

Van Orden: “I Don’t Think It’s The United States Government’s Place To Exercise These Mandates On Companies When The Person That’s Involved Didn’t Sign [A Military Service] Contract.” “But lawmakers and advocates had questions — and mixed opinions — about the proposal during a June 14 hearing before the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs economic opportunity subcommittee. ‘I have deep reservations about this,’ said Rep. Derrick Van Orden, R-Wisc., the panel’s chairman. ‘I don’t think it’s the United States government’s place to exercise these mandates on companies when the person that’s involved didn’t sign [a military service] contract.’” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

Van Orden Asked About Potential Waste, Fraud And Abuse And Said, “We Have To Balance Fiscal Responsibility With Also Making Sure The Civil Liberties Of Individual Companies Are Not Violated”

Van Orden Asked If There Would Be Potential For Waste, Fraud And Abuse. “Asked by Van Orden whether he thought there is potential for waste, fraud and abuse, Rodriguez replied, ‘I don’t believe military spouses would take advantage of the system that’s there to support them. I believe they actually want to work, and they’re looking for opportunities to work and looking for opportunities to keep their jobs so they can support their families. I think that’s a misrepresentation of military spouses.’” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

- **The Department Of Labor’s Assistant Secretary For Veterans’ Employment And Training Service Pushed Back On The Question, Calling It “A Misrepresentation Of Military Spouses.”** “James Rodriguez, the Department of Labor’s assistant secretary for Veterans’ Employment and Training Service, said the department ‘wholeheartedly supports’ the idea. [...] Asked by Van Orden whether he thought there is potential for waste, fraud and abuse, Rodriguez replied, ‘I don’t believe military spouses would take advantage of the system that’s there to support them. I believe they actually want to work, and they’re looking for opportunities to work and looking for opportunities to keep their jobs so they can support their families. I think that’s a misrepresentation of military spouses.’” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

Van Orden: “We Have To Balance Fiscal Responsibility With Also Making Sure The Civil Liberties Of Individual Companies Are Not Violated.” “Van Orden, a retired Navy SEAL senior chief, said he understands the hardships of spouses, having been married to his Navy wife for 30 years. However, he said, ‘we have to balance fiscal responsibility with also making sure the civil liberties of individual companies are not violated. They are entities with people, too, and we have to make sure we don’t upset the apple cart of the workforce by creating unintended consequences,’ he said.” [Military Times, [6/21/23](#)]

Van Orden Backed Republicans’ Partisan Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Funding Bill, Which Made Cuts To Military Construction By \$1.5 Billion And Contained Unrelated Riders Restricting Abortion And Gender-Affirming Care

Van Orden Voted For A Bill That Would Provide Appropriations Funding For Veterans Affairs And Military Construction, But Prohibits Use Of Funds For Abortion And Gender-Affirming Care. In July 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill that would provide \$317.4 billion in mandatory and discretionary funding for the VA, including \$121 billion for VA medical care programs, \$166 billion for veteran disability compensation and other benefits, \$151.4 billion for veteran pensions, \$17.5 billion for military construction projects and \$2 billion for military personnel housing. It would also provide \$293 million for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program, intended to counter Russian and Chinese military activities. Among other provisions, it would prohibit the use of funds provided by the bill to close or realign Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and provide \$189 million for Arlington National Cemetery, including funding for its southern expansion. The bill would allow the use of funding for the Veterans Affairs Department Medical Services to reimburse veterans and their spouses for assisted reproductive technology treatments or adoption expenses. It would also prohibit the use of the bill’s funds to provide abortions, to implement a September 2022 VA rule that allows abortion counseling and establishes exceptions for the prohibition on abortions in the medical benefits package for veterans and civilian beneficiaries, to provide surgical procedures or hormone therapies for gender-affirming care, and to fly or display a flag over a VA facility or national cemetery that is not the U.S. flag, military-related or

another government jurisdiction. As amended, the bill would prohibit the use of the bill's funds to interfere with a veteran's participation in a legal state medical cannabis program, to enforce COVID-19 mask mandates, and to implement the COVID-19 vaccination program for VA health care personnel.” The bill passed by a vote of 219-211. [H.R. 4366, [Vote #380](#), 7/27/23; CQ, [7/27/23](#)]

- **Van Orden Voted For An Amendment To Ban Funds From The Bill From Being Used To Implement Biden Executive Orders Related To Climate Change.** In July 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Roy, R-Texas, amendment no. 40 that would bar the use of funds provided by the bill to implement seven Biden administration executive orders relating to climate change.” The amendment was adopted by a vote of 220-214. [H.R. 4366, [Vote #377](#), 7/26/23; CQ, [7/26/23](#)]
- **Van Orden Voted For An Amendment To Ban Funds From The Bill From Being Used To Promote Clean Energy Industries And Jobs.** In July 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Zinke, R-Mont., amendment no. 41 that would bar the use of funds provided by the bill to implement the December 2021 Biden administration executive order regarding the promotion of clean energy industries and jobs.” The amendment was adopted by a vote of 222-212. [H.R. 4366, [Vote #378](#), 7/26/23; CQ, [7/26/23](#)]

House Democrats: Republicans’ Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill Cut Funding To Military Construction By More Than \$1.5 Billion. “During today’s House Appropriations Committee markup of the 2024 Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, House Democrats highlighted how Republicans cannot credibly claim to fully fund veterans’ programs until they have shown us how they treat veterans in the rest of the domestic funding bills they plan to cut by as much as 60 percent. [...] This bill, as amended: Cuts funding for critical military construction and backtracks on our promises to our servicemembers and their families by cutting military construction by over \$1.5 billion compared to the current level.” [House Appropriations Committee Democrats, Press Release, [6/13/23](#)]

Van Orden Supported Massive Cuts To Programs Children And Their Families Rely Upon

Van Orden Supported The Default On America Act, Which Would Have Had Devastating Consequences For Wisconsin’s Children And Families

Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act [DOA] – Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until \$1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify

pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all “major” federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change.” The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, [Vote #199](#), 4/26/23; CQ, [4/26/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Was Bad For Wisconsin Families, Taking Away Head Start Slots, Access To Child Care And Rental Assistance

Under The Default On America Act, 3,300 Wisconsin Children Would Lose Access To Head Start Slots, And 2,200 Would Lose Access To Child Care. “The Default on America Act would mean 3,300 children in Wisconsin lose access to Head Start slots and 2,200 children lose access to child care—undermining our children’s education and making it more difficult for parents to join the workforce and contribute to our economy.” [White House, State Fact Sheet, [5/2/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Would Take Away Rental Assistance For 7,000 Wisconsin Families. “Under the Default on America Act, 7,000 families in Wisconsin would lose access to rental assistance, including older adults, persons with disabilities, and families with children, who without rental assistance would be at risk of homelessness.” [White House, State Fact Sheet, [5/2/23](#)]

Van Orden Backed And Lamented The Failure To Pass A Continuing Resolution That Would Have Caused Nearly 300,000 Children To Lose Access To Head Start, Caused 250,000 Children To Lose Child Care, Taken Food Away From Children, Families And Seniors, Caused Food Prices To Raise By Threatening Food Safety And Supply And Taken Away Heating Assistance In Winter

Van Orden Voted For A Continuing Resolution That Would Have Made 29.9% Cuts Nearly Across The Board And Lamented The Fact That It Did Not Pass

9/29/23: Van Orden Voted For Passing The Republican-Backed Continuing Resolution. In September 2023, Van Orden voted for “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs. It would fund veterans’ programs, the Department of Homeland Security, national security programs and disaster assistance at full fiscal 2023 levels. It would also implement nearly all provisions of House Republicans’ border security and immigration bill (HR 2), which the House passed in May 2023. It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans’ fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs. Among its border security and immigration provisions, it would require DHS, within seven days of enactment, to resume all activities related to “border wall” construction on the U.S.-Mexico border that were underway or planned prior to Jan. 20, 2021; require DHS to reopen or restore, no later than Sept. 30, 2023, the use of all Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facilities that were in operation on Jan. 20, 2021; and require DHS to return all unaccompanied children to their country of origin, regardless of whether they are from a contiguous country to the U.S. In addition to provisions of HR 2, it would place limitations on the use of DHS funding provided by the bill, including prohibitions on removing existing U.S.-Mexico border barriers, transporting inadmissible adults into the U.S., and the use of Customs and Border Protection’s “CBP One”

app to facilitate the parole of an individual into the U.S. It also would prohibit the use of funds provided by the bill to initiate or resume any project or activity not funded during fiscal 2023 and would establish a congressional fiscal commission tasked with identifying policies to “improve the fiscal situation.” The bill was rejected by a vote of 198-232. [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

- **9/29/23: The CR Failed By A Vote Of 198-232.** [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

The Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Funding For All Government Programs By 29.9%, With Exceptions For U.S. Defense, Department Of Veterans Affairs, And Disaster Relief Programs. “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs [...] It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans’ fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs.” [H.R. 5525, CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

September 2023: Van Orden Criticized 21 Republicans Who “Voted With Every Democrat In The House” Against Republicans’ Continuing Resolution

Van Orden Said That “21 Republicans Voted With Every Democrat In The House To: Defund The Military,” “Keep The Border Open” And “Embolden China.” VAN ORDEN: “21 Republicans voted with every Democrat in The House to: Defund the US military Keep the border open Embolden China.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]

Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Led To 290,000 Children Losing Access To Head Start

The CR Would Have Subjected Funding Through The Departments Of Labor, Health And Human Services, And Education, And Related Agencies Appropriations Act Of 2023 To Cuts. “Sec. 101. (a) Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2023 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Act, that were conducted in fiscal year 2023, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the following appropriations Acts: (1) The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023 (division A of Public Law 117–328). (2) The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023 (division B of Public Law 117–328). (3) The Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2023 (division C of Public Law 117–328). (4) The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023 (division D of Public Law 117–328), except the first proviso under the heading ‘Department of Energy—Energy Programs—SPR Petroleum Account’. (5) The Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2023 (division E of Public Law 117–328). (6) The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2023 (division F of Public Law 117–328), including title III of division O of Public Law 117–328. (7) The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023 (division G of Public Law 117–328). (8) The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023 (division H of Public Law 117–328). (9) The Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2023 (division I of Public Law 117–328). (10) The Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023 (division J of Public Law 117–328). (11) The Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (division K of Public

Law 117–328). (12) The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023 (division L of Public Law 117–328).” [HR 5525, Introduced [9/18/23](#)]

The Departments Of Labor, Health And Human Services, And Education, And Related Agencies Appropriations Act Of 2023 Allocated \$11,996,820,000 To Head Start. “Provided, That \$11,996,820,000 shall be for making payments under the Head Start Act, including for Early Head Start–Child Care Partnerships, and, of which, notwithstanding section 640 of such Act.” [Public Law 117–328, Division H, Departments Of Labor, Health And Human Services, And Education, And Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023, [12/29/22](#)]

White House: Under Republicans’ Proposed 30 Percent Cuts, 290,000 Children Would Lose Access To Head Start Slots. “With one day before the end of the fiscal year, instead of following the bipartisan lead of the Senate to keep the government open, 90% of House Republicans just voted for a partisan bill to eviscerate programs millions of hardworking families count on—with a devastating 30% cut to law enforcement, Meals on Wheels, Head Start, and more. They are breaking their word, abandoning the bipartisan deal that two-thirds of them voted for just four months ago, and marching our country toward an Extreme Republican Shutdown that will damage our economy, our communities, and national security. Here’s what it would mean for the American people if extreme House Republicans’ 30% cuts were extended for the entire year. IMPACTS OF EXTREME REPUBLICANS’ 30% CUTS: [...] 290,000 children would lose access to Head Start slots” [White House, [9/29/23](#)]

Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Taken Food Away From Children, Families And Seniors, While Causing Food Prices To Rise By Threatening Food Safety And Supply

Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut The Already Underfunded Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children (WIC) By 30%. “With the introduction of this even more unreasonable Continuing Resolution, House Republicans are still more focused on introducing extreme funding bills than working on a bipartisan solution that could be enacted. [...] Taking food out of the mouths of children, families, and seniors. With the sharp increase in caseload, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) has barely half of the resources it needs to keep feeding people. The program needs a 32 percent increase. Instead, House Republicans are cutting it by 30 percent.” [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

3.2 Million Women, Infants And Children Would Have Lost Nutrition Assistance Through The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children. “IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS’ EXTREME CR: [...] 3.2 million women, infants, and children would lose vital nutrition assistance through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).” [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Meals On Wheels For More Than 1 Million Seniors. “With the introduction of this even more unreasonable Continuing Resolution, House Republicans are still more focused on introducing extreme funding bills than working on a bipartisan solution that could be enacted. [...] Other nutrition services, such as Meals on Wheels, would also be cut for more than 1 million seniors.” [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

Republican’s Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Funding For The Food Safety And Inspection Service By 30%, Making Meat And Poultry Less Safe To Consume And Hurting Workers In Rural Communities. “With the introduction of this even more unreasonable Continuing Resolution, House Republicans are still more focused on introducing extreme funding bills than working on a bipartisan solution that could be enacted. [...] Raising the costs of food by threatening food safety and supply. House Republicans are threatening public health by cutting Food Safety and Inspection Service by 30 percent. This cut makes our meat and poultry less safe to consume. Plants that produce these products provide jobs in rural communities. Without adequate federal inspection staffing, plants will be statutorily required to close or reduce operating hours, thus hurting workers’ paychecks, reducing the meat and poultry supply, and raising the cost of food.” [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

- **Cuts To The Food Safety And Inspection Service Would Cause A Decrease In Production Of Meat And Poultry, Thus Raising The Cost Of Food.** “Raising the costs of food by threatening food safety and supply. House Republicans are threatening public health by cutting Food Safety and Inspection Service by 30 percent. This cut makes our meat and poultry less safe to consume. Plants that produce these products provide jobs in rural communities. Without adequate federal inspection staffing, plants will be statutorily required to close or reduce operating hours, thus hurting workers’ paychecks, reducing the meat and poultry supply, and raising the cost of food.” [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Caused 250,000 Children To Lose Access To Child Care, And 3.2 Million Women, Infants And Children Would Have Lost Nutrition Assistance Through The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children

Under House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution, 250,000 Children Would Have Lost Access To Child Care. “IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS’ EXTREME CR: [...] 250,000 children would lose access to child care.” [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

3.2 Million Women, Infants And Children Would Have Lost Nutrition Assistance Through The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, And Children. “IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS’ EXTREME CR: [...] 3.2 million women, infants, and children would lose vital nutrition assistance through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).” [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program By Roughly 74%, Gutting A Program That Nearly 195,000 Wisconsinites Used To Heat Their Homes During The Winter

House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Which Helped People Heat Their Homes During Winter And Cool Them During Summer, By Roughly 74% “With the introduction of this even more unreasonable Continuing Resolution, House Republicans are still more focused on introducing extreme funding bills than working on a bipartisan solution that could be enacted. [...] Decimating the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) as temperatures begin to drop. In an unprecedented move, House Republicans have cut LIHEAP funding by roughly 74 percent. More than 5 million low-income households would lose their home heating or cooling benefits or have their benefits cut by hundreds of dollars, threatening their ability to heat their homes in winter or cool their homes in summer.” [House Committee on Appropriations, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

Fiscal Year 2022: 194,705 Wisconsin Households Were Served By The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/20/23](#)]

State	Households Served By The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, FY 2022
Wisconsin	194,705

[White House, Statements and Releases, [9/20/23](#)]

Van Orden Agreed With Someone Who Called The American Rescue Plan Act’s Child Tax Credit “Bullshit,” Even Though It Cut Child Poverty Almost In Half; The Bill Also Supported Childcare For Up To 289,000 Wisconsin Children

Van Orden Opposed The American Rescue Plan Act

Van Orden Called The American Rescue Plan Act A “Disaster,” “Wasteful” And A “Bribery Bill.” “Van Orden, who is running for the second time to unseat Democratic Rep. Ron Kind in Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District, spent much of this winter criticizing the aid provided in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that was passed by a Democratically held Congress and signed by President Joe Biden.” [Wisconsin Examiner, [6/29/21](#)]

Van Orden Specifically Opposed The American Rescue Plan Act’s Child Tax Credit, Even Expressing Agreement With Someone Who Called It “Bullshit”

In Response To Ron Kind’s Post About The Child Tax Credit, Van Orden Called It “Socialism,” Said That Kind Had “Gone Full AOC” And Accused Him And Pelosi Of “Buying Votes With Your Money.” Derrick Van Orden posted a screenshot of Ron Kind’s tweet, which said, “Families, make sure to mark your calendars! Starting on July 15, you will receive monthly payments (via direct deposit or mail) of up to \$250/child between the ages of 6-17 or up to \$300/child under the age of 6. Find out more at [childtaxcredit.gov](#).” In Van Orden’s post accompanying the screenshot, he said, “Yes, make sure you mark your calendars. Rep. Ron Kind, has officially gone full @AOC. This is not a joke. This is socialism. Ron and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi are buying your votes with your money. [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [7/11/21](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, [7/11/21](#)]

- **In Response To Someone Who Commented “Bullshit” On Van Orden’s Post, He Replied, “I Agree” And “This Is Not Appropriate.”** Ron Rothering commented “Bullshit” on Van Orden’s post. Van Orden replied, “Ron Rothering Yes. I agree. This is not appropriate.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [7/11/21](#)]

2021: Van Orden Said That “Taking Away This Child Tax Credit Thing” Was Something He Would Do In Congress. VAN ORDEN: “I think primarily the problem that we see in Washington, DC is that not enough people do things just because they’re right and wrong. So something is either right or wrong. I’m always going to work every single day to do things that are right, just because they’re right. They may not always be popular with everybody. Like, do you think that taking away this child tax credit thing is going to be popular with people? Well,

is that fiscally responsible, yes or no? Is it good for the greater good? That's what I'll be working for." [Breitbart via Soundcloud, Derrick Van Orden, 13:50, [8/14/21](#)](AUDIO)

The Child Tax Credit Was Projected To Benefit An Estimated 651,000 Families, More Than 1.1 Million Children In Wisconsin And Led To A 46% Decline In Child Poverty

The Child Tax Credit Was Projected To Benefit An Estimated 651,000 Families And More Than 1.1 Million Children In Wisconsin. "In Wisconsin, this year's historic Child Tax Credit is estimated to benefit 651,000 families with 1,127,000 children." [White House, Press Release, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

2021: A One-Year Expansion Of The Child Tax Credit Led To A 46% Decline In The Child Poverty Rate. "In 2021, as the economy reeled from the pandemic, a one-year expansion of the child tax credit led to a historic 46 percent decline in the child poverty rate." [PBS, Newshour, [9/12/23](#)]

The American Rescue Plan Supported 7,370 Childcare Programs Serving As Many As 289,000 Children In Wisconsin

The American Rescue Plan Supported 7,370 Child Care Programs Serving As Many As 289,000 Children In Wisconsin. "The American Rescue Plan's Impact on Wisconsin on Two-Year Anniversary [...] 7,370 Child Care Programs in Wisconsin Received Support to Help Keep Their Doors Open, impacting up to 289,000 children." [White House, Press Release, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

Van Orden Cast Votes That Threatened Public Safety

The Default On America Act, Which Van Orden Supported, Would Have Harmed Public Safety

Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act [DOA] – Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until \$1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Van Orden voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all "major" federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax

credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change.” The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, [Vote #199](#), 4/26/23; CQ, [4/26/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Cut \$17 Billion In Funding For Public Safety, Threatened Nearly 30,000 Law Enforcement Jobs And Cut Nearly \$1 Billion In Grants For State And Local Law Enforcement

The Default On America Act Cut \$17 Billion In Funding For Public Safety. “The GOP Default on America Act’s 22% spending cut would slash nearly \$17 billion in funding for federal law enforcement, courts, and prisons that support public safety. Republicans are gambling with Americans’ safety by threatening to not raise the debt limit. After attacking Democrats for ‘defunding the police,’ this bill cuts the Department of Justice’s budget by over \$8 billion and threatens nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs. The DOA Act cuts nearly \$1 billion in grants for state, local, and tribal law enforcement. The bill cuts \$1 billion in FBI funding that the agency uses to conduct background checks, solve violent crimes, and combat terrorism. This includes \$150 million in cuts to programs created by the Violence Against Women Act, which will especially harm women in Native communities. It eliminates \$564 million in funding for the Drug Enforcement Administration, and \$384 million more from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.” [Joint Economic Committee, Press Release, [4/26/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Threatened Nearly 30,000 Law Enforcement Jobs And Cut Nearly \$1 Billion In Grants For State And Local Law Enforcement. “The GOP Default on America Act’s 22% spending cut would slash nearly \$17 billion in funding for federal law enforcement, courts, and prisons that support public safety. Republicans are gambling with Americans’ safety by threatening to not raise the debt limit. After attacking Democrats for ‘defunding the police,’ this bill cuts the Department of Justice’s budget by over \$8 billion and threatens nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs. The DOA Act cuts nearly \$1 billion in grants for state, local, and tribal law enforcement. The bill cuts \$1 billion in FBI funding that the agency uses to conduct background checks, solve violent crimes, and combat terrorism. This includes \$150 million in cuts to programs created by the Violence Against Women Act, which will especially harm women in Native communities. It eliminates \$564 million in funding for the Drug Enforcement Administration, and \$384 million more from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.” [Joint Economic Committee, Press Release, [4/26/23](#)]

Van Orden Backed House Republicans’ Continuing Resolution, Which Would Have Defunded The Police
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Van Orden Voted For A Continuing Resolution That Would Have Made 29.9% Cuts Nearly Across The Board And Lamented The Fact That It Did Not Pass

9/29/23: Van Orden Voted For Passing The Republican-Backed Continuing Resolution. In September 2023, Van Orden voted for “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs. It would fund veterans’ programs, the Department of Homeland Security, national security programs and disaster assistance at full fiscal 2023 levels. It would also implement nearly all provisions of House Republicans’ border security and immigration bill (HR 2), which the House passed in May 2023. It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans’ fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs. Among its border security and immigration provisions, it would require DHS, within seven days of enactment, to resume all activities related to “border wall” construction on the U.S.-Mexico border that were underway or planned prior to Jan. 20, 2021; require DHS to reopen or restore, no later

than Sept. 30, 2023, the use of all Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facilities that were in operation on Jan. 20, 2021; and require DHS to return all unaccompanied children to their country of origin, regardless of whether they are from a contiguous country to the U.S. In addition to provisions of HR 2, it would place limitations on the use of DHS funding provided by the bill, including prohibitions on removing existing U.S.-Mexico border barriers, transporting inadmissible adults into the U.S., and the use of Customs and Border Protection's "CBP One" app to facilitate the parole of an individual into the U.S. It also would prohibit the use of funds provided by the bill to initiate or resume any project or activity not funded during fiscal 2023 and would establish a congressional fiscal commission tasked with identifying policies to "improve the fiscal situation." The bill was rejected by a vote of 198-232. [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

- **9/29/23: The CR Failed By A Vote Of 198-232.** [H.R. 5525, [Vote #511](#), 9/29/23; CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

The Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Funding For All Government Programs By 29.9%, With Exceptions For U.S. Defense, Department Of Veterans Affairs, And Disaster Relief Programs. "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs [...] It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans' fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs." [H.R. 5525, CQ, [9/29/23](#)]

September 2023: Van Orden Criticized 21 Republicans Who "Voted With Every Democrat In The House" Against Republicans' Continuing Resolution

Van Orden Said That "21 Republicans Voted With Every Democrat In The House To: Defund The Military," "Keep The Border Open" And "Embolden China." VAN ORDEN: "21 Republicans voted with every Democrat in The House to: Defund the US military Keep the border open Embolden China." [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Nearly 1,000 ATF Agents, 12,500 FBI Personnel, Including Agents, 2,215 Prosecutors And 500 Members Of Local Law Enforcement

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Have Cut Nearly 1,000 Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms And Explosives (ATF) Agents. "IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS' EXTREME CR: [...] Nearly 1,000 fewer agents at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). ATF agents are often some of the first federal law enforcement on the scene of a mass shooting to help local law enforcement identify at-large shooters." [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Result In 500 Fewer Local Law Enforcement Members. "IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS' EXTREME CR: [...] 500 fewer members of local law enforcement." [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republicans' Continuing Resolution Would Have Resulted In 12,500 Fewer FBI Personnel, Including Agents. "IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS' EXTREME CR: [...] 12,500 fewer FBI personnel, including

agents who investigate crimes and keep guns out of the hands of felons and domestic abusers.” [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

House Republican’s Continuing Resolution Would Have Led To There Being 2,215 Fewer Prosecutors.

“IMPACTS OF HOUSE REPUBLICANS’ EXTREME CR: [...] 2,215 fewer prosecutors fighting to keep America safe.” [White House, Statements and Releases, [9/29/23](#)]

January 2024: Van Orden Voted To Shut Down The Government, Which Would Have Had Devastating Consequences For Wisconsinites

January 2024: Van Orden Voted Against A Continuing Resolution To Keep Government Open

January 2024: Van Orden Said He Voted Against A Continuing Resolution In Part Because Of The Situation At The Southern Border, Wasteful Spending And A Lack Of Plan In Ukraine. “Today, Congressman Derrick Van Orden (WI-03) released the following statement after voting against the Continuing Resolution (CR): ‘I have voted for two Continuing Resolutions in the past four months, and we have seen no progress in passing Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) funding or addressing our nation’s top issues. We have a historic crisis and national security threat at our southern border, billions in wasteful government spending, and still no strategic plan for the war in Ukraine. The CR brought to the House floor today did nothing to resolve these problems and only would have continued to kick the can down the road of budgeting by crisis.’” [U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden, [1/18/24](#)]

A Government Shutdown Would Have Forced American Troops And Law Enforcement Officers To Stay On The Job Without Being Paid And Potentially Curtailed Military Recruiting And Training

A Government Shutdown Would Have Forced American Troops And Law Enforcement Officers To Stay On The Job Without Being Paid. “Unless Congress acts by September 30th, the federal government will shut down. A government shutdown would have negative impacts for mid-Michigan. You can learn more about how a government shutdown could impact you, your family and your community below. [...] What is the impact on law enforcement or U.S. military personnel? Active-duty and reserve U.S. military personnel and many law enforcement officers would remain on the job but be forced to work without pay.” [U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, Government Shutdown, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

A Government Shutdown Would Have Potentially Curtailed Military Training Operations And Severely Diminished Military Training And Recruitment. “Unless Congress acts by September 30th, the federal government will shut down. A government shutdown would have negative impacts for mid-Michigan. You can learn more about how a government shutdown could impact you, your family and your community below. [...] What is the impact on law enforcement or U.S. military personnel? Active-duty and reserve U.S. military personnel and many law enforcement officers would remain on the job but be forced to work without pay. Military training operations could be curtailed and the military’s ability to recruit and retain individuals would be severely diminished, which will impact our national security and our military’s readiness.” [U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, Government Shutdown, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

September 2023: The Department Of Homeland Security Said 72% Of Its Workforce Would Have To Work Without Pay If The Government Shutdown, Including 19,000 Border Patrol Agents And 25,000 Field Operations Officers

September 2023: 72% Of The Department Of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Workforce Would Have Had To Work Without Pay If The Government Had Shut Down. “As the third largest department of the federal government, DHS is home to hundreds of thousands of hard-working individuals devoted to public service. A shutdown would affect every member of the DHS community in some way, putting a strain on our team members’

ability to make ends meet, put food on the table, and more. 72% of the DHS workforce would be required to work without pay Nearly three in four DHS employees – more than 185,000 people – would be required to continue working through a shutdown, without receiving a paycheck.” [Department of Homeland Security, Fact Sheet, [9/28/23](#)]

September 2023: 19,000 Border Patrol Agents And 25,000 Office Of Field Operations Officers Would Not Have Been Paid If The Government Had Shut Down. “As the third largest department of the federal government, DHS is home to hundreds of thousands of hard-working individuals devoted to public service. A shutdown would affect every member of the DHS community in some way, putting a strain on our team members’ ability to make ends meet, put food on the table, and more. [...] Over 19,000 Unpaid U.S. Border Patrol Agents and 25,000 Unpaid Office of Field Operations Officers: CBP agents and officers working at over 300 ports of entry and protecting more than 6,000 miles of border under challenging circumstances would be required to continue performing their vital missions without pay.” [Department of Homeland Security, Fact Sheet, [9/28/23](#)]

Van Orden Used The Border As A Political Football And Did Nothing To Improve The Situation

When Van Orden Had A Chance To Help Pass What Would Have Been The Strongest Border Legislation Ever, He Said He Would “Have No Part Of It”

Van Orden Said He Would “Have No Part Of” Passing The Bipartisan Senate Border Bill

Van Orden Said He Would “Have No Part Of” Passing The Bipartisan Senate Border Bill. Rep. Mike Collins quote tweeted a tweet about the Senate border bill and said, “Why would a Republican negotiate a ‘deal’ that allows nearly 2 million people (5k per day) into our country per year for simply showing up at a port of entry or swimming across the Rio Grande? This is insane. The deal should be that any illegal crossings be immediately booted back to Mexico and told not to come back.” Van Orden quote tweeted Collins and said, “And I will have no part of it, my great friend from Georgia.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [1/26/24](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [1/26/24](#)]

The Bipartisan Border Package Would Improve The Asylum Screening Standard To “Ensure That Only Migrants With Legitimate Asylum Claims” Are Approved

The Bipartisan Border Package ‘Raises Asylum Screening Standard & Streamlines Initial Asylum Interview.’ “By raising the asylum screening standard, we will ensure that only migrants with legitimate asylum claims will be allowed to remain in the country, while expeditiously removing economic migrants and those wishing to do Americans harm. By consolidating the multiple initial asylum screenings in a new, single Protection Determination Interview, we can effectively and efficiently screen for fear of persecution or torture in 90 days or less.” [Senator Sinema, Bipartisan Border Security Package, [2/4/24](#)]

“By Raising The Asylum Screening Standard, We Will Ensure That Only Migrants With Legitimate Asylum Claims Will Be Allowed To Remain In The Country” “By raising the asylum screening standard, we will ensure that only migrants with legitimate asylum claims will be allowed to remain in the country, while expeditiously removing economic migrants and those wishing to do Americans harm. By consolidating the multiple initial asylum screenings in a new, single Protection Determination Interview, we can effectively and efficiently screen for fear of persecution or torture in 90 days or less.” [Senator Sinema, Bipartisan Border Security Package, [2/4/24](#)]

The Border Package Would Give The Secretary Of Homeland Security The Right To Determine Eligibility Of Parole “On A Case-By-Case Basis”

The Border Package Would Give The Secretary Of Homeland Security The Right To Determine Parole Eligibility “On A Case-By-Case Basis. “(a) IN GENERAL.—An alien described in section 235 or 235B who arrives by land from a contiguous continental land border (whether or not at a designated port of arrival), absent unusual circumstances, shall be promptly subjected to the mandatory provisions of such sections. unless the Secretary of Homeland Security (referred to in this section as the ‘Secretary’) determines, on a case-by case basis, that there is... [...] Beginning on the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall require any alien described in subsection (a) who does not meet any of the criteria described in paragraphs (1) through (6) of that subsection to be processed in accordance with section 235 or 235B, as applicable unless such alien is subject to removal proceedings under subsection (b)(3).” [H.R. 815, Senator Sinema, [2/4/24](#)]

The Border Package Included The Authority Of The Secretary Of The DHS To Grant Parole To Illegal Immigrants Arriving At A Port of Entry “By Air Or By Sea” As Well As Land Border. “Nothing in this section may be construed— “(1) to preclude the execution of section 235(a)(4) or 241(a)(5); “(2) to expand or restrict the authority to grant parole under section 212(d)(5), including for aliens arriving at a port of entry by air or sea, other than 1an alien arriving by land at a contiguous continental land border for whom a special rule described in 12 subsection (a) applies [...]” [H.R. 815, Senator Sinema, [2/4/24](#)]

The Border Package Would End The Current Parole Process By Creating “A New Removal Authority” And Closing Loopholes

The Border Package “Creates A New Removal Authority” Out Of Courts To Remove Illegal Immigrants

The Border Package “Creates A New Removal Authority.” “Today, there are over three million cases pending adjudication in the immigration courts. As a result, the process can take more than 10 years. Under the new authority, migrants’ protection claims and appeals are adjudicated in six months or less by USCIS asylum officers rather than the immigration court system, reducing the immigration court case backlog while still ensuring robust due process protections.” [Senator Sinema, Bipartisan Border Security Package, [2/4/24](#)]

The Border Package Would Close Loopholes Found In Parole By Stopping The Use Of Parole To Enter At Ports Of Entry Or Land Borders

The Border Package Would Close Loopholes Found In Parole By Not Using The Parole Process At Ports Of Entry. “Ends Catch and Release & Closes Loopholes in Parole: By requiring detention or mandatory supervision of all migrants processed at the border, we ensure migrants follow through with the asylum process and do not disappear into the interior of the country. Additionally, we stop the use of parole to enter the country at our Ports of Entry (212 Parole) or between our Ports of Entry (236 Parole), while ensuring that those needing urgent humanitarian assistance can still temporarily travel to the U.S.” [Senator Sinema, Bipartisan Border Security Package, [2/4/24](#)]

The Border Package Creates A New Rule That Ends Parole At Land Border (Not A Port Of Entry) And Uses Expedited Removal. “(a) IN GENERAL.—An alien described in section 235 or 235B who arrives by land from a contiguous continental land border (whether or not at a designated port of arrival), absent unusual circumstances, shall be promptly subjected to the mandatory provisions of such sections. [...] Beginning on the

date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall require any alien described in subsection (a) who does not meet any of the criteria described in paragraphs (1) through (6) of that subsection to be processed in accordance with section 235 or 235B, as applicable unless such alien is subject to removal proceedings under subsection (b)(3).” [H.R. 815, Senator Sinema, [2/4/24](#)]

The Bipartisan Border Security Package Would End Catch-And-Release

The Bipartisan Border Security Package Would End Catch-And-Release. “By requiring detention or mandatory supervision of all migrants processed at the border, we ensure migrants follow through with the asylum process and do not disappear into the interior of the country. Additionally, we stop the use of parole to enter the country at our Ports of Entry (212 Parole) or between our Ports of Entry (236 Parole), while ensuring that those needing urgent humanitarian assistance can still temporarily travel to the U.S.” [Senator Sinema, Bipartisan Border Security Package, [2/4/24](#)]

Republicans Backed Out Of The Bipartisan Border Security Bill At Trump’s Request

HEADLINE: “Republicans Kill Border Bill In A Sign Of Trump's Strength And McConnell's Waning Influence.” [NBC News, [2/7/24](#)]

- **Trump Pushed Republicans To Oppose The Bipartisan Border Security Bill.** “It was a jarring moment on Capitol Hill that pointed to a changed landscape: The Kentucky Republican, a one-man power center for more than a decade, is seeing his influence with fellow senators wane as his party continues to transform into the right-wing populist mold of Donald Trump. The former president, who fiercely opposed the border deal and has long pushed fellow Republicans to turn away from McConnell, is cruising to a third consecutive GOP presidential nomination.” [NBC News, [2/7/24](#)]

The Default On America Act, Which Van Orden Supported, Cut Billions In Funding From Border Security

Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act

April 2023: Van Orden Voted For The Default On America Act [DOA] – Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until \$1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to

require congressional approval of all “major” federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change.” The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, [Vote #199](#), 4/26/23; CQ, [4/26/23](#)]

The Default On American Act Cut Billions From Customs And Border Protection And Immigration And Customs Enforcement

The Hill: “White House: Proposed GOP Spending Cuts Would Be ‘Gut Punch’ To Border Guards.” [The Hill, [5/14/23](#)]

The Default On America Act Cut \$3.8 Billion In Funding For U.S. Customs And Border Protection And Almost \$2 Billion From U.S. Immigration And Customs Enforcement. ‘The GOP Default on America Act’s 22% spending cut would slash nearly \$17 billion in funding for federal law enforcement, courts, and prisons that support public safety. Republicans are gambling with Americans’ safety by threatening to not raise the debt limit. [...] After endless rhetoric about the border, the GOP plan guts funding for border security. The bill cuts over \$3.8 billion in funding for U.S. Customs and Border Protection and almost \$2 billion from U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. The DOA would reject President Biden’s \$4.7 billion proposed investment to strengthen security at the Southwestern Border. This plan shrinks investments in the science and technology that make the Department of Homeland Security more effective by almost \$200 million.’ [Joint Economic Committee, Press Release, [4/26/23](#)]

The Default On America Threatened The Jobs Of 2,000 Border Patrol Agents. “The White House ripped House Republicans for the debt ceiling legislation they passed last month, arguing spending cuts in the bill would be a ‘gut punch’ to border agents. The bill would raise the debt ceiling, but also makes good on Republicans’ promise to cut spending. Democrats, who in the Senate have signaled they will not consider the House bill, have gone on the offense on the spending cuts. The White House dubbed the bill the ‘Default on America Act.’ [...] Bates claimed that the bill, if enacted, would result in the termination of 2,000 Border Patrol agents, slash the budget of the Drug Enforcement Agency and allow 150,000 pounds of cocaine, 900 pounds of fentanyl, 2,000 pounds of heroin and 17,000 pounds of methamphetamine into the U.S.” [The Hill, [5/14/23](#)]

Van Orden Was An Anti-Choice Extremist

2020: Van Orden Opposed Exceptions To Abortion Bans For Victims Of Rape Or Incest

2020: Van Orden Said That One Cannot Heal The Evil Of Rape “By Adding More On It And Killing Someone” And That It Was “Just Compounding The Evil Of The Rape Of The Incest.” “Van Orden’s comments reflect a shift in position. In May 2020, as he was campaigning against then-Democratic U.S. Rep. Ron Kind, Van Orden said he opposed any access to abortions, including for victims of rape and incest. ‘You can’t heal that evil (of rape) by adding more on it and killing someone — a human being that can only be described as the most innocent amongst us — is just compounding the evil of the rape of the incest,’ Van Orden said in a separate interview on WSAU in 2020.” [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, [4/14/23](#)]

Van Orden Backed The Overturning Of Roe V. Wade And Said That Life Began At Conception

Van Orden Praised The Supreme Court Decision Overturning Roe V. Wade As “A Major Milestone For The Sanctity Of Life.” Derrick Van Orden posted a screenshot of a press release to his Facebook page, which said, “Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District Republican candidate Derrick Van Orden responded to the Supreme Court’s decision announced today resulting in the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Derrick Van Orden released the following statement in response: ‘I believe every child is a child of God, and today’s decision is a major milestone for the sanctity of life.’” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [6/24/22](#)]

Derrick Van Orden Responds to Today's Supreme Court Decision

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, WI - Wisconsin's 3rd Congressional District Republican candidate Derrick Van Orden responded to the Supreme Court's decision announced today resulting in the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

Derrick Van Orden released the following statement in response:

"I believe that every child is a child of God, and today's decision is a major milestone for the sanctity of life."

[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [6/24/22](#)]

Van Orden Said That Life Began At Conception

Headline: “Van Orden Doubles Down On Anti-Abortion Stance, Says Life Begins At Conception.”

[Wisconsin Independent, [5/15/24](#)]

2024: Van Orden: “Life Begins At Conception.” “Wisconsin Republican U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden doubled down on his stance against abortion during an appearance on a conservative radio talk show on May 9, adding that he ideologically aligns with the House Freedom Caucus, one of the most conservative groups in Congress, but disagrees with its methods. While appearing on the far-right ‘John Fredericks Show,’ Van Orden said, ‘I’m a pro-life guy. I’m a Republican, I’m a Christian, I’m a grandfather, and I’m a pro-life guy. I just am. I mean, life begins at conception and every baby is a child of God.’” [Wisconsin Independent, [5/15/24](#)]

2022: Van Orden Said That He Believes “That Life Begins At Conception.” VAN ORDEN: “I believe that every child is a child of God and that life begins at conception. I will always work to protect the most innocent and vulnerable amongst us, our unborn children. I’m proud to stand with all those who took part in the March For Life today.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [1/21/22](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [1/21/22](#)]

Van Orden Voted For Appropriations Bills With Anti-Choice Riders

Van Orden Voted For Passing Fiscal 2024 State-Foreign Operations Appropriations Including Republican Riders To Prohibit “Funding For International Non-Governmental Organizations That Provide Abortion Services.” In September 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide \$53.3 billion in federal funding for fiscal 2024. The bill includes a \$12.9 billion offset, including \$11.1 billion from a rescission of funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund from the fiscal 2022 budget reconciliation bill (PL 117-169). The bill would provide \$4.4 billion to counter the Chinese Communist Party’s influence and prohibit the use of funds to repay loans to the Chinese government or to support forced labor, crimes against humanity or genocide in China. The bill would provide \$3.1 billion for Israel, \$1.5 billion for Egypt and \$1.7 billion for Jordan. The bill would also require the executive branch, within 60 days of enactment, to report to Congress on a strategy to prioritize U.S. national security interests in responding to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and create new

monitoring and oversight mechanisms. Among other provisions, the bill would provide \$10 billion for global health programs, strike funding for the Green Climate Fund, and reimpose the prohibition on federal funding for international non-governmental organizations that provide abortion services. As amended, the bill would reduce the salary of Secretary of State Antony Blinken to \$1, prohibit the use of funds for the Office of Palestinian Affairs, and add language to expand eligibility for security upgrades to soft targets to include places of worship for U.S. embassy staff and their dependents.” The bill passed by a vote of 216-212. [H.R. 4665, [Vote #500](#), 9/28/23; CQ, [9/28/23](#)]

Van Orden Voted For A Bill That Would Provide Appropriations Funding For Veterans Affairs And Military Construction But Prohibit The Use Of Funds For Abortion. In July 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill that would provide \$317.4 billion in mandatory and discretionary funding for the VA, including \$121 billion for VA medical care programs, \$166 billion for veteran disability compensation and other benefits, \$151.4 billion for veteran pensions, \$17.5 billion for military construction projects and \$2 billion for military personnel housing. It would also provide \$293 million for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program, intended to counter Russian and Chinese military activities. Among other provisions, it would prohibit the use of funds provided by the bill to close or realign Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and provide \$189 million for Arlington National Cemetery, including funding for its southern expansion. The bill would allow the use of funding for the Veterans Affairs Department Medical Services to reimburse veterans and their spouses for assisted reproductive technology treatments or adoption expenses. It would also prohibit the use of the bill's funds to provide abortions, to implement a September 2022 VA rule that allows abortion counseling and establishes exceptions for the prohibition on abortions in the medical benefits package for veterans and civilian beneficiaries, to provide surgical procedures or hormone therapies for gender-affirming care, and to fly or display a flag over a VA facility or national cemetery that is not the U.S. flag, military-related or another government jurisdiction. As amended, the bill would prohibit the use of the bill's funds to interfere with a veteran's participation in a legal state medical cannabis program, to enforce COVID-19 mask mandates, and to implement the COVID-19 vaccination program for VA health care personnel.” The bill passed by a vote of 219-211. [H.R. 4366, [Vote #380](#), 7/27/23; CQ, [7/27/23](#)]

Van Orden Said He Would Do Everything He Could To Defund Planned Parenthood And That He Hoped To Get A Zero Rating From It

Van Orden: “My First Job Is To Make Sure I Do Everything I Can To Defund Planned Parenthood And Other Associated Organizations”

Van Orden: “My First Job Is To Make Sure I Do Everything I Can To Defund Planned Parenthood And Other Associated Organizations.” VAN ORDEN: “I base my entire platform on seven words from the Declaration of Independence and I wrote this all before all of this covid stuff happened. Those words are ‘life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,’ and that’s how I take things in order. When I say life, man, I am ardently pro-life. I believe life begins at conception, this comports with my religious belief. This also comports with science. Running against Ron Kind gets a 100% rating from Planned Parenthood, a 100% rating from NARAL. Those are the organizations that the Governor of Virginia was talking about where you can have a human baby survive an abortion and have a discussion about whether or not you’re going to render aid to it. That’s completely unacceptable and I am not going to tolerate that. So my first job is to make sure I do everything I can to defund Planned Parenthood and other associated organizations. It’s just the right thing to do.” [Preston Scott Show via Listen Notes, 1:14:07, [6/15/20](#)] (AUDIO)

Van Orden: “I’m 100% Pro-Life And If I Get A 0% Rating From Planned Parenthood And A 0% Rating From NARAL I’ve Run A Successful Political Campaign”

Van Orden: “I’m 100% Pro-Life And If I Get A 0% Rating From Planned Parenthood And A 0% Rating From NARAL I’ve Run A Successful Political Campaign.” VAN ORDEN: “He gets a 100% rating from Planned Parenthood and a 100% rating from NARAL. Those are the organizations that say you can literally have a

human baby survive an abortion and you can discuss whether or not you're going to render aid to that child. Ron Kind has a 100% rating from those organizations. There is nobody that can say that is a moderate position at all. I'm 100% pro-life and if I get a 0% rating from Planned Parenthood and a 0% rating from NARAL I've run a successful political campaign." [John Muir Show via Listen Notes, 3:05, [6/17/20](#)] (AUDIO)

Van Orden Consistently Opposed Labor

2023: Van Orden Had A 10% Score On The AFL-CIO's Key Vote Scorecard

2023: Van Orden Had A 10% Score On The AFL-CIO's Key Vote Scorecard. [AFL-CIO, 2023 Scorecard, accessed [5/24/24](#)]

June 2023: Van Orden Voted For The CHOICE Arrangement Act, Which Would Roll Back Basic Health Protections For Workers

June 2023: Van Orden Voted For The CHOICE Arrangement Act, Which Allowed Employers More Flexibility In Deciding What Type Of Healthcare To Provide Employees. In June 2023, Derrick Van Orden voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would create additional flexibilities for employers providing health insurance. The bill would allow groups of employers to establish and maintain group health plans for employees. It would require such groups to provide coverage to at least 51 employees and to have been in existence for at least two years prior to establishing the health plan. It would allow self-employed individuals to establish a group for the purpose of maintaining a group health plan. The bill would also allow employer-financed health reimbursement arrangements (HRA) to be used by employees to purchase insurance plans on state exchanges. It would also deem such HRAs compliant with requirements under current law for employers to provide health insurance coverage. To be eligible, it would require employers to offer the same HRA plan to all employees of a certain class, as defined by the bill, including full- and part-time employees, employees under the same collective bargaining agreement, and non-resident alien employees. It would also require employers to give eligible employees 90 days' written notice prior to the beginning of the plan year of their rights and obligations. Among other provisions, the bill would rescind \$245 million in fiscal 2024 from the Health and Human Services Department's Prevention and Public Health Fund, specify that stop-loss policies obtained by a self-insured group health plan or plan sponsor do not qualify as health insurance coverage under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, and require the Treasury Department, within one year of enactment, to notify employers of the availability of tax-advantaged flexible health insurance benefits, with an initial focus on small businesses. HR 3799 also contains the text of the Small Business Flexibility Act (HR 3798), the Association Health Plans Act (HR 2868) and the Self-Insurance Protection Act (HR 2813)." The bill passed 220 to 209. [H.R. 3799, [Vote #282](#), 6/21/23; CQ, [6/21/23](#)]

- **The CHOICE Arrangement Act Would Roll Back Basic Health Protections For Workers.** "House Republicans have advanced a package of bills that could reduce health insurance cost for certain businesses and consumers, partly by rolling back some consumer protections. Rather than outright repeal, however, the subtler effort could allow more employers to bypass the landmark health insurance overhaul's basic benefits requirements and most state standards. At the same time, the Biden administration seeks to undo some of the previous administration's health insurance rules, proposing to retighten regulations for short-term plans. [...] The plans don't have to cover all the benefits required of ACA plans, for example, and can bar coverage for preexisting medical conditions, can set annual or lifetime limits, and often don't include maternity care or prescription drugs. Despite notices warning of a plan's limitations, consumers may not realize what isn't covered until they try to use it." [NPR, [7/24/23](#)]

AFL-CIO: The CHOICE Arrangement Act Would Subject "Workers To Financial Risk." "H.R. 3799 will loosen the definition of association health plans (AHPs), opening the door for more employers to establish plans that evade Affordable Care Act (ACA) requirements to cover essential health benefits and participate in market-wide risk pools. [...] Too often, these plans misjudged the risks involved and have gone insolvent, leaving enrollees in the lurch. In other cases, enrollees have been defrauded by scammers who exploited the AHP regulatory

loopholes. Second, under the guise of ‘protecting’ stop-loss insurance for self-funded group health plans, H.R. 3799 would allow employer health plans to avoid the ACA requirement that insured plans cover essential health benefits. The policy is intended to allow plans that are unable to actually self-fund with adequate reserves to instead purchase a high level of stop-loss insurance. Lack of adequate reserves leave many of these plans, and their enrollees, at risk since stop-loss insurers often retain the right to drop the insurance if medical costs for the group begin to climb. This is not a stable form of coverage. [...] We urge you to protect working people by opposing this legislation that undermines comprehensive coverage and subjects workers to financial risk.” [AFL-CIO, [6/21/23](#)]

June 2023: Van Orden Voted For The REINS Act, Which Would Cause Delays In Issuing Crucial Worker Protections

June 2023: Van Orden Voted For The REINS Act To Require Congressional Approval For Executive Actions Deemed A “Major Rule.” In June 2023, Derrick Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would require congressional approval of a joint resolution to implement any ‘major rule’ that has or is likely to result in an annual economic effect of at least \$100 million; a major increase in costs or prices; or significant adverse effects on U.S. competition, employment, productivity or international competitiveness. It would exempt from the bill’s requirements any rule issued by the Federal Reserve Board of Governors or the Federal Open Market Committee. The bill would allow a major rule to go into effect without congressional approval for a 90-day period if the president determines by executive order that such rule is necessary because of an imminent threat or emergency, necessary for national security or the enforcement of criminal laws, or if the rule has been issued to implement an international trade agreement. If a joint resolution of approval for a major rule is not enacted within 70 legislative days, it would prohibit consideration of a joint resolution of approval for the same rule for the duration of the Congress.” The bill passed 221 to 210. [H.R. 277, [Vote #265](#), 6/14/23; CQ, [6/14/23](#)]

The AFL-CIO Opposed The REINS Act, Citing How It Would “Cripple A Regulatory Process That Already Causes Excessive Delays In The Issuance Of Crucial Worker And Public Protections.” “On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I urge you to oppose H.R. 277, Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2023 (REINS Act), which is scheduled for floor action this week. The REINS Act is an extreme measure that would make it virtually impossible for agencies to issue any meaningful rules, threatening the health and safety of workers and the public. [...] The REINS Act would cripple a regulatory process that already causes excessive delays in the issuance of crucial worker and public protections.” [AFL-CIO, [6/7/23](#)]

- **AFL-CIO: The REINS Act Could “Simply Kill [...] Commonsense Life-Saving Rules.”** “For example, the 2010 Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA’s) construction safety standard on cranes and derricks took 10 years to finalize, even though this rule had unanimous support from industry and labor. OSHA’s 2016 silica standard, which protects workers from deadly silica dust and prevents 700 deaths a year, took nearly 19 years. Under REINS, Congressional inaction could simply kill such commonsense life-saving rules.” [AFL-CIO, [6/7/23](#)]

Van Orden Voted For The “Separation Of Powers Restoration Act Of 2023,” Which “Could Jeopardize Public Health, Safety And Financial Security”

Van Orden Voted For The Passage Of A Bill Undermining Judicial Review Of Agency Interpretation And Implementation Of Laws And Regulations. In June 2023, Van Orden voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would require federal courts to decide questions of law regarding agency actions without deferring to an agency’s previous legal determinations. It would place such requirements on judicial review of interpretation of constitutional and statutory provisions and other agency rules.” The bill passed 220 to 211. [H.R. 288, [Vote #271](#), 6/15/23; CQ, [6/15/23](#)]

AFL-CIO: The “Separation Of Powers Restoration Act Of 2023” “Could Jeopardize Public Health, Safety And Financial Security” By Giving Power To Unelected Judges Over Agency Expertise. “Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2023 This bill would undermine the principle of separation of powers, a fundamental element of our government, by upsetting long-standing principles of judicial review of agency interpretation of

laws and regulations. It would prevent courts from deferring to agencies' expert interpretations of ambiguous laws. Instead, it would mandate that courts substitute their own judgment, shifting power to unelected judges and undermining agency expertise. This change could jeopardize public health, safety and financial security." [AFL-CIO, Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2023, [6/15/23](#)]

Van Orden Opposed Helping Cities, Towns, And Small Businesses Throughout Wisconsin Through The American Rescue Plan Act, Even Though A Consulting Firm He Co-Owned Received Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars In Federal COVID-19 Relief

Van Orden Opposed The American Rescue Plan Act

Van Orden Called The American Rescue Plan Act A "Disaster," "Wasteful" And A "Bribery Bill." "Van Orden, who is running for the second time to unseat Democratic Rep. Ron Kind in Wisconsin's 3rd Congressional District, spent much of this winter criticizing the aid provided in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that was passed by a Democratically held Congress and signed by President Joe Biden." [Wisconsin Examiner, [6/29/21](#)]

The American Rescue Plan Act Sent Billions Of Dollars To Wisconsin, \$21 Million To La Crosse, \$13 Million To Eau Claire And \$2 Million To Onalaska

The American Rescue Plan Act Brought \$21 Million To La Crosse, \$13 Million To Eau Claire And \$2 Million To Onalaska. "Van Orden, who is running for the second time to unseat Democratic Rep. Ron Kind in Wisconsin's 3rd Congressional District, spent much of this winter criticizing the aid provided in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that was passed by a Democratically held Congress and signed by President Joe Biden. [...] The rescue package, which was signed into law in March, sent billions of dollars to Wisconsin. In the 3rd District, La Crosse received \$21 million, Eau Claire received \$13 million and Onalaska received \$2 million." [Wisconsin Examiner, [6/29/21](#)]

The Scenic Bluffs Health Center Received \$580,000 Of American Rescue Plan Funds. "Today, Rep. Ron Kind announced that over \$580,000 in American Rescue Plan funding is being awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to the Scenic Bluffs Health Center. These funds will boost our primary health care infrastructure in rural and medically underserved communities as local providers continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic." [Wisconsin Politics, [9/28/21](#)]

- **The Scenic Bluffs Health Center's Four Offices Were All Located In Wisconsin's Third Congressional District.** Scenic Bluffs' Cashton office was located at 238 Front Street, Cashton, WI 54619. Its La Crosse office was located at 212 11th St S, La Crosse, WI 54601. Its Norwalk office was located at 200 West North Street, Norwalk, WI 54648. Its La Crosse dental office was located at 2030 7th Street S. La Crosse, WI 54601. Zip code searches for each of these addressed on the United States House of Representatives' "Find Your Representative" page revealed that they were all located in Wisconsin's third congressional district. [Scenic Bluffs Community Health Centers, accessed [5/23/24](#); House of Representatives, Find Your Representative, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

Estimates From The Joint Economic Committee Revealed That The American Rescue Plan Helped 10,000 People In Wisconsin's Third District And 74,000 Statewide Enroll In Affordable Care Act Plans. "Estimates from the Joint Economic Committee show that Representative Ron Kind's vote for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) helped 10,000 people in the WI-03 newly enroll in health insurance plans on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces last year. For Wisconsin as a whole, Democrats helped a total of 74,000 people newly enroll in ACA plans." [Joint Economic Committee Democrats, Rep. Ron Kind, Press Release, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

Wisconsin Received \$2.5 Billion From The American Rescue Plan Act. "President Biden signed ARPA into law on March 11, 2021. The act provides a total of \$1.9 trillion in economic stimulus to aid the recovery from the

COVID-19 pandemic. Of the \$350 billion earmarked for state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, Wisconsin is receiving \$2.5 billion.” [Wisconsin Department of Health Services, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

\$600 Million From The American Rescue Plan Were Specifically Dedicated To Wisconsin Small Businesses.

“Last week, Governor Tony Evers announced a plan to utilize \$3.2 billion in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan to help businesses and families affected by the coronavirus pandemic, with over \$600 million dedicated specifically to small businesses.” [Opportunity Wisconsin, Press Release, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

\$400 Million From The American Rescue Plan Act Improved The Health Of Wisconsinites.

“President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into law on March 11, 2021. It provides \$1.9 trillion in economic stimulus to aid the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has access to more than \$400 million of that funding to improve the health of Wisconsinites, including for mental health and substance use disorders, as well as home and community-based services (HCBS).” [Wisconsin Department of Health Services, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

The American Rescue Plan Provided Direct Pandemic Recovery Funds To 1,918 Wisconsin Towns, Cities And Counties, Helping Them Avoid Cuts And Invest In Public Safety, Housing And Jobs.

“The American Rescue Plan’s Impact on Wisconsin on Two-Year Anniversary [...] ARP Provided Direct Pandemic Recovery Funds to All 1,918 Wisconsin towns, cities, and counties – avoiding cuts and investing in public safety, housing, workforce development, and other critical areas.” [White House, Press Release, accessed [5/23/24](#)]

2020-2021: Van Orden Listed Himself As A Co-Owner Of JIC Global, A New Mexico-Based Consulting Firm Which Received COVID Relief Dollars, But He Did Not Report Any Income From The Company

On His 2020 PFD, Van Orden Listed Himself As A “Co-Owner” Of “JIC Global dba Juarez Industries.”

[Clerk Of The House Of Representatives, 2020 Financial Disclosure Report: Derrick Van Orden, Filed [8/8/20](#)]

2020: Van Orden Did Not Report Receiving Any Income From His Co-Ownership Of JIC Global.

[Clerk Of The House Of Representatives, 2020 Financial Disclosure Report: Derrick Van Orden, Filed [8/8/20](#)]

On His 2021 PFD, Van Orden Listed Himself As A “Co-Owner” Of “JIC Global dba Juarez Industries.”

[Clerk Of The House Of Representatives, 2021 Amended Financial Disclosure Report: Derrick Van Orden, Filed [8/16/21](#)]

NOTE: Based on the coverage period of these two PFDs, it is possible that Van Orden was no longer a co-owner after July 29, 2020, though he did not add an optional comment on his 2021 PFD indicating that his involvement had ended at any point during the coverage period.

2021: Van Orden Did Not Report Receiving Any Income From His Co-Ownership Of JIC Global.

[Clerk Of The House Of Representatives, 2021 Amended Financial Disclosure Report: Derrick Van Orden, Filed [8/16/21](#)]

JIC Global Was Registered In New Mexico And Was Based In Vanderwagen, New Mexico. [New Mexico Secretary Of State, Accessed [8/16/21](#)]

JIC Global Held Two Purchase Order Contracts With The Department Of Health And Human Services Worth Nearly \$830,000, More Than \$500,000 Of Which Was Obligated Through Federal COVID Relief Spending

July 2020: JIC Global Entered Into A Purchase Order Contract With The Department Of Health And Human Services. [USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71020P01506, [7/10/20](#)]

● Outlayed Amount	\$299,980.00
● Obligated Amount	\$679,816.00
● COVID-19 Outlayed Amount	\$299,980.00
● COVID-19 Obligated Amount	\$362,240.00
● Current Award Amount	\$679,816.00
● Potential Award Amount	\$679,816.00

[USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71020P01506, [7/10/20](#)]

- **The Obligated Amount Of The Contract Was \$679,816.** [USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71020P01506, [7/10/20](#)]
- **As Of May 2022, Of The Total Obligated Amount, \$362,240 Was Obligated From COVID-19 Spending.** [USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71020P01506, [7/10/20](#)]
- **As Of May 2022, Of The Amount Obligated Through COVID Relief Legislation, \$299,980 Had Been Paid To JIC Global.** [USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71020P01506, [7/10/20](#)]

Dec. 2021: JIC Global Entered Into A Purchase Order Contract With The Department Of Health And Human Services. [USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71022P00415, [12/30/21](#)]

● Outlayed Amount	\$23,744.00
● Obligated Amount	\$145,856.00
● COVID-19 Outlayed Amount	\$23,744.00
● COVID-19 Obligated Amount	\$145,856.00
● Current Award Amount	\$145,856.00
● Potential Award Amount	\$145,856.00

[USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71022P00415, [12/30/21](#)]

- **The Obligated Amount Of The Contract Was \$ \$145,856, All Of Which Came From COVID-19 Spending.** [USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71022P00415, [12/30/21](#)]
- **As Of May 2022, Of The Amount Obligated Through The Purchase Order, \$23,744 Had Been Paid To JIC Global.** [USASpending.gov, PIID 75H71022P00415, [12/30/21](#)]

Van Orden Was Previously Criticized For Attacking COVID Relief After A Nonprofit Organization He Worked With Received \$170,000 In Aid

HEADLINE: “Derrick Van Orden Called COVID-19 Relief A ‘Disaster,’ But The Group He Works With Got \$170k In Aid” [Wisconsin Examiner, [6/29/21](#)]

Wisconsin Examiner: “Van Orden Was Outspoken In His Opposition Of Federal COVID-19 Relief” But “That Opposition Did Not Extend To Federal Aid Of More Than \$170,000 That A Nonprofit Organization He Works With Received.” “Republican Derrick Van Orden was outspoken in his opposition of federal COVID-19 relief passed into law earlier this year. Yet that opposition did not extend to federal aid of more than \$170,000 that a nonprofit organization he works with received in May 2020. Van Orden, who is running for the second time to unseat Democratic Rep. Ron Kind in Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District, spent much of this winter criticizing the aid provided in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that was passed by a Democratically held Congress and signed by President Joe Biden.” [Wisconsin Examiner, [6/29/21](#)]

Van Orden Was A Lucky For Kevin McCarthy, Mike Johnson And House Republican Leadership

2020-2023: Van Orden Received More Than \$30,000 Combined From McCarthy’s Campaign Committee And Leadership PAC

2020-2023: McCarthy’s Leadership PAC Gave Van Orden’s Campaign \$30,000

2020-2023: Majority Committee PAC, Gave Van Orden’s Campaign \$30,000. [FEC, disbursements, accessed [6/4/24](#)]

Donations From Majority Committee PAC – MC PAC To Van Orden For Congress	
Date	Amount
8/6/20	\$5,000
8/6/20	\$5,000
6/18/21	\$5,000
6/18/21	\$5,000
2/28/23	\$5,000
2/28/23	\$5,000
Total:	\$30,000

[FEC, disbursements, accessed [6/4/24](#)]

- **Majority Committee PAC Was A Leadership PAC Affiliated With Kevin McCarthy.** “Majority Cmte PAC is a Leadership PAC affiliated with Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif).” [OpenSecrets, Majority Cmte PAC, accessed [6/4/24](#)]

June 2023: McCarthy’s Campaign Gave Van Orden’s Campaign \$2,000

June 2023: Kevin McCarthy For Congress Donated \$2,000 To Van Orden For Congress. [FEC, Receipts, accessed [6/4/24](#)]

2022-2024: Van Orden Received \$14,000 Combined From Mike Johnson’s Campaign Committee And Leadership PAC

2023-2024: Johnson’s American Revival PAC Gave Van Orden For Congress \$10,000

2023-2024: American Revival PAC Gave Van Orden For Congress \$10,000. [FEC, Receipts, accessed [6/14/24](#)]

Transactions From American Revival PAC To Van Orden For Congress	
Date	Transaction Amount
3/23/23	\$1,000
12/29/23	\$4,000
12/29/23	\$5,000
3/29/24	-\$4,000
3/29/24	-\$5,000
3/29/24	\$5,000
3/29/24	\$4,000

Total:	\$10,000
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[FEC, Receipts, accessed [6/14/24](#)]

- **American Revival PAC Was A Leadership PAC Associated With Mike Johnson.** “American Revival PAC is a Leadership PAC affiliated with Mike Johnson (R-La).” [OpenSecrets, accessed [6/14/24](#)]

2022-2024: Mike Johnson For Louisiana Gave Van Orden For Congress \$4,000

2022-2024: Mike Johnson For Louisiana Gave Van Orden For Congress \$4,000. [FEC, Receipts, accessed [6/14/24](#)]

Transactions From Mike Johnson For Louisiana To Van Orden For Congress	
Date	Transaction Amount
9/14/22	\$2,000
12/29/23	\$2,000
3/29/24	\$2,000
3/29/24	-\$2,000
Total	\$4,000

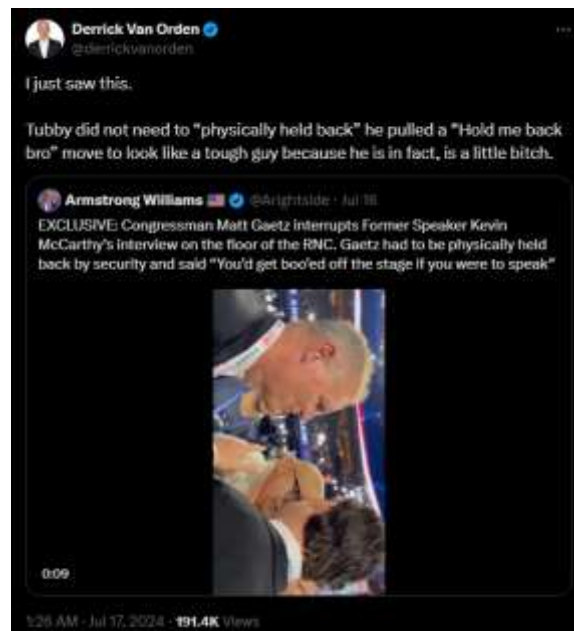
[FEC, Receipts, accessed [6/14/24](#)]

Van Orden Frequently Attacked Matt Gaetz Over Gaetz’s Opposition To Kevin McCarthy, Calling Gaetz A “Little Bitch” And “Tubby”

Van Orden Said That McCarthy Was “Ousted Because There’s An Immature Man Child That Happened To Be Elected To Congress From Florida.” “When a reporter responded that former Speaker Kevin McCarthy was ousted because he worked with Democrats on the last funding bill, Van Orden cut in. ‘Speaker McCarthy was ousted because there’s an immature man child that happened to be elected to Congress from Florida. That’s why he was ousted. Let’s just be frank,’ he said.” [NBC News, [11/14/23](#)]

Van Orden Angrily Called Gaetz “Tubby” On The House Floor During A Discussion About Foreign Aid Bills To Support Israel, Ukraine And Taiwan. “As House Speaker Mike Johnson faces threats of an ouster from his right flank, Wisconsin freshman Rep. Derrick Van Orden confronted the GOP leader's critics on the House floor Thursday — calling Florida Republican Matt Gaetz ‘tubby’ in the process. The confrontation occurred as a group of GOP hardliners — including Gaetz, Colorado Rep. Lauren Boebert and Tennessee Rep. Tim Burchett — huddled around Johnson to voice their displeasure with his plan to put a \$95billion package of foreign aid bills to support Israel, Ukraine and Taiwan to a vote this weekend. [...] Van Orden called Gaetz ‘tubby’ during the interaction — a jab he said he leveled after Gaetz called him a “squish” as they huddled on the floor. Van Orden said he took the insult to mean he was ‘a soft person.’” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [4/18/24](#)]

Van Orden Called Matt Gaetz A “Little Bitch” And “Tubby” After Gaetz Interrupted Kevin McCarthy’s Interview. Armstrong Williams tweeted a video of Matt Gaetz yelling at Kevin McCarthy. In Williams’ tweet accompanying the video, he said, “EXCLUSIVE: Congressman Matt Gaetz interrupts Former Speaker Kevin McCarthy’s interview on the floor of the RNC. Gaetz had to be physically held back by security and said “You’d get boo’ed off the stage if you were to speak.” Van Orden quote tweeted Williams and said, “I just saw this. Tubby did not need to ‘physically held back’ he pulled a ‘Hold me back bro’ move to look like a tough guy because he is in fact, is a little bitch.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [7/17/24](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [7/17/24](#)]

Van Orden Angrily Lashed Out At Republicans Who Voted To Oust Kevin McCarthy

Van Orden Criticized “8 Allegedly Conservative Republicans” For Fundraising Off Their Votes To Oust McCarthy And Complained They Were Calling Him A “RINO.” “Van Orden slammed Gaetz and the other Republicans who voted with Democrats to oust the speaker for ‘fundraising’ off of the move. ‘It is impossible to square this circle. 8 allegedly conservative Republicans just voted with every Democrat in The House for personal reasons. And now they are fundraising by calling me a RINO,’ Van Orden wrote in a tweet.” [Daily Caller, [10/3/23](#)]

Van Orden Endorsed John McGuire, A Primary Challenger To Rep. Bob Good, Who Voted To Oust McCarthy. “Now, Good, who was elected to lead the hard-right House Freedom Caucus earlier this year, is facing a tough primary election on June 18 — and several of his Republican colleagues are backing his challenger, John McGuire. [...] Good crossed former President Donald Trump by backing Gov. Ron DeSantis (R-FL) for president and turned on former Speaker Kevin McCarthy. He was one of eight Republicans to vote last October to oust the speaker, careening the House into a leaderless three-week period filled with infighting. [...] Several House Republicans, including Reps. Mike Rogers (R-AL), Austin Scott (R-GA), Jen Kiggans (R-VA), Ryan Zinke (R-MT), Derrick Van Orden (R-WI), and Morgan Luttrell (R-TX), are set to accompany McGuire at a campaign event Wednesday, a sign of trouble for Good as he fights for another term. [...] ‘If we don’t maintain this majority and grow it, it’s gonna be Bob Good and the Freedom Caucus’s fault,’ Van Orden said. ‘Flat out. Period. It’s their fault. They’re more destructive to Congress than anybody, and they’re going to wear that as a badge of pride, when in fact, it’s a badge of stupidity and the inability to do strategic thinking.’” [Washington Examiner, [3/21/24](#)]

Van Orden Is An Extremist, Insurrectionist, And Demagogue Who Has Repeatedly Acted In A Manner Unbecoming Of A Member Of Congress

Significant Findings

Van Orden Used Campaign Funds To Travel To Washington, DC, On The Day Of The January 6th Insurrection, Where He Entered Capitol Grounds Despite Claiming He Never Did, And Continued To Undermine Democracy While In Congress

- ✓ Van Orden traveled to Washington, DC, for the “Stop The Steal Rally” and while he claimed he never was on Capitol grounds, photos showed him inside the restricted area on Capitol grounds.
- ✓ A photograph from January 6 showed Van Orden wearing earbuds and standing on a wall on Capitol grounds, which was inside of the restricted area.
- ✓ An officer who helped protect the Capitol on January 6 and suffered life-threatening injuries said that Van Orden being in Congress was a “personal affront.”
- ✓ Retired Metropolitan Police officer Michael Fanone suffered life-threatening injuries when he protected the Capitol on January 6.
- ✓ Fanone: “The fact that he's a member of the United States congress is a personal affront to me, because of the fact that he was there on Jan. 6.”
- ✓ Van Orden used campaign funds to pay for roughly \$4,000 in transportation and hotel costs around January 6 for himself, his wife, and a campaign staffer, even though he had not launched a 2022 campaign yet.
- ✓ FEC regulations stated that travel expenses must be “directly related to the campaign,” and he was not a candidate then.
 - ✓ Wisconsin Democrats filed an FEC complaint against Van Orden over his use of campaign funds to travel to the insurrection.
 - ✓ The FEC dismissed a complaint filed against Van Orden for his use of campaign funds.
- ✓ Van Orden said that the Daily Beast’s reporting of his use of campaign funds was “inaccurate” but refused to elaborate.
- ✓ Van Orden penned an op-ed both condemning the violence and defending his actions on January 6.
- ✓ 2023: Van Orden said he regretted attending the January 6 rally but doubled down on baseless claims about the 2020 election.
- ✓ Van Orden dismissed the January 6 Committee to learn the truth about what happened as “political theater” that “abused the committee process for political gain.”

- ✓ The Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol was formed after Republican leaders rejected the chance to form a bipartisan commission.
- ✓ December 2021: Van Orden continued to amplify election denialism about Biden's vote total more than a year after Biden was elected.
- ✓ Ahead of the third anniversary of the January 6 Insurrection, Van Orden cozied up to Scott Presler, who organized "stop the steal" rallies and was on Capitol grounds on January 6.
 - ✓ December 27, 2023: Van Orden told Presler, "We need you here in WI!"
 - ✓ Presler organized "stop the steal" rallies, was present on Capitol grounds during the insurrection and dismissed the insurrection as a "civil rights protest."
- ✓ Van Orden accused Democrats of fundraising off of and the media of lying about what caused officer Brian Sicknick's death.
 - ✓ Van Orden shared an article with a headline accusing the media of lying about officer Brian Sicknick's death and said that Wisconsin Democrats had fundraised off of it.
 - ✓ Sicknick was sprayed with a chemical substance during the January 6 riots and died shortly afterwards but was ruled to have died of natural causes.
 - ✓ Sicknick's mother said that he "died because of the insurrectionists who stormed the Capitol building on January 6."
- ✓ October 2023: Van Orden voted twice to elect Jim Jordan, who promoted the big lie in Congress and sought to overturn the results of the 2020 election, to be Speaker of the House.
- ✓ 2021: Van Orden received \$500 from 2020 Wisconsin fake elector Robert Spindell, who bragged about efforts to depress Black and Hispanic voter turnout in Milwaukee.
 - ✓ 2021: Robert Spindell donated \$500 to Van Orden for Congress.
 - ✓ Spindell was a fake GOP elector in Wisconsin after the 2020 election and later conceded that his actions were "part of an attempt to improperly overturn the 2020 Presidential election results."
 - ✓ Spindell said that Republicans in Milwaukee and its suburbs should be "proud" that there was decreased Black and Latino voter turnout in 2022 and then after facing pushback for his comments claimed he had done more for Black people than any white Republican ever.
- ✓ November 2020: Van Orden repeatedly spread disinformation about the election.
- ✓ After spreading disinformation over the 2020 election, Van Orden admitted that early voting was secure.
 - ✓ April 2020: Van Orden claimed that "stay-at-home voting" increased the probability of voter fraud occurring.
 - ✓ 2023: Van Orden said, "The Republican Party has to embrace early voting" and that, "it's accepted, and it works."

- ✓ Van Orden supported the ACE Act, which would relax regulations on party committees, shield donor requirements and try to push states to make voter ID laws.
- ✓ The ACE Act would relax regulations on party committees, shield groups from donor disclosure requirements, and remove certain contribution limits.
- ✓ The ACE Act would encourage state voter ID laws and discourage non-citizen voting.
- ✓ Van Orden said that the Wisconsin Elections Commission “needs to go away,” made false allegations against it and claimed he just wanted to improve confidence in the system.

Van Orden Had A Long History Of Ugly Confrontations, Including More Than One Involving Young People

- ✓ House Rule XXIII required that members conduct themselves “at all times in a manner that shall reflect creditably on the House” and that they “adhere to the spirit and the letter of the rules of the House.”
- ✓ Van Orden refused to apologize after he screamed and swore at teenage Senate pages in the United States Capitol, for which he was condemned by leaders on both sides of the aisle.
- ✓ As a Congressman, Van Orden swore at Senate pages in the Capitol Rotunda who “were lying on their backs in the Capitol Rotunda taking pictures of the building's dome during their final week at work,” for which he was rebuked by Mitch McConnell and Chuck Schumer in Senate floor speeches.
- ✓ U.S. Senate pages were typically teenagers nominated by their home state Senators to help on the Senate Side by delivering correspondence, among other tasks.
- ✓ Rep. Pocan: Van Orden gave a celebratory bow to the group he was giving a tour for after screaming at Senate pages, “like he’s singing an opera.”
- ✓ Van Orden defended his behavior, claiming that they were “acting in a manner not commiserate with the space” and blaming the media.
 - ✓ After Van Orden accused the pages of disrespecting the Capitol, Rep. Pocan said that he “wonder[ed] if he told that to his fellow insurrectionists, who were beating police officers on the same ground.”
- ✓ Bottles of alcohol were photographed in Van Orden’s congressional office the same night he swore at the Senate pages, which he claimed were from a gathering with constituents.
- ✓ July 2024: Van Orden said everyone “but Senate pages” loved his tours of the Capitol at night.
- ✓ Van Orden made library staff, including a 17-year-old, feel threatened when he “aggressively” questioned displays celebrating Pride Month.
 - ✓ Van Orden “aggressively” questioned a pride display in the children’s library section at the Prairie Du Chien Memorial Library and then checked out all but one of the books displayed.
 - ✓ A 17-year-old library staffer said she felt threatened and unsafe at work after Van Orden’s outburst, which she described as “very uncomfortable, threatening” and “full on shouting.”

- ✓ Staff described the incident as “very uncomfortable, threatening” and said that Van Orden “demanded” to know who set up the displays so that he could “teach them a lesson.”
- ✓ The teen staffer said that Van Orden was “full on shouting” and that “he kept aggressively shoving the books around.”
- ✓ The teen staffer said that after the incident, she went home angry and crying, told her parents that she did not “feel safe at work anymore” and worried that people would be outside waiting for her.
- ✓ 2022: When Democrats held an event outside the library, Van Orden claimed to support equality but then said, “I do not support biological males competing in sports against biological females.”

Van Orden May Have Sexually Harassed A Colleague In The Military

- ✓ In his 2015 book, Van Orden bragged about behavior that was sexual harassment, towards two young female officers.
- ✓ Van Orden bragged in his book “about exposing a man's genitals to two female officers.”
- ✓ Ellen Haring, a retired Army Colonel, West Point graduate and professor who specialized in research on women and gender in the military said Van Orden was immature, problematic, childish, demeaning, and ignorant.
- ✓ Haring said that the way Van Orden described his behavior was ignorant, immature and childish, but she would not call it sexual harassment if they were medical staff, as Van Orden claimed.
- ✓ Haring said that if Van Orden did this to two random women who had just happened to be there, it would be sexual harassment.
- ✓ Haring said that Van Orden referring to the female officers, who were his superiors, as “cute girls” was problematic and “ridiculously demeaning.”

Van Orden Had Antiquated Views On Gender Roles

- ✓ Van Orden said that the “different gender role models that have been erased throughout our nations” starting in the 70’s and late 60’s had “been a disservice.”
- ✓ Van Orden indicated that he would prefer to have a society in which women stayed at home with their children.
- ✓ Van Orden criticized opening SEAL training to women as a “political decision based on a crappy study” and said that women having children would cause them to need two-year breaks from their service in the military.

Van Orden Repeatedly Engaged In Racist And Offensive Behavior

- ✓ Van Orden made insensitive comments about the Holocaust and used George Soros as a boogeyman, which many on the antisemitic far right did for a long time.

- ✓ Van Orden tweeted a Nazi reference to a Jewish political figure and compared Democrats to “the most oppressive and criminal regimes in world history.”
- ✓ Van Orden said that if his tweet “in anyway insulted the memory of the millions of the Jewish people, they have my most humble apology” but compared Democrats to authoritarian governments.
- ✓ Van Orden compared agriculture exports to China with “feeding Nazi Germany in 1938.”
- ✓ Van Orden: “The American left in 2024 has turned this country into NAZI Germany in 1934.”
- ✓ Van Orden compared a job posting to “pull ‘stunts’” in his congressional race to “Nazi Brown Shirts and Chinese Communist Party members.”
- ✓ Van Orden called Jen Psaki, “Madam Goebbels.”
- ✓ Van Orden doubled down on his comparison after someone said it was “horrendous” to do so, saying, “I know exactly what I am talking about.”
- ✓ Van Orden repeatedly fearmongered over refugees.
- ✓ Van Orden fearmongered over Afghan refugees who risked their lives to support American troops.
- ✓ Van Orden claimed that the State Department did not give information on resettling refugees in Eau Claire and said he would not support their resettlement if he did not get the information.
- ✓ Van Orden supported a bill to let state and local governments reject federal refugee resettlements.
- ✓ Van Orden cozied up to Scott Presler, who was a lead strategist for an anti-Muslim “extreme hate group” and made at least 50 QAnon related social media posts.
- ✓ December 27, 2023: Van Orden told Presler, “We need you here in WI!”
- ✓ Presler was a lead strategist for an anti-Muslim “extreme hate group,” which was the largest anti-Muslim organization in the United States and made at least 50 QAnon related social media posts.

Van Orden’s Behavior Made It Difficult For Him To Represent All Wisconsinites In His District And Deliver For His Constituents

- ✓ Van Orden personally attacked, asked for the home address of and threatened to publish the public information of someone who criticized him.
- ✓ Van Orden said at a prayer breakfast that, “there’s not a single God-fearing Christian that is a leftist, because those two things are incompatible.”
- ✓ Van Orden derailed a briefing about Hamas’ October 7, 2023, attack against Israel, swearing at the presenters and at a Jewish colleague.
- ✓ Van Orden attacked colleagues critical of Israel as terrorist sympathizers.

- ✓ “Van Orden was threatening everyone” when other House Republicans considered ousting Speaker Mike Johnson.
- ✓ Van Orden suggested that former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley be tried for treason.
- ✓ Van Orden disrespected the American flag and said that “the Democratic Party has just put the United States on the same level as Soviet Russia” after Trump was convicted of felonies in New York.
- ✓ May 30, 2024: Trump was convicted on all 34 counts in his Manhattan trial, becoming a convicted felon.
- ✓ May 30, 2024: Van Orden said that “the Democratic Party has just put the United States on the same level as Soviet Russia” and posted an image of an edited American flag with a hammer and sickle.
- ✓ Van Orden shouted “lies!” at President Biden during his State of the Union address and doubled down afterwards, rather than apologize.
- ✓ Van Orden joked about shaking “Adam Schiff like a bobblehead.”
- ✓ After Van Orden’s Republican colleague, Ken Buck, announced he would not run for another term in Congress, Van Orden called him a “self-righteous... slipknot” and said, “Don’t let the door hit you in the ass.”
- ✓ November 1, 2023: Republican Rep. Ken Buck announced he would not seek reelection.
- ✓ November 27, 2023: In response to Buck criticizing “the McCarthy era,” Van Orden called Buck a “self-righteous... slipknot” and said, “Don’t let the door hit you in the ass.”

Van Orden Was Fined For Bringing A Gun Through An Airport Security Checkpoint

- ✓ Van Orden was cited for having a loaded 9mm Sig Sauer handgun in his bag at an airport security screening checkpoint.
- ✓ Van Orden was required to take a firearms safety course and pay a \$360 fine, while he was also fined an unknown amount by the Transportation Security Administration.
- ✓ Van Orden’s campaign released a statement saying that he “was traveling with his family and this situation was purely accidental.”

Van Orden Was Close With Marjorie Taylor Greene

- ✓ Van Orden called Marjorie Taylor Greene a “friend,” posted a video on Twitter with her where they appeared friendly and voted with her more than 90 percent of the time.
- ✓ 2023: Van Orden posted a video on Twitter with Marjorie Taylor Greene in which they appeared friendly.
- ✓ Van Orden said that he and Marjorie Taylor Greene were “friends.”
- ✓ As of July 2023, Van Orden voted with Marjorie Taylor Greene 91.4% of the time.

- ✓ As of July 2024, Van Orden voted with Marjorie Taylor Greene 80% of the time.
- ✓ Marjorie Taylor Greene spread theories that the Democratic Party was involved in a child sex ring, human trafficking, and organ harvesting.
- ✓ Marjorie Taylor Greene supported conspiracy theories that the Democratic Party and its allies are involved in satanism and witchcraft.
- ✓ Marjorie Taylor Greene backed conspiracy theories that the Democratic Party, the Clintons, and President Obama arranged murders of political adversaries.
- ✓ Marjorie Taylor Greene agreed with claims that the 2012 Sandy Hook shooting, the 2017 Las Vegas shooting, and the 2018 Parkland shooting were staged.
- ✓ Marjorie Taylor Greene has made repeated antisemitic statements, targeting George Soros and embracing Replacement Theory.
- ✓ Marjorie Taylor Greene embraced the Camp Fire Laser Beam Conspiracy, seeming to accuse Rothschild Inc. and Gov. Jerry Brown of burning down the forest to clear the way for high speed rail or beaming power back to earth from solar stations in space.
- ✓ Greene posted a YouTube video in which she questioned whether a plane really flew into the Pentagon on September 11, 2001.

Van Orden Used Campaign Funds To Travel To Washington, DC, On The Day Of The January 6th Insurrection, Where He Entered Capitol Grounds Despite Claiming He Never Did, And Continued To Undermine Democracy While In Congress

Van Orden Traveled To Washington, DC, For The “Stop The Steal Rally” And Claimed He Never Entered Capitol Grounds, But Photos Showed Him Inside The Restricted Area On Capitol Grounds

Van Orden Acknowledged That He Attended The “Stop The Steal” Rally On January 6. “Two months after Republican congressional candidate Derrick Van Orden lost his 2020 race, he joined ‘stop the steal’ rioters on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol—and he paid for the trip with donor money left over from his failed campaign. Now Van Orden is running again, and has already scored major endorsements from senior GOP House leadership, including Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA). Van Orden, a former Navy SEAL and small-time actor, has previously acknowledged attending the Jan. 6 rally, but has repeatedly claimed he never entered the Capitol grounds.” [Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]

Van Orden Claimed He Never Entered Capitol Grounds On January 6. “Van Orden, a former Navy SEAL and small-time actor, has previously acknowledged attending the Jan. 6 rally, but has repeatedly claimed he never entered the Capitol grounds.” [Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]

A Photograph From January 6 Showed Van Orden Wearing Earbuds And Standing On A Wall On Capitol Grounds Which Was Inside Of The Restricted Area

A Photograph From January 6 Showed Van Orden Standing On A Wall On Capitol Grounds Which Was Inside Of The Restricted Area. “Van Orden, a former Navy SEAL and small-time actor, has previously

acknowledged attending the Jan. 6 rally, but has repeatedly claimed he never entered the Capitol grounds. However, social media posts from the riot suggest that isn't true. A Facebook image from Jan. 6 shows Van Orden standing on a wall on the Capitol grounds that was inside a restricted area. (The Daily Beast recreated the photo on Friday and confirmed that Van Orden would have had to cross police barricades to reach that area.)" [Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]



[Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]

Van Orden Was Photographed Wearing Earbuds On January 6 And Claimed That He Normally Walked With Earbuds And That Concerns About Them Were “Conspiracy Theories.” “A photograph of Van Orden on a wall near the Capitol and wearing earbud headphones later circulated, with a report from the Daily Beast contending Van Orden entered an area characterized as being beyond police barricades. Van Orden told the Journal Sentinel this week that the wall he was on was ‘450 meters’ away from the Capitol. He noted he was wearing Beats by Dre earbuds, joking that the Democrats who suggested the earbuds could have been used to communicate with rioters ‘don’t like hip hop.’ When asked if he meant he was listening to music at the time, Van Orden responded: ‘Here’s my point: They came up with the kookiest conspiracy theories in the world. I was a Navy SEAL for over 21 years. I have five combat tours. At no time did I ever wear Beats from Dr. Dre to lead any operation.’ He said he was only ‘standing there’ near the wall and claimed he normally walks around with earbuds in.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [1/6/23](#)]

An Officer Who Helped Protect The Capitol On January 6 And Suffered Life-Threatening Injuries Said That Van Orden Being In Congress Was A “Personal Affront”

Retired Metropolitan Police Officer Michael Fanone Suffered Life-Threatening Injuries When He Protected The Capitol On January 6

Retired Metropolitan Police Officer Michael Fanone Suffered Life-Threatening Injuries When He Protected The Capitol On January 6. “Retired Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Police officer Michael Fanone has been on a mission in the years following the Jan. 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol to motivate voters across the country to take the threat of political violence seriously and support candidates they believe will elevate democracy over politics. Fanone, who suffered life-threatening injuries while responding to the Jan. 6 mob, recently visited

Wisconsin and spoke with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel about what sticks with him from that day, what drives him now and why this battleground state matters to him.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [4/19/24](#)]

Fanone: “The Fact That He’s A Member Of The United States Congress Is A Personal Affront To Me, Because Of The Fact That He Was There On Jan. 6”

Fanone: “The Fact That He’s A Member Of The United States Congress Is A Personal Affront To Me, Because Of The Fact That He Was There On Jan. 6.” “Fanone says seeing U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden in Congress is a ‘personal affront.’ ‘The fact that he’s a member of the United States Congress is a personal affront to me, because of the fact that he was there on Jan. 6. Not there as a member of law enforcement or someone there to protect members of Congress and ultimately, our democracy. He was there as a part of the mob,’ Fanone said. ‘And it’s a particular affront to me, because, not just the fact that he was a military service member, but the specific capacity (as a U.S. Navy SEAL) in which he served. I’ve said before. He knew better.’” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [4/19/24](#)]

Van Orden Used Campaign Funds To Pay For Roughly \$4,000 In Transportation And Hotel Costs Around January 6 For Himself, His Wife And A Campaign Staffer, But He Had Not Launched A 2022 Campaign Yet

Van Orden Used Campaign Funds To Pay For Roughly \$4,000 In Transportation And Hotel Costs Around January 6 For Himself, His Wife And A Campaign Staffer. “Van Orden—who wrote off roughly \$4,000 in transportation and D.C. hotel costs around Jan. 6 for him, his wife, and a campaign staffer—lost his race in November and didn’t declare his 2022 candidacy until April.” [Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]

Van Orden Said That The Daily Beast’s Reporting Over His Use Of Campaign Funds Was “Inaccurate” But Refused To Elaborate

Van Orden Said That The Daily Beast’s Reporting Over His Use Of Campaign Funds Was “Inaccurate” But Refused To Elaborate And Said That The Daily Beast “Should Only Be In Print So That You Can Line A Bird Cage With It.” “Over the weekend, The Daily Beast reported that Van Orden, R-Prairie du Chien, used funds from his previous campaign for office to travel to Washington, D.C., for the Jan. 6 event, and that social media posts show he was on the grounds during the riot, contradicting previous statements. ‘It’s inaccurate,’ Van Orden told a reporter at Monday’s event at Morning Star Dairy. The candidate would not go into more detail on the claims in the report, and when asked if he would elaborate, Van Orden said, ‘Why would I? It’s inaccurate. ‘The Daily Beast should only be in print so that you can line a bird cage with it. That’s it,’ he said.” [La Crosse Tribune, [7/13/21](#)]

FEC Regulations Stated That Travel Expenses Must Be “Directly Related To The Campaign,” And He Was Not A Candidate Then, But The FEC Eventually Dismissed A Complaint Against Van Orden For This Use Of Campaign Funds

Van Orden Did Not Declare His 2022 Candidacy Until April 2021. “Van Orden—who wrote off roughly \$4,000 in transportation and D.C. hotel costs around Jan. 6 for him, his wife, and a campaign staffer—lost his race in November and didn’t declare his 2022 candidacy until April.” [Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]

FEC Regulations Stated That Travel Expenses Must Be “Directly Related To The Campaign.” “As for Van Orden’s campaign expenses surrounding Jan. 6, it’s unclear how they relate to Van Orden’s attendance. Federal Election Commission regulations state that travel expenses must be ‘directly related to the campaign.’” [Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]

Citizens For Ethics And Responsibility In Washington: If Van Orden Used Campaign Funds To Travel To The Rally, “It Would Raise Serious Questions About His Compliance With Campaign Finance Laws.” As for

Van Orden's campaign expenses surrounding Jan. 6, it's unclear how they relate to Van Orden's attendance. Federal Election Commission regulations state that travel expenses must be 'directly related to the campaign.' Van Orden—who wrote off roughly \$4,000 in transportation and D.C. hotel costs around Jan. 6 for him, his wife, and a campaign staffer—lost his race in November and didn't declare his 2022 candidacy until April. Jordan Libowitz, communications director for campaign finance watchdog Citizens for Ethics and Responsibility in Washington, questioned the legitimacy of the expenses. 'Campaign accounts are not personal slush funds. They must be used for campaign-related activities. Attempting to overthrow an election you just lost is not a proper campaign activity,' Libowitz told The Daily Beast. 'If he did use his campaign to pay for travel for him and his staff to attend the rally-turned-insurrection, it would raise serious questions about his compliance with campaign finance laws.'" [Daily Beast, [6/27/21](#)]

Wisconsin Democrats Filed An FEC Complaint Against Van Orden Over His Use Of Campaign Funds To Travel To The Insurrection

Wisconsin Democrats Filed An FEC Complaint Against Van Orden Over His Use Of Campaign Funds To Travel To The Insurrection. "The Democratic Party of Wisconsin has filed a complaint against GOP congressional candidate Derrick Van Orden for his use of campaign funds to travel to Washington, D.C., where he attended the Jan. 6 protest-turned insurrection. The group filed the complaint with the Federal Elections Commission Monday, calling for an immediate investigation." [La Crosse Tribune, [7/12/21](#)]

The FEC Dismissed A Complaint Filed Against Van Orden For His Use Of Campaign Funds

Republican FEC Commissioners Wrote That Most Of The Travel Expenses Paid By The Campaign Were So That Van Orden Could Attend Meetings About His Potential Future Candidacy. "The FEC's Republican members, chairman Allen Dickerson and commissioners Sean Cooksey and James Trainor, sided with Van Orden. In a July filing, the Republican commissioners wrote that 'the available information suggested that the majority of the travel expenses paid by (Van Orden's campaign) were made so that Van Orden could attend meetings regarding his potential future candidacy...' [...] The Republican commissioners noted Van Orden filed his statement of candidacy for his current congressional bid prior to the end of the FEC reporting period covering expenses for the Washington trip. They said 'an inference can be drawn that at least one purpose of these meetings was discussion regarding Van Orden running for Congress in 2022.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/2/22](#)]

The Republican FEC Commissioners Called Into Question A Hotel Expense From The Evening Of January 6 But Said That The Small Amount Did Not Merit Further FEC Resources To Pursue. "The GOP commissioners called into question only a hotel expense from the evening of Jan. 6 but determined that even if those charges could be considered as personal, 'the amount of that payment appears to be at most only a few hundred dollars — a small amount that does not merit the expenditure of further Commission resources to pursue.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/2/22](#)]

FEC Democrats Supported Dismissing The Complaint Because Of "The Small Amount In Violation" But Said That His Claims Of Traveling For Meetings Were Not Supported By Any Documentation Or Details. "In a Thursday filing on the matter, just over a month after the decision to dismiss the complaint was made, Democratic commissioners Shana Broussard and Ellen Weintraub said the decision was due to 'the small amount in violation' and chided Van Orden for his rally attendance. 'The fact that the amount of money at issue is quite low, however, does not vitiate the seriousness of the allegations in this matter,' Broussard and Weintraub wrote. 'This dismissal should not be construed as a finding that travel as a private citizen to attempt to disrupt the lawful transfer of power, whether through active involvement or passive attendance, is a permissible use of campaign funds.' Broussard and Weintraub said Van Orden's claims about traveling to Washington for meetings 'were unsupported by sworn declarations, supporting documentation, or any specific details.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/2/22](#)]

FEC Democrats Said There Was "So Much Wrong With" Van Orden's Defense That Even If His Sole Purpose Had Been To Attend The "Save America Rally," It Would Have Been Permissible Like Any Other Party Event Or Fundraiser. "Perhaps most troublingly, Respondents contend that even if Van Orden's sole

purpose had been to participate in the ‘Save America Rally,’ the expenditures would have been permissible, and that the rally was ‘akin to any other Party event or committee fundraiser for which campaign funds may freely be used,’ the Democratic commissioners wrote. ‘There is so much that is wrong with that statement,’ Broussard and Weintraub added. ‘Putting aside that the use of campaign funds to support the passive attendance at an ordinary rally by individuals who were neither candidates nor officeholders would itself be a questionable use of campaign funds, this was no ordinary rally.’” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/2/22](#)]

Van Orden Penned An Op-Ed Both Condemning The Violence And Defending His Actions On January 6

Van Orden Said He Traveled To Washington, DC, For Meetings And To Stand For Election Integrity At The Behest Of His Neighbors In Western Wisconsin. “I recently traveled to Washington, DC for meetings and to stand for the integrity of our electoral system as a citizen and at the behest of my neighbors here in Western Wisconsin.” [La Crosse Tribune, Derrick Van Orden Op-Ed, [1/13/21](#)]

Van Orden Said That He And His Friends Watched “What Should Have Been An Expression Of Free Speech Devolve Into One Of The Most Tragic Incidents In The History Of Our Nation.” “When we arrived at the Capitol, several hundreds of people were on the grounds waving flags. There were multiple families with small children walking on the lawn. Two of my friends, both combat veterans, and I stood on the parapet that lines the perimeter of the grounds and watched what should have been an expression of free speech devolve into one of the most tragic incidents in the history of our nation.” [La Crosse Tribune, Derrick Van Orden Op-Ed, [1/13/21](#)]

Van Orden Said He Left The Area “When It Became Clear That A Protest Had Become A Mob” And That At No Point Did He Enter Capitol Grounds Or The Building. “When it became clear that a protest had become a mob, I left the area as to remain there could be construed as tacitly approving this unlawful conduct. At no time did I enter the grounds, let alone the building.” [La Crosse Tribune, Derrick Van Orden Op-Ed, [1/13/21](#)]

2023: Van Orden Said He Regretted Attending The January 6 Rally But Doubled Down On Baseless Claims About The 2020 Election

Van Orden: “I Don’t Regret Supporting Voter Integrity.” “Derrick Van Orden told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel he does not regret supporting former President Donald Trump’s false claims about the 2020 election — framing them as election integrity concerns — but suggested he wishes he did not attend the Trump rally that preceded the deadly attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, if it would have prevented the public from believing he embraced the violence. ‘I don’t regret supporting voter integrity,’ the Republican retired Navy SEAL said in an interview just outside the House chamber.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [1/6/23](#)]

Van Orden Regretted If He “Made People Think That I Support Political Violence.” “Derrick Van Orden told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel he does not regret supporting former President Donald Trump’s false claims about the 2020 election — framing them as election integrity concerns — but suggested he wishes he did not attend the Trump rally that preceded the deadly attack on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, if it would have prevented the public from believing he embraced the violence. [...] ‘But if you look in hindsight — like the volume of stuff, the way that it could be interpreted that I would support political violence — that is regretful. If that made people think that I support political violence, that is a regret because I don’t support political violence.’” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [1/6/23](#)]

Van Orden Dismissed The January 6 Committee To Learn The Truth About What Happened As “Political Theater” That “Abused The Committee Process For Political Gain”

Van Orden Said That January 6 Was One Of The Most Tragic Days In American History But Condemned The Committee As “Political Theater” That “Abused The Committee Process For Political Gain.”

REPORTER: “What are your thoughts on the work of the Jan. 6 committee, and what do you hope its impact will

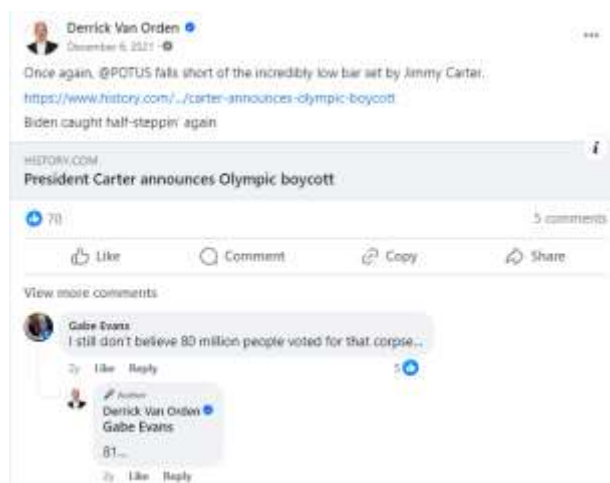
be?” VAN ORDEN: “This paper published my piece from Jan. 13, 2021, in which I condemned all forms of political violence and stated that that day was one of the most tragic in our nation’s history. That position has not changed. I wholeheartedly condemn all forms of political violence. I also condemn political theater, which is what this commission is. A group of career politicians, hand-selected by Nancy Pelosi, have abused the committee process for political gain. The only impact it will have is to increase the noise in the echo chamber that is the current leadership of the House of Representatives.” [La Crose Tribune, [11/7/22](#)]

The Select Committee To Investigate The January 6th Attack On The United States Capitol Was Formed After Republican Leaders Rejected The Chance To Form A Bipartisan Commission

The Select Committee To Investigate The January 6th Attack On The United States Capitol Was Formed After Republican Leaders Rejected The Chance To Form A Bipartisan Commission. “In the days following the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol, lawmakers began to discuss the need for an investigation focused on what led to the attack, how the building was breached so easily and how any similar event could be prevented from happening again. [...] Hope for comity wasn’t dead yet early in the year, and a bipartisan agreement was hammered out in May by the leaders of the House Homeland Security Committee to create an independent commission that was modeled on the panel that investigated the 9/11 terrorist attacks. But it was rejected by most House Republicans and subsequently blocked by Senate Republicans. House Democrats then decided to create a special investigative committee, and the House passed a resolution establishing one on a 220-to-190 vote on June 30, with two Republicans joining Democrats in voting in favor of the panel. The Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol was born.” [Washington Post, [1/4/22](#)]

December 2021: Van Orden Continued To Amplify Election Denialism About Biden’s Vote Total More Than A Year After Biden Was Elected

December 2021: After Someone Commented That He Did Not “Believe 80 Million People Voted For That Corpse,” Van Orden Replied, “81...” Van Orden shared a link to a 1980 article with the headline, “President Carter announces Olympic boycott.” Gabe Evans commented, “I still don’t believe 80 million people voted for that corpse...” Van Orden replied to Evans, “81...” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [12/7/21](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [12/7/21](#)]

Ahead Of The Third Anniversary Of The January 6 Insurrection, Van Orden Cozied Up To Scott Presler, Who Organized “Stop The Steal Rallies” And Was On Capitol Grounds On January 6

December 27, 2023: Van Orden Told Presler, “We Need You Here In WI!”

December 27, 2023: Van Orden Told Presler, “We Need You Here In WI!” Scott Presler tweeted, “I’M THE HAPPIEST GUY IN THE WORLD! We will be registering voters on Groundhog Day in Punxsutawney, PA (Feb. 2) followed by the Great American Outdoor Show (Feb. 3-11). We’re literally going to spend a week registering 2A voters — will need an army of volunteers. LET’S GO!” Van Orden quoted tweeted Presler’s tweet, saying, “We need you here in WI!” [Derrick Van Orden, [12/27/23](#)]

Presler Organized “Stop The Steal” Rallies, Was Present On Capitol Grounds During The Insurrection And Dismissed The Insurrection As A “Civil Rights Protest”

Presler Organized “Stop The Steal” Rallies, Was Present On Capitol Grounds During The Insurrection And Dismissed The Insurrection As A “Civil Rights Protest.” “Scott Presler, a Virginia native and conservative activist who planned several ‘stop the steal’ rallies that promoted false claims about the 2020 election and was on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, is backing Kelly and campaigning in Wisconsin on his behalf.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [3/23/23](#)]

Van Orden Accused Democrats Of Fundraising Off Of And The Media Of Lying About What Caused Officer Brian Sicknick’s Death

Van Orden Shared An Article With A Headline Accusing The Media Of Lying About Officer Brian Sicknick’s Death And Said That Wisconsin Democrats Had Fundraised Off Of It

Van Orden Shared An Article With A Headline Accusing The Media Of Lying About Officer Brian Sicknick’s Death And Said That Wisconsin Democrats Had Fundraised Off Of It. Van Orden shared an article from Glenn Greenwald’s Substack, with the headline, “The Media Lied Repeatedly About Officer Brian Sicknick’s Death. And They Just Got Caught.” In his post accompanying the link, Van Orden said, “This is what Rep. Ron Kind, Ben Wikler, and Democratic Party of Wisconsin have been FUNDRAISING off of. Absolutely despicable.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [4/19/21](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [4/19/21](#)]

Sicknick Was Sprayed With A Chemical Substance During The January 6 Riots And Died Shortly Afterwards But Was Ruled To Have Died Of Natural Causes

Sicknick Was Sprayed With A Chemical Substance During The January 6 Riots And Died Shortly Afterwards But Was Ruled To Have Died Of Natural Causes. “U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who engaged with pro-Trump rioters during the Jan. 6 insurrection, died of natural causes the day after the attack,

Washington, D.C.'s chief medical examiner announced Monday. Sicknick died after suffering strokes, the Office of Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Francisco Diaz, said in a report. In an interview, Diaz told The Washington Post, which first reported on the determination, that Sicknick suffered two strokes. Sicknick, 42, was sprayed with a chemical substance outside the Capitol at around 2:20 p.m. ET on Jan. 6, the report said.” [NPR, [4/19/21](#)]

Sicknick’s Mother Said That He “Died Because Of The Insurrectionists Who Stormed The Capitol Building On January 6”

Sicknick’s Mother Said That He “Died Because Of The Insurrectionists Who Stormed The Capitol Building On January 6.” “Brian Sicknick suffered two strokes one day after confronting rioters at the Capitol, with Washington D.C.'s chief medical examiner ruling last month that he died of natural causes. Roughly 140 officers were assaulted during the riot. In a Wednesday statement to all GOP senators requesting a sit-down meeting, the late officer's mother said her son ‘died because of the insurrectionists who stormed the Capitol Building on January 6.’ ‘He and his fellow officers fought for hours and hours against those animals who were trying to take over the Capitol building and our democracy, as we know it,’ she said. ‘While they were fighting, congressmen and senators were locking themselves inside their offices. According to some who were barricaded in their offices said it looked like tourists walking through the Capitol. Really?’” [NBC News, [5/27/21](#)]

October 2023: Van Orden Voted Twice To Elect Jim Jordan, Who Promoted The Big Lie In Congress And Sought To Overturn The Results Of The 2020 Election, To Be Speaker Of The House

October 2023: Van Orden Voted Twice To Elect Jim Jordan As Speaker Of The House

Van Orden Voted For Electing Jim Jordan As Speaker Of The House On The Second Ballot. In October 2023, Van Orden voted for: electing Jim Jordan as Speaker of the House. The vote results were: Jordan-199, Jeffries-212, Scalise-7, McCarthy-5, Zeldin-3, Donalds-1, Emmer-1, Garcia (Mike)-1, Boehner-1, Granger-1, Westerman-1, and Miller (Candice) -1. [Election of the Speaker, [Vote #523](#), 10/18/23; CQ, [10/18/23](#)]

Van Orden Voted For Electing Jim Jordan As Speaker Of The House On The First Ballot. In October 2023, Van Orden voted for: electing Jim Jordan as Speaker of the House. The vote results were: Jordan-200, Jeffries-212, Scalise-7, McCarthy-6, Zeldin-3, Garcia (Mike)-1, Emmer-1, Cole-1, and Massie-1. [Election of the Speaker, [Vote #521](#), 10/17/23; CQ, [10/17/23](#)]

Jordan Promoted The Big Lie And Sought To Overturn The 2020 Presidential Election

Jordan Signed An Amicus Brief That Sought To Overturn The Results Of The 2020 Presidential Election. “More than 125 House Republicans have now signed on to an amicus brief backing a lawsuit from Texas to the Supreme Court seeking to overturn the results of the election in the states of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and Georgia. President-elect Joe Biden won the four battleground states in the 2020 election.” [CNN, [10/12/23](#)]

- **Jordan Was A Signatory On The Brief.** “Among the representatives who signed on are several members who have just won races in the very states whose elections they now allege are so rife with ‘irregularities’ that they want the court to throw out the results. There is no evidence of widespread electoral fraud. Here are their names: [...] Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio’s 4th Congressional District.” [Buzzfeed News, [12/10/20](#)]

Jordan Was A Premier Promoter Of The Big Lie, Even After January 6th, And Before The Insurrection, Repeatedly Called January 6th The “Ultimate Date Of Significance.” “Over the course of the past year, congressman Jim Jordan (R-OH), the ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee, has engaged in a systematic effort to cast doubt on the integrity of the 2020 U.S. presidential election. He also led efforts to create an image in the minds of Trump supporters of Jan. 6 as the ‘ultimate date of significance’ (his words, repeated several times). He helped spearhead the effort to oppose certification of the election in Congress. He has continued to

promote the ‘Big Lie’ even after the events on Jan. 6 and subsequent FBI and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) warnings that this conspiracy is propelling domestic violent extremists.” [Just Security, [8/9/21](#)]

The Morning Of January 6th, Jordan Praised The Attendees At The Ellipse And Said The “Future Of This Country” Was At Stake. “In the morning, Jordan praises the attendees at the Ellipse that says “the future of this country” is at stake on this day. He praises the attendees of the rally and continues to support the protestors into the early afternoon when rioters are violently clashing with police but before rioters breach the Capitol building.” [Just Security, [8/9/21](#)]

Jordan Voted To Overturn The Results Of The 2020 Election. [New York Times, [1/7/21](#)]

2021: Van Orden Received \$500 From 2020 Wisconsin Fake Elector Robert Spindell, Who Bragged About Efforts To Depress Black And Hispanic Voter Turnout In Milwaukee

2021: Robert Spindell Donated \$500 To Van Orden For Congress

2021: Robert Spindell Donated \$500 To Van Orden For Congress. [FEC, Receipts, accessed [5/29/24](#)]

Spindell Was A Fake GOP Elector In Wisconsin After The 2020 Election And Later Conceded That His Actions Were “Part Of An Attempt To Improperly Overturn The 2020 Presidential Election Results”

2020: Spindell Was A Fake GOP Elector, Signing A Certificate Falsely Claiming That Trump Won Wisconsin When Biden Did. “Spindell was one of 10 Republicans who signed certificates in 2020 falsely stating that Trump had won Wisconsin. President Joe Biden won the battleground state.” [Associated Press, [12/11/23](#)]

2023: Spindell Conceded In A Legal Settlement That Biden Won Wisconsin, That His Actions Were “Part Of An Attempt To Improperly Overturn The 2020 Presidential Election Results” And Agreed Not To Serve As A 2024 Elector. “Spindell was one of 10 Republicans who signed certificates in 2020 falsely stating that Trump had won Wisconsin. President Joe Biden won the battleground state. Spindell and other nine fake electors conceded in a legal settlement last week that Biden had won the state and agreed to not serve as electors in next year’s election or in any in which Trump is running. They also agreed that their actions were ‘part of an attempt to improperly overturn the 2020 presidential election results.’” [Associated Press, [12/11/23](#)]

Spindell Said That Republicans In Milwaukee And Its Suburbs Should Be “Proud” That There Was Decreased Black And Latino Voter Turnout In 2022 And Then After Facing Pushback For His Comments Claimed He Had Done More For Black People Than Any White Republican Ever

Spindell Said That Republicans In Milwaukee And Its Suburbs Should Be “Proud” That There Was Lower Black And Latino Voter Turnout In 2022 Than There Was In 2018. “In the email, Spindell seemingly celebrated the fact that turnout among Black and Latino voters in Milwaukee — a Democratic stronghold — was lower in November than in the last midterm elections in 2018. Republicans ‘can be especially proud of the City of Milwaukee (80.2% Dem Vote) casting 37,000 less votes than cast in the 2018 election with the major reduction happening in the overwhelming Black and Hispanic areas,’ Spindell wrote.” [Wisconsin Public Radio, [1/18/23](#)]

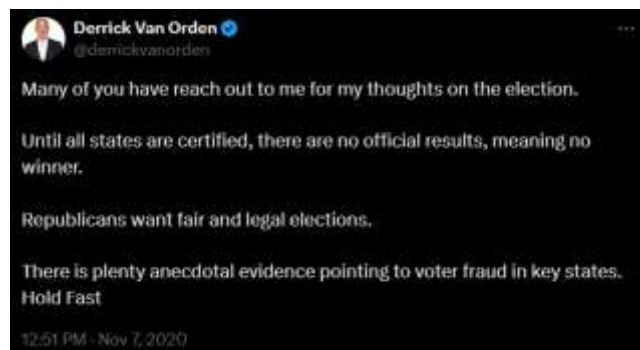
- **Spindell Claimed He Was Trying To Showcase Republican Inroads Amongst Voters Of Colors And Democratic Party Failures.** “Spindell said his remarks were intended to showcase Republican inroads among voters of color. ‘We’re committed (to turning out voters of color), and I know the Dems don’t like it, and I know the Dems weren’t able to get the turnout that they had hoped to do. But we’re working hard for the hearts and minds of all people, including the people in those communities,’ he said. Spindell also said his email remarks were intended to showcase what he described as Democratic Party failures. ‘And I think that is why many people had become disenchanted, you know, coming out to vote, including those in the minority community,’ he said.” [Wisconsin Public Radio, [1/18/23](#)]

Spindell: “There Is No White Republican That Has Done More For The Black Community Than Me.”

“There has been a push for Spindell to resign, or for Senate Republican Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu to rescind his appointment, ever since Spindell bragged following the 2022 midterm election about efforts to depress Black and Hispanic voter turnout in Milwaukee. ‘There is no white Republican that has done more for the Black community than me, so I suggest you go back and take a look at my past record,’ Spindell said.” [Associated Press, [2/8/24](#)]

November 2020: Van Orden Repeatedly Spread Disinformation About The Election

November 7, 2020: Van Orden Said That There Was No Winner Until All States Certified And That “There Is Plenty Anecdotal Evidence Pointing To Voter Fraud In Key States.” VAN ORDEN: “Many of you have reach out to me for my thoughts on the election. Until all states are certified, there are no official results, meaning no winner. Republicans want fair and legal elections. There is plenty anecdotal evidence pointing to voter fraud in key states. Hold Fast.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [11/7/20](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [11/7/20](#)]

November 16, 2020: Van Orden Said That There Was Voter Fraud In The 2020 Election And That Democrats Were Known For Committing Voter Fraud. VAN ORDEN: “Was there voter fraud? Yes. Is the Democrat Party known for voter fraud? Yes. If I was a Democrat, would I be embarrassed by that? Yes.” [Mark Felton via YouTube, 1:02, [11/16/20](#)]

Van Orden Said That There Had To Be A Peaceful Transfer Of Power “If Required, Which I Hope To God We Don’t.” VAN ORDEN: “We need to do a real hard look at these votes that were taken legally and illegally, and if it goes to the court system, that’s the way it works, and we have to make sure that we have a peaceful transition of power, which I hope to God we don’t.” [Mark Felton via YouTube, 1:26, [11/16/20](#)]

November 16, 2020: Van Orden Said That Trump Should Not Concede The Election. VAN ORDEN: “So I’m going to tell you folks, the fight is not over yet. Donald Trump should not concede this election yet, until everything is looked at. Every legal vote should be counted.” [Mark Felton via YouTube, 3:05, [11/16/20](#)]

After Spreading Disinformation Over The 2020 Election, Van Orden Admitted That Early Voting Was Secure**April 2020: Van Orden Claimed That “Stay-At-Home Voting” Increased The Probability Of Voter Fraud Occurring**

April 2020: Van Orden Claimed That “Stay-At-Home Voting” Increased The Probability Of Voter Fraud Occurring. HOST: “A stateswoman today, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez saying that she’s not going to vote for any more money going out to small businesses unless it includes stay-at-home voting, I mean those kinds of issues, right?” VAN ORDEN: “Right, and that has nothing to do with helping anyone. On a practical level, what that has to

do is it increases the probability of voter fraud. That's just what it is." [Mighty Oaks Warrior Programs via YouTube, 29:54, [4/24/20](#)] (VIDEO)

2023: Van Orden Said That “The Republican Party Has To Embrace Early Voting” And That, “It’s Accepted, And It Works”

2023 Van Orden Said That “The Republican Party Has To Embrace Early Voting” And That, “It’s Accepted, And It Works.” “Van Orden, meanwhile, seems to be trying to reverse some damage done by Trump, who used early and absentee voting as an entry point to sow doubt about the trustworthiness of the 2020 election. Many Republican voters soured on the voting methods as a result, sending some Republican officials rushing to assure their supporters that it’s safe — the better to bet on multiple days of voting, instead of counting solely on Election Day. These Republicans include those who had their own role in spreading the Big Lie like Van Orden, who attended the January 6 rally but said he didn’t enter the Capitol. ‘The Republican Party has to embrace early voting,’ he said. ‘Suppose there’s a blizzard; we live in Wisconsin. It’s an integral part. It’s accepted, and it works.’” [Talking Points Memo, [4/1/23](#)]

Van Orden Supported The ACE Act, Which Would Relax Regulations On Party Committees, Shield Donor Requirements And Try To Push States To Make Voter ID Laws

Van Orden Supported The ACE Act. “A pair of Republican Wisconsin congressmen is pitching what they are calling a “federalist solution” to elections across the country. Republicans Bryan Steil and Derrick Van Orden this week introduced legislation that would implement some of Wisconsin’s election rules nationwide. ‘It gives states the tools they need to improve their elections,’ Steil told News Talk 1130 WISN’s Jay Weber on Wednesday. Steil’s American Confidence in Elections Act would allow states to double check social security numbers against a state’s voter rolls, make it easier for states to use REAL ID to confirm citizenship, stops federal funds from going to states or cities that allow non-citizens to vote and stops non-citizens from voting in Washington, D.C., and makes sure military ballots are counted on time.” [Center Square, [7/13/23](#)]

The ACE Act Would Relax Regulations On Party Committees, Shield Groups From Donor Disclosure Requirements, And Remove Certain Contribution Limits

The ACE Act’s Political Speech And Campaign Finance Sections Relaxed Regulations On State Party Committees, Shielded Tax Exempt Organizations From Donor Disclosure Requirements, And Removed Statutory Limits For Aggregate Individual Contributions. “The hearing was the second in a series that will culminate in the reintroduction of the American Confidence in Elections Act, which was first introduced by Republicans in 2022 and includes a long list of conservative election priorities. The original bill had six subsections, addressing issues like election integrity, voter confidence, election security, protecting political speech and campaign finance reform. A senior House Republican aide said the new bill would be similar to the first, with a few tweaks. A draft is not yet available. The political speech and campaign finance reform section would relax regulations on state party committees, shield tax exempt organizations from donor disclosure requirements and remove statutory limits for aggregate individual contributions, among other proposals.” [Roll Call, [5/11/23](#)]

Washington Post Editorial Board: “House GOP Election Bill Expands Dark Money And Curtails D.C. Autonomy.” [Washington Post, [7/11/23](#)]

Roll Call: The ACE Act Was A “House GOP Election Law Overhaul” That “May Try To Protect Donors.” “House Administration Committee Republicans argued for strengthening voter identification laws, while loosening donor disclosure requirements, as they prepare legislation aimed at protecting political speech in elections. [...] The hearing was the second in a series that will culminate in the reintroduction of the American Confidence in Elections Act, which was first introduced by Republicans in 2022 and includes a long list of conservative election priorities. The original bill had six subsections, addressing issues like election integrity, voter confidence, election security, protecting political speech and campaign finance reform. A senior House Republican aide said the new bill would

be similar to the first, with a few tweaks. A draft is not yet available. The political speech and campaign finance reform section would relax regulations on state party committees, shield tax exempt organizations from donor disclosure requirements and remove statutory limits for aggregate individual contributions, among other proposals.” [Roll Call, [5/11/23](#)]

- **Georgia Rep. Barry Loudermilk (R): Conservative Donors Need Protection From “Woke Culture.”** “At a committee hearing Thursday, they said the First Amendment is under attack from ‘misinformation czars’ and ‘cancel culture,’ and that Congress needs to act to bolster election integrity and voter confidence. [...] Protection for potential conservative donors is needed within the ‘woke culture that we find ourselves ... where retribution has been, and is, taken onto people because of their political beliefs, their religious beliefs, their thoughts,’ said Rep. Barry Loudermilk, R-Ga.” [Roll Call, [5/11/23](#)]

The ACE Act Would Encourage State Voter ID Laws And Discourage Non-Citizen Voting

The Ace Act Would “Urge States To Adopt Voter ID Requirements,” And “Prevent Federal Funds From Flowing To States That Allow Noncitizen Voting.” “Democrats have described the bill, dubbed the American Confidence in Elections Act, as a blatant attempt to disenfranchise voters of color, protect wealthy donors and undercut Washington, D.C.’s right to self-govern. Proponents say the 224-page bill is full of commonsense measures to improve voter confidence and election integrity. It would urge states to adopt voter ID requirements; override some D.C. election laws; prevent federal funds from flowing to states that allow noncitizen voting or ‘ballot harvesting,’ in which third parties collect voters’ ballots; and prohibit federal agencies from tapping into conservative nonprofits.” [Roll Call, [7/14/23](#)]

Van Orden Said That The Wisconsin Elections Commission “Needs To Go Away,” Made False Allegations Against It, And Claimed He Just Wanted To Improve Confidence In The System

Van Orden Said That The “Wisconsin Electoral Commission Has Lost Its Way” And Repeated That “It Needs To Go Away,” Claiming That It Had Failed To Comport With Wisconsin’s Election Laws. “I still think the Wisconsin Electoral Commission (sic) has lost its way,’ freshman Republican U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden told the Journal Sentinel this week. ‘When I ran in 2022 I said it needs to go away because a lot of stuff that they did didn’t comport with Wisconsin state law for elections.’” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [12/6/23](#)]

Van Orden Inaccurately Claimed That The Wisconsin Elections Commission Got Rid Of Witness Requirements For Absentee Ballots. “Asked for specific ways WEC did not comply with the law, Van Orden said getting rid of witness requirements for absentee ballots is a “big deal.” The commission, however, did not get rid of such requirements but rather issued guidance in 2016 that allows clerks to fix witness certificate errors without contacting voters.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [12/6/23](#)]

The Commission Did Issue A 2016 Guidance Allowing Clerks To Fix Witness Certificate Errors Without Contacting Voters, Which A Judge Later Declared Unlawful. “Asked for specific ways WEC did not comply with the law, Van Orden said getting rid of witness requirements for absentee ballots is a “big deal.” The commission, however, did not get rid of such requirements but rather issued guidance in 2016 that allows clerks to fix witness certificate errors without contacting voters. A Waukesha County judge later said that practice was unlawful.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [12/6/23](#)]

Van Orden Had A Long History Of Ugly Confrontations, Including More Than One Involving Young People

House Rule XXIII Required That Members Conduct Themselves “At All Times In A Manner That Shall Reflect Creditably On The House” And That They “Adhere To The Spirit And The Letter Of The Rules Of The House”

House Rule XXIII Required That Members Conduct Themselves “At All Times In A Manner That Shall Reflect Creditably On The House.” “There is hereby established by and for the House the following code of conduct, to be known as the ‘Code of Official Conduct’: 1. A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall behave at all times in a manner that shall reflect creditably on the House.” [House Committee on Ethics, Code of Official Conduct, Rule XXIII, [1/10/23](#)]

House Rule XXIII Required That Members “Adhere To The Spirit And The Letter Of The Rules Of The House.” “There is hereby established by and for the House the following code of conduct, to be known as the ‘Code of Official Conduct’: [...] 2. A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House shall adhere to the spirit and the letter of the Rules of the House and to the rules of duly constituted committees thereof.” [House Committee on Ethics, Code of Official Conduct, Rule XXIII, [1/10/23](#)]

Van Orden Refused To Apologize After He Screamed And Swore At Teenage Senate Pages In The United States Capitol, For Which He Was Condemned By Leaders On Both Sides Of The Aisle

As A Congressman, Van Orden Swore At Senate Pages In The Capitol Rotunda Who “Were Lying On Their Backs In The Capitol Rotunda Taking Pictures Of The Building’s Dome During Their Final Week At Work,” For Which He Was Rebuked By Mitch McConnell And Chuck Schumer In Senate Floor Speeches

Headline: “Wisconsin Congressman Derrick Van Orden Curses At Teen Senate Pages During Capitol Tour.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [7/28/23](#)]

Headline: “‘Jackasses,’ ‘Little S----’: GOP Congressman Curses Out Teenage Senate Pages.” [The Hill, [7/27/23](#)]

Headline: “Congressman Defends Screaming At High School Pages In Capitol Rotunda: ‘Wake The F*ck Up You Little Sh*T’s’.” [Mediaite, [7/27/23](#)]

Headline: “GOP Congressman Unleashes Profanity-Filled Tirade On Teen Senate Pages.” [Daily Beast, [7/27/23](#)]

Headline: “Senators Rebuke Wisconsin Congressman Who Yelled Vulgarities At High School-Age Pages.” [Associated Press, [7/28/23](#)]

Headline: “Rep. Van Orden Gets Bipartisan Scolding After He Cursed At Teen Senate Pages.” [NPR, [7/29/23](#)]

Van Orden Cursed Out Senate Pages At The Capitol Rotunda While Giving An Evening Tour Of The U.S. Capitol. “Freshman Republican U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden yelled and cursed at a group of high school-aged Senate pages while giving a late-night tour of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday — an action that drew a rebuke from Republican Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [7/27/23](#)]

- **Van Orden Called The Pages “‘Lazy S----’ And Told Them To ‘Get The F--- Up’ Off The Floor” When They “Were Lying On Their Backs In The Capitol Rotunda Taking Pictures Of The Building’s Dome During Their Final Week At Work.”** “Van Orden, who represents Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District, called the pages ‘lazy s----’ and told them to ‘get the f--- up’ off the floor as the pages were lying on their backs in the Capitol Rotunda taking pictures of the building’s dome during their final week at work, according to PunchBowl News.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [7/27/23](#)]

- **Van Orden Said, “Wake The F--- Up You Little S---,” “What The F--- Are You All Doing,” Get The F--- Out Of Here,” And, “You Are Defiling The Space You [Pieces Of S---].”** ““Wake the f--- up you little s----. ... What the f--- are you all doing? Get the f--- out of here. You are defiling the space you [pieces of s---],’ an Orden said, according to the account provided by the page.” [The Hill, [7/27/23](#)]
- **Van Orden Asked The Pages, “Who The F---” They Were, And After They Said They Were Senate Pages, He Replied, “I Don’t Give A F--- Who You Are, Get Out” And “You Jackasses, Get Out.”** ““Who the f--- are you?’ Van Orden asked, to which one person said they were Senate pages. ‘I don’t give a f--- who you are, get out.’ ‘You jackasses, get out,’ he added.” [The Hill, [7/27/23](#)]
- **Sen. Thom Tillis Said That Van Orden’s Behavior Was “Inexcusable And Embarrassing” “For A Member Of Congress Or Any Adult For That Matter” And Called For Him To Apologize.** Jake Sherman tweeted, “NEW: Wisconsin GOP Rep. @derrickvanorden cursed out a group of high-school aged pages Wed. night in the Capitol. He called them lazy shits bc they were in the Rotunda taking pictures on the floor. He told them to get the fuck up. It's the pages' last week.” Sen. Tillis quoted tweeted Sherman, saying, “This is inexcusable and embarrassing behavior for a member of Congress or any adult for that matter. The Congressman should do the right thing and apologize.” [Senator Thom Tillis, Twitter, [7/29/23](#)]



[Senator Thom Tillis, Twitter, [7/29/23](#)]

- **Van Orden Said He Was Being “‘Threatened With Bad Press’ For His Outburst.”** “In response to the coverage of the late-night altercation, Van Orden confirmed that the incident occurred and issued a statement arguing that he'd been ‘threatened with bad press’ for his outburst.” [Business Insider, [7/27/23](#)]

Van Orden Was Rebuked In Senate Floor Speeches By Majority Leader Schumer And Minority Leader McConnell For His Behavior. “In floor speeches Thursday before departing for August recess, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell indirectly rebuked Van Orden as they praised the work done by pages on what was their final day. Schumer said it was his understanding that ‘late last night, a member of the House majority thought it appropriate to curse at some of these young people, these teenagers, in the rotunda.’ ‘I was shocked when I heard about it and I am further shocked at his refusal to apologize to these young people,’ the Democratic leader continued, adding he didn't believe ‘one member's disrespect is shared by this body.’ McConnell, the chamber's top Republican, agreed with Schumer and reaffirmed that ‘everybody on this side of the aisle feels exactly the same way.’” [ABC News, [7/28/23](#)]

- **Schumer On Van Orden’s Behavior: “I Was Shocked When I Heard About It, And I Am Further Shocked By His Refusal To Apologize To These Young People.”** SCHUMER: “Pages can help make this place run smoothly. They’re here when we need them, and they have served this institution with grace. However, I understand that late last night, a member of the House majority thought it appropriate to curse at some of these young people, these teenagers in the rotunda. I was shocked when I heard about it, and I am further shocked at his refusal to apologize to these young people. I can’t speak for the House of

Representatives, but I do not think that one member's disrespect is shared by this body, by Leader McConnell and myself." [U.S. Senate Session via CSPAN, 9:54:52, [7/27/23](#)] (VIDEO)

- **McConnell Said, "I Want To Associate Myself With The Remarks Of The Majority Leader" And "Everybody On This Side Of The Aisle Feels Exactly The Same Way."** MCCONNELL: "I want to associate myself with the remarks of the Majority Leader. Everybody on this side of the aisle feels exactly the same way." [U.S. Senate Session via CSPAN, 9:55:57, [7/27/23](#)] (VIDEO)

Schumer Said On The Senate Floor That He Was "Disturbed By Van Orden's Behavior And His Lack of Remorse." "Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said he was disturbed by Van Orden's behavior and his lack of remorse. 'I understand that late last night a member of the House majority thought it appropriate to curse at some of these young people,' Schumer said Thursday on the Senate floor. 'I was shocked when I heard about it. I am further shocked at his refusal to apologize.'" [NPR, [7/29/23](#)]

Senate Pages Were Typically Teenagers Nominated By Their Home State Senators To Help On The Senate Side By Opening Doors For Senators, Delivering Correspondence And Performing Other Tasks

Senate Pages Were Typically Teenagers Nominated By Their Home State Senators To Help On The Senate Side By Opening Doors For Senators, Delivering Correspondence And Performing Other Tasks. "Senate pages are typically teens nominated by their home state senator to help out around the Senate side of the Capitol, opening doors for senators and delivering correspondence, among other tasks." [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [7/28/23](#)]

Rep. Pocan: Van Orden Gave A Celebratory Bow To The Group He Was Giving A Tour For After Screaming At Senate Pages, "Like He's Singing An Opera"

Rep. Pocan: Van Orden Gave A Celebratory Bow To The Group He Was Giving A Tour For After Screaming At Senate Pages "Like He's Singing An Opera." "Freshman Republican U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden took a celebratory bow after he reportedly yelled and cursed at a group of teenage Senate pages while giving a late-night tour of the U.S. Capitol in July, according to Democratic U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, who on Monday viewed surveillance footage of the interaction. [...] 'When he walked back to his group, he was like a show-off,' Pocan told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel after viewing the footage in the House Sergeant at Arms' office below the House chamber. 'He took a bow for them... Arms out, did the bow like he's singing an opera.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/19/23](#)]

Van Orden Defended His Behavior, Claiming That They Were "Acting In A Manner Not Commiserate With The Space" And Blaming The Media

Van Orden Said That He Asked The Senate Pages "To Knock It Off" For "Acting In A Manner Not Commiserate With The Space." "During a limited time for questions, Congressman Van Orden was asked about the recent incident in which he's accused of a profanity-laced scolding of teenagers serving as Senate pages who were taking a break in the Capitol Rotunda during a late night session of the upper chamber. He said, 'The exact location where these folks were, folks were, I think, acting in a manner not commiserate with the space...is the exact same geographic location where all the presidents have laid in state. I asked them to knock it off. They chose not to immediately and then they did and we continued with the rest of the tour.'" [WXOW, [8/9/23](#)]

Van Orden, In An Interview With Breitbart News, Said That Media Focused On His Reaction To His Confrontation With Senate Pages Because They Were "Trying To Ignore All Of The Accomplishments Of The House Republicans." "Breitbart News Saturday host Matthew Boyle asked Van Orden to talk about the media's blowout after the Wisconsin Republican reportedly confronted teenagers who were lying down on the floor of the U.S. Capitol. Van Orden explained the media focused on his reaction because they are trying to ignore all the accomplishments that House Republicans have made thus far. He felt compelled to approach the teenagers because

there were lying down on the exact spot where former presidents had their bodies lying in state.” [Breitbart News, [7/30/23](#)]

Van Orden Said He Was “Misquoted Again By An Activist Reporter,” Loped Criticism For Writing For A “Biased Rag” And “Trash Story” To Influence Federal Elections. Olivia Herken tweeted a link to a La Crosse Tribune article with the headline, “Library staff felt ‘threatened’ after GOP candidate complained about Pride Month display.” Van Orden quoted tweeted her tweet, saying, “Reminds me of being misquoted again by an activist reporter writing for an immensity biased rag who put out a trash story with zero follow up in order to try and influence a federal election. I wish you well in your next endeavor.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [8/16/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [8/16/23](#)]

Van Orden: “I’m Not Going To Apologize For Making Sure That Anybody — I Don’t Care Who You Are And Who You’re Related To — Defiles This House.” “‘I’m not going to apologize for making sure that anybody — I don’t care who you are and who you’re related to — defiles this House,’ Van Orden said on ‘The Dan O’Donnell Show.’ ‘It’s not going to happen on my watch, man.’” [Associated Press, [7/28/23](#)]

Van Orden Claimed That His Behavior Would Not Be An Issue “If Those Young People Did Not Have Political Connections.” “‘Would this be an issue if those young people did not have political connections?’ Van Orden said on ‘The Jay Weber Show.’ ‘Why do you think this is an issue, pal?’” [Associated Press, [7/28/23](#)]

After Van Orden Accused The Pages Of Disrespecting The Capitol, Rep. Pocan Said That He “Wonder[ed] If He Told That To His Fellow Insurrectionists, Who Were Beating Police Officers On The Same Ground”

After Van Orden Accused The Pages Of Disrespecting The Capitol, Rep. Pocan Said That He “Wonder[ed] If He Told That To His Fellow Insurrectionists, Who Were Beating Police Officers On The Same Ground.” Jake Sherman tweeted, “NEW: Wisconsin GOP Rep. @derrickvanorden cursed out a group of high-school aged pages Wed. night in the Capitol. He called them lazy shits bc they were in the Rotunda taking pictures on the floor. He told them to get the fuck up. It’s the pages’ last week.” Lawrence Andrea quoted tweeted Sherman’s tweet, saying “Just asked Van Orden about this. He told me the Capitol rotunda was used as a field hospital during the Civil War, saying: ‘I would think that I’d be terribly disrespectful to lay on the grave of a soldier that died fighting for freedom.’” Mark Pocan quote tweeted Andrea’s tweet, saying, “Wonder if he told that to his fellow insurrectionists, who were beating police officers on the same ground? (Sounds more like 🍷🍷🍷🍷 to me).” [Mark Pocan, Twitter, [7/27/23](#)]



[Mark Pocan, Twitter, [7/27/23](#)]

Bottles Of Alcohol Were Photographed In Van Orden’s Congressional Office The Same Night He Swore At The Senate Pages, Which He Claimed Were From A Gathering With Constituents

Bottles Of Alcohol Were Photographed In Van Orden’s Congressional Office The Same Night He Swore At The Senate Pages. Max Cohen tweeted a picture of the open entrance to Derrick Van Orden’s congressional office, which showed several bottles of alcohol. In his tweet accompanying the image, Cohen said, “Per a source, here’s a photo from last night of a bunch of alcohol in Van Orden’s office. Van Orden and staff were heard partying loudly before he cursed out a group of teenage Senate pages.” [Max Cohen, Twitter, [7/27/23](#)]



[Max Cohen, Twitter, [7/27/23](#)]

Van Orden Claimed That The Alcohol In His Office Was From His Constituents, And His Spokesperson Said, “As The Congressman Says, Once You Cross The Threshold To Our Office, You Are In Wisconsin!” “Images were posted on social media showing bottles of liquor and beer cans on a desk in his office. Van Orden said on X, the platform previously known as Twitter, that the alcohol was from constituents. And his spokeswoman Anna Kelly posted: ‘As the Congressman says, once you cross the threshold to our office, you are in Wisconsin!’ She followed that with a beer mug emoji.” [Associated Press, [7/28/23](#)]

July 2024: Van Orden Said Everyone “But Senate Pages” Loved His Tours Of The Capitol At Night

July 2024: Van Orden Said Everyone “But Senate Pages” Loved His Tours Of The Capitol At Night. VAN ORDEN: “Hey, who’s been to the Capitol? Ok, so who has not been to the Capitol? Alright, if you guys are coming out to DC, get a hold of my office. And you’ve got to come on a tour with me at night. Everybody loves them but Senate pages.” There was then laughter from the crowd, and Van Orden pointed at someone and said, “You got that.” [Kit Tapdasan via Facebook, 20:11, [7/4/24](#)] (VIDEO)

2021: When Van Orden Was A Candidate For Congress, Made Library Staff, Including A 17-Year-Old, Feel Threatened When He “Aggressively” Questioned Displays Celebrating Pride Month

Van Orden “Aggressively” Questioned A Pride Display In The Children’s Library Section At The Prairie Du Chien Memorial Library And Then Checked Out All But One Of The Books Displayed

Van Orden “Aggressively” Questioned A Pride Display In The Prairie Du Chien Memorial Library’s Children’s Section. “Staff at the Prairie du Chien Memorial Library said they felt threatened and intimidated after Republican congressional candidate Derrick Van Orden complained about displays celebrating Pride Month. Van Orden, who recently moved to Prairie du Chien, visited the library June 17 and began to ‘aggressively’ question the pride display in the library’s children’s section, a staff member said in an interview last Tuesday, adding that Van Orden eventually obtained a library card and checked out all but one book from the display.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

After Van Orden “Aggressively” Questioned The Display, He Obtained A Library Card And Checked Out All But One Book From The Display, Which Another Patron Was Already Reading. “Van Orden, who recently moved to Prairie du Chien, visited the library June 17 and began to ‘aggressively’ question the pride display in the library’s children’s section, a staff member said in an interview last Tuesday, adding that Van Orden eventually obtained a library card and checked out all but one book from the display. [...] Van Orden then got a library card and checked out every book from the children’s LGBTQ display, aside from one that a patron was already reading, Kerrigan said.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

When Asked About His Behavior, Van Orden Said In A Statement He Supported Equal Rights For All Americans And That People Were Dividing Americans For Political Purposes. “The Tribune asked Van Orden for an interview, but instead a spokesman sent a statement. ‘I unequivocally support equal rights for all Americans. This of course includes our fellow citizens who are members of the LGBTQ+ community. It is 2021 and this should not have to be stated but there are people who continue to divide us as Americans for political purposes. I will not allow them to further degrade the relationships we have as citizens,’ Van Orden said in the statement.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

- **Van Orden Said That The Press Was Lying, Because Only Half Of His Statement Which He Shared Was Published.** VAN ORDEN: “You are being lied to by the press. This is the full statement we submitted. The LaxTrip printed less than 1/2.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [8/23/21](#)]
- **Van Orden Said That He Filed A Complaint With The Library Because It Had “Historical Inaccuracies” And “Inaccurately Painted Republicans As Not Inclusive Of The LGBTQ+ Community.”** VAN ORDEN: “I unequivocally support equal rights for all Americans. This of course includes our fellow citizens who are

members of the LGBTQ+ community. It is 2021 and this should not have to be stated but there are people who continue to divide us as Americans for political purposes. I will not allow them to further degrade the relationships we have as citizens. The complaint I filed with the Prairie du Chien public library was due to historical inaccuracies in a featured book that inaccurately painted Republicans as not inclusive of the LGBTQ+ community. The full copy of my complaint is available at the Prairie du Chien library, please contact them directly.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [8/23/21](#)]

A Library Staffer Said That She Heard Voices Raised And Van Orden Saying That The Books Offended Him, Taxpayers Should Not Have To See Them And Using The Word, “Disgusting.” “On June 17, Kerrigan was in a back room with a coworker when she began to hear ‘words being exchanged’ out front between a man and another colleague. ‘I started to realize that his voice was starting to raise. So I walked out there to one of my coworkers and I started to realize that this is not a good situation,’ she said. At the time, Kerrigan did not know that the man was Van Orden or that he was a congressional candidate. She described Van Orden as angry, and said he used words such as ‘disgusting,’ adding that the books offended him and that taxpayers should not have to see the selection of books. He said the information in the books — many of them fictional picture books for children — was ‘incorrect,’ Kerrigan recalled.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Van Orden Filed A Statement Of Concern About A Book, Which Parodied One Written By Mike Pence’s Wife And Daughter And Sought To Combat Pence’s Anti-LGBTQ Views

Van Orden Was Specifically Upset About A Book, Which Parodied One Written By Pence’s Wife And Daughter About A Rabbit And Sought To Combat Pence’s Anti-LGBTQ Views. “At the time, Kerrigan did not know that the man was Van Orden or that he was a congressional candidate. [...] He was specifically upset with the 2018 book ‘A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo,’ which is a parody of a book written by former Vice President Mike Pence’s wife and daughter about his real-life pet rabbit. The fictional bestseller is a picture book that aims to combat Pence’s anti-LGBTQ views by detailing the same-sex romance between Marlon Bundo and another rabbit.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

- **The Picture Book Aimed To Combat Pence’s Anti-LGBTQ Views By Detailing A Same-Sex Romance Between Two Rabbits.** “At the time, Kerrigan did not know that the man was Van Orden or that he was a congressional candidate. [...] He was specifically upset with the 2018 book ‘A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo,’ which is a parody of a book written by former Vice President Mike Pence’s wife and daughter about his real-life pet rabbit. The fictional bestseller is a picture book that aims to combat Pence’s anti-LGBTQ views by detailing the same-sex romance between Marlon Bundo and another rabbit.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Van Orden’s Statement Of Concern Complained That The Book Painted Republicans As Not Being Inclusive And Called It “Propaganda”

Van Orden Filed A Statement Of Concern With The Library Over The Book, In Which He Complained That It Painted Republicans As Not Being Inclusive And Called It “Propaganda.” “He was specifically upset with the 2018 book “A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo,” which is a parody of a book written by former Vice President Mike Pence’s wife and daughter about his real-life pet rabbit. The fictional bestseller is a picture book that aims to combat Pence’s anti-LGBTQ views by detailing the same-sex romance between Marlon Bundo and another rabbit. The Tribune obtained the statement of concern that Van Orden filed with the library, where he said the book was ‘historically inaccurate’ and called for it to be removed from the shelf. ‘The book is historically inaccurate in claiming that same-sex marriage was illegal in the U.S. when the story was written. The book claims Mike Pence was VP (2017) prior to the Supreme Court ruling of Obergefell v. Hodges (2015). This book is a clear attempt to paint Republicans as being not inclusive,’ Van Orden wrote. He further wrote that the effect of the book was ‘skewing young people to think that Republicans are not inclusive. This book is not informational, it is propaganda.’” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Prairie de Coteau Memorial Library
Citizens Statement of Concern

**STATEMENT OF CONCERN ABOUT
LIBRARY RESOURCES**

Name Derrick Van Orden Date JUNE 17th, 2021

Address _____
City L
Phone 112-444-1111

Do you represent: Yourself
Organization/Group _____
Name of Organization/Group: _____

Resource on which you are commenting:
 Book
 Magazine
 Audiovisual Resource
 Content of Library Program
 Other

Title A DAY IN THE LIFE OF MARRIAGE BUNDO
Author MARRIAGE BUNDO, JILLIBISS
Publisher/Producer PARADISE IMPORT-EXPORT PRODUCTIONS, LLC
Date published or produced 2018

1. What brought this resource or item to your attention?
It was on a pride month display designed for children

2. To what do you object? Please be as specific as possible.
The book is historically inaccurate in claiming that same sex marriage was illegal in the us when the story was written. The book claim Mike Pence was VP (2017) prior to the supreme court ruling of Obergefell v Hodges (2015). This book is a clear attempt to paint Republicans as being not inclusive.

[La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

A 17-Year-Old Library Staffer Said She Felt Threatened And Unsafe At Work After Van Orden’s Outburst, Which She Described As “Very Uncomfortable, Threatening” And “Full On Shouting”

Kerrigan Trautsch, A Library Staffer Who Was 17 At The Time Of The Incident, Said “It Was Chaos.” “‘It was chaos,’ said Kerrigan Trautsch, 18, of Eastman, who works as a page at the library. She spoke to the Tribune on behalf of her colleagues. She is a member of the LGBTQ community and was 17 at the time of the incident.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Staff Described The Incident As “Very Uncomfortable, Threatening” And Said That Van Orden “Demanded” To Know Who Set Up The Displays So That He Could “Teach Them A Lesson”

Library Staff Said That Van Orden Was “Loud” And “Aggressive” And Described The Situation As “Very Uncomfortable, Threatening.” “‘It was chaos,’ said Kerrigan Trautsch, 18, of Eastman, who works as a page at the library. [...] ‘His voice was loud, he was aggressive, he had his finger jabbing into (the book) constantly,’ Kerrigan said, describing the situation as ‘very uncomfortable, threatening.’” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Kerrigan Said That Van Orden “Demanded” To Know Who Set Up The Displays So He Could “Teach Them A Lesson.” “Kerrigan said Van Orden repeatedly ‘demanded’ to know who set up the displays in the library so he could ‘teach them a lesson.’” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

- **Kerrigan Said That She Was The One Who Put Up The Displays But That She Was Afraid To Say That At The Time Due To Van Orden’s Demeanor.** “Kerrigan said Van Orden repeatedly ‘demanded’ to know who set up the displays in the library so he could ‘teach them a lesson.’ ‘I was the one who put up those

displays,' she said. She was afraid to say this at the time because of his demeanor. 'He was full on shouting at this point and he kept aggressively shoving the books around.'" [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Kerrigan Said That Van Orden Was "Full On Shouting" And That "He Kept Aggressively Shoving The Books Around"

Kerrigan Said That Van Orden Was "Full On Shouting" And That "He Kept Aggressively Shoving The Books Around." "Kerrigan said Van Orden repeatedly 'demanded' to know who set up the displays in the library so he could 'teach them a lesson.' 'I was the one who put up those displays,' she said. She was afraid to say this at the time because of his demeanor. 'He was full on shouting at this point and he kept aggressively shoving the books around.'" [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Kerrigan Said That After The Incident, She Went Home Angry And Crying, Told Her Parents That She Did Not "Feel Safe At Work Anymore" And Worried That People Would Be Outside Waiting For Her

Kerrigan Said That After The Incident, She Went Home Angry And Crying And That She Told Her Parents That She Did Not "Feel Safe At Work Anymore." "Kerrigan recently graduated from River Ridge High School. She describes herself as a fervent advocate for the LGBTQ community. She said she rarely backs down from confrontation. But she said she went home after work that day angry and crying. 'When I got home I told my parents: 'I don't feel safe at work anymore,' she said.'" [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Kerrigan Said She Was "Terrified" That "He Would Be Outside' Or That "There Would Be A Collection Of People Outside Waiting For Me, Waiting For Anyone Else." "Kerrigan said her fear was heightened because the library's staff is almost all women. 'I was terrified that he would be outside, that there would be a collection of people outside waiting for me, waiting for anyone else,' she said. 'We were terrified.'" [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Van Orden May Have Sexually Harassed A Colleague In The Military

In His 2015 Book, Van Orden Bragged About Behavior That Was Sexual Harassment Towards Two Young Female Officers

Van Orden Bragged In His Book "About Exposing A Man's Genitals To Two Female Officers"

HEADLINE: "In 2015 Book, Van Orden Brags About Exposing A Man's Genitals To Two Female Officers" [La Crosse Tribune, [9/25/20](#)]

La Crosse Tribune: In His Book, Van Orden Wrote "Proudly About An Incident Where He Spontaneously Exposed A Male Lieutenant's Enlarged Scrotum To Two Young Female Officers." "In a book intended to storytell his lessons as a former Navy SEAL, a Republican congressional candidate bragged about an incident that his opponent has characterized as sexually harassing two female officers. In the 2015 book, 'Book of Man: A Navy Seal's Guide to the Lost Art of Manhood,' candidate Derrick Van Orden of Hager City writes proudly about an incident where he spontaneously exposed a male lieutenant's enlarged scrotum to two young female officers." [La Crosse Tribune, [9/25/20](#)]

Van Orden Wrote That He Spotted Two Young "Cute Girls," Had Them Come Over, Then Whipped Back A Curtain That Was Covering A Lieutenant's Enlarged Scrotum, Which Made Them Gasp "In Horror." "In 2020, when Van Orden was running against incumbent Democratic Rep. Ron Kind, an episode from Van Orden's time in the military that he'd written about in his book was unearthed. That incident occurred after a training mission in which a lieutenant had a rash from poison oak on his testicles. At a naval hospital, Van Orden called two young women in the Medical Corps over to him and the lieutenant, lifted the towel he had on his lap and exposed the swollen testicles to the women. 'Here's this lieutenant sitting behind a little curtain, spread eagle, (scrotum)

huge as a cantaloupe, and his eyes swollen nearly shut,' Van Orden wrote. 'That's when I spotted two ensigns, who happened to be young girls in their early twenties.' 'Excuse me,' I said to the two cute girls, approaching them. 'Could I ask you something?' 'Sure,' one of them answered.' 'After walking them over to the outside of the lieutenant's location, I whipped the curtain back. 'Have you ever seen anything like this?' I asked. They gasped in horror as they saw the LT in all of his glory. I'm sure they never wanted to have anything to do with a man ever again.'" [Wisconsin Examiner, [10/26/21](#)]

Van Orden Later Claimed That He Was Just Instructing Junior Officers "In Recognition And Treatment For An Advanced Case Of Contact Dermatitis." "Last year, Van Orden said in a statement to the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel that he was just 'instructing two junior Medical Corps officers in recognition and treatment for an advanced case of contact dermatitis.'" [Wisconsin Examiner, [10/26/21](#)]

Ellen Haring, A Retired Army Colonel, West Point Graduate And Professor Who Specialized In Research On Women And Gender In The Military Said Van Orden Was Immature, Problematic, Childish, Demeaning, And Ignorant

Ellen Haring Was A Retired Army Colonel, West Point Graduate And Professor At Georgetown Who Specialized In Research On Women And Gender In The Military. "Ellen Haring, a retired Army colonel, West Point graduate, and professor at Georgetown University who specializes in research focused on women and gender in the military, said if the female ensigns were not medical staff the behavior would have constituted sexual harassment." [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/25/20](#)]

Haring Said That The Way Van Orden Described His Behavior Was Ignorant, Immature, And Childish, But She Would Not Call It Sexual Harassment If They Were Medical Staff, As Van Orden Claimed

Haring Said That The Way Van Orden Described His Behavior Was Ignorant, Immature, And Childish, But She Would Not Call It Sexual Harassment If They Were Medical Staff, As Van Orden Claimed. "Ellen Haring, a retired Army colonel, West Point graduate, and professor at Georgetown University who specializes in research focused on women and gender in the military, said if the female ensigns were not medical staff the behavior would have constituted sexual harassment. 'If they happened to be two random women who happened to be there, that would be sexual harassment. The way he describes doing it is ignorant but I wouldn't call it sexual harassment,' if the officers were medical staff as Van Orden says, Haring said. 'Either way it's immature, childish male behavior.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/25/20](#)]

Haring Said That If Van Orden Did This To Two Random Women Who Had Just Happened To Be There, It Would Be Sexual Harassment

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Haring Said That Van Orden Referring To The Female Officers, Who Were His Superiors, As "Cute Girls" Was Problematic And "Ridiculously Demeaning"

Haring Said That Referring To The Female Officers, Who Were His Superiors, As "Cute Girls" Was Problematic And "Ridiculously Demeaning." "Haring said referring to the officers, who were his superiors, as 'cute girls' is problematic. 'That's ridiculously demeaning,' Haring said. 'He's an enlisted Navy SEAL, who is he to call medical staff, women officers, 'cute girls'? That's a problem for me.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/25/20](#)]

Van Orden Had Antiquated Views On Gender Roles

Van Orden Said That The “Different Gender Role Models That Have Been Erased Throughout Our Nations” Starting In The 70’s And Late 60’s Had “Been A Disservice”

Van Orden Said That The “Different Gender Role Models That Have Been Erased Throughout Our Nations” Starting In The 70’s And Late 60’s Had “Been A Disservice.” VAN ORDEN: “The different gender role models that have been erased throughout our nation throughout the last- really starting in the 70’s, in the late 60’s, has really been a disservice, and you can say whatever you want, but it’s just factual. If you look at the degradation of our society and pin that to when the family started breaking up, it’s undeniable.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 8:56, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Indicated That He Would Prefer To Have A Society In Which Women Stayed At Home With Their Children

Van Orden Praised Cultures Where “The Mom Is At Home With The Baby For The First Six Years Of Their Life.” VAN ORDEN: “I find it fascinating that it started in vogue to look back at you know, we call them primitive cultures, which I think that’s a derogatory term so I don’t really use it, but if you look at aboriginal cultures, there are very very clearly defined gender roles. The mom is at home with the baby for the first six years of their life and if you look at the inner family violence that takes place in those cultures as compared to western cultures, it’s almost non-existent. If you look at the murder rate, the theft, all these things that we track as metrics in our society, in our advanced cultures.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 11:31, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Spoke Positively Of Allowing “The Father To Do More External Things” And “Providing For That Mother So That She Doesn’t Have To Go To Work Outside Of The Village Or Outside Of The Home.” VAN ORDEN: “And we’ve got to remember, only females are capable of growing a child and giving birth, so let’s just remember that, and they’re the only folks that are capable of actually nourishing a child with their body. That’s just a fact. And when you grow that bond with the child to the mother and allow the father to do more external things, providing for that mother so that she doesn’t have to go to work outside of the village or outside of the home, it allows that bond to grow between the mother and the child which really humanizes the child more, and then the child can look towards the father that’s doing a more traditional provision of sustenance, and it works.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 12:29, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Spoke Dismissively About “Societies Where Everybody Splits Off To Work And Mom Drops A Kid Off At Daycare, And You See Him Nine Hours Later.” VAN ORDEN: “Look at these cultures and you can’t argue that they’re not more peaceful than we are in our advanced super societies where everybody splits off to work and mom drops a kid off at daycare, and you see him nine hours later. You spent two hours with the child that day.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 13:10, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Criticized Opening SEAL Training To Women As A “Political Decision Based On A Crappy Study” And Said That Women Having Children Would Cause Them To Need Two-Year Breaks From Their Service In The Military

Van Orden Criticized Opening SEAL Training To Women As A “Political Decision Based On A Crappy Study.” VAN ORDEN: “However, a political decision was made in order to open up Seal training to women, and that was a political decision based on a crappy study by RAND.” [Derrick Van Orden, 2021 06 03 Derrick Van Orden Interview, WI, WIBA Vicki McKenna Show, 11:43] (AUDIO)

Van Orden Said That Women Having Children Would Cause Them To Need Two-Year Breaks From Their Service In The Military. VAN ORDEN: “It’s a business decision. The ability to get enough women through

training isn't really, it's not worth the end. And the reason being this, once you have a person in the military, your career is planned for 30 years. So, women take different breaks. If they want to have children, that's fantastic, we would encourage that. That's a two-year break. When the woman is on her two-year break, someone has to fill that void, and that would be a man who has to work up, deploy and leave his family for that two-year period of time, and that, quite frankly, it's not a good business decision." [Derrick Van Orden, 2021 06 03 Derrick Van Orden Interview, WI, WIBA Vicki McKenna Show, 12:21] (AUDIO)

Van Orden Repeatedly Engaged In Racist And Offensive Behavior

Van Orden Made Insensitive Comments About The Holocaust And Used George Soros As A Boogeyman, Which Many On The Antisemitic Far Right Did For A Long Time

Van Orden Tweeted A Nazi Reference To A Jewish Political Figure And Compared Democrats To "The Most Oppressive And Criminal Regimes In World History"

Van Orden Tweeted, Then Deleted, A Nazi Reference To A Jewish Political Figure. "A former Wisconsin GOP Congressional candidate issued an apology Tuesday after a screenshot appeared to show him making a Nazi reference to a Jewish political figure on Twitter. In a screenshot captured by a Twitter user and obtained by the Tribune, Derrick Van Orden responded to a tweet Tuesday morning from former U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich, suggesting Reich change his name to 'Third Reich' — a name often used to refer to Nazi-occupied Germany. The tweet appears to have been deleted, though the Tribune reviewed a timestamped screenshot and a reply to a deleted tweet that referenced the same subject matter as the screenshot in attempts to verify the tweet." [La Crosse Tribune, [1/26/21](#)]

Van Orden Tweeted That Former Labor Secretary Robert Reich Should "Change [His] First Name To 3rd." Robert Reich tweeted, "The 50 Senate Dems represent over 41.5 million more Americans than the 50 Senate Republicans. But the filibuster gives the Rs power to kill legislation supported by the vast majority. It's undemocratic. It's not in the Constitution. It can be eliminated with 51 votes. End it now." Van Orden quote tweeted Reich, saying, "You should change your name to 3rd." [La Crosse Tribune, [1/26/21](#)]



[La Crosse Tribune, [1/26/21](#)]

Van Orden Claimed Democrats Were "Exercising The Very Political Techniques" That Were "Used Historically By The Most Oppressive And Criminal Regimes In World History." "Van Orden unsuccessfully ran for Wisconsin's 3rd Congressional District against Democratic incumbent U.S. Rep. Ron Kind, D-La Crosse, last November. He has signaled that he is likely to run for office again by remaining active in the public sphere and with the local and state Republican parties. 'I am an ardent supporter of Israel and the Jewish people. I have taken my children and fellow service members to Auschwitz so that they would understand the horrors of the Shoah and to make sure this never happens again,' he said. 'It is unfortunate that in America's political climate that the Democrat party is exercising the very techniques that they have derided President Trump for, for years and have been used historically by the most oppressive and criminal regimes in world history,' Van Orden's tweet continued. 'Calling for purging of political opponents, banning them from future employment, and massive suppression of free speech is what is taking place in our nation as you read this,' he said." [La Crosse Tribune, [1/26/21](#)]

Van Orden Said That If His Tweet “In Anyway Insulted The Memory Of The Millions Of The Jewish People, They Have My Most Humble Apology” But Compared Democrats To Authoritarian Governments

Van Orden Said That If His Tweet “In Anyway Insulted The Memory Of The Millions Of The Jewish People, They Have My Most Humble Apology.” ““If this tweet in anyway insulted the memory of the millions of the Jewish people, they have my most humble apology,’ Van Orden said in his statement that was posted on Twitter.” [La Crosse Tribune, [1/26/21](#)]

Van Orden Said He Was An “Ardent Supporter Of Israel And The Jewish People” And That He Took His Children And Fellow Service Members To Auschwitz So They Understand The Horrors Of The Shoa. “Van Orden unsuccessfully ran for Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District against Democratic incumbent U.S. Rep. Ron Kind, D-La Crosse, last November. He has signaled that he is likely to run for office again by remaining active in the public sphere and with the local and state Republican parties. ‘I am a ardent supporter of Israel and the Jewish people. I have taken my children and fellow service members to Auschwitz so that they would understand the horrors of the Shoah and to make sure this never happens again,’ he said.” [La Crosse Tribune, [1/26/21](#)]

Van Orden Said That Democrats Exercised Techniques “Used Historically By The Most Oppressive And Criminal Regimes” And That They Were “Calling For Purging Of Political Opponents.” ““It is unfortunate that in America’s political climate that the Democrat party is exercising the very techniques that they have derided President Trump for, for years and have been used historically by the most oppressive and criminal regimes in world history,’ Van Orden’s tweet continued. ‘Calling for purging of political opponents, banning them from future employment, and massive suppression of free speech is what is taking place in our nation as you read this,’ he said.” [La Crosse Tribune, [1/26/21](#)]

Van Orden Compared Agriculture Exports To China With “Feeding Nazi Germany In 1938”

Van Orden Compared Agriculture Exports To China With “Feeding Nazi Germany In 1938.” Van Orden asked questions of former US ambassador to UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture Kip Tom at a hearing. VAN ORDEN: “One question for you tom, do you think the US should be feeding Nazi Germany in 1938 before their invasion on Poland in 1939. Should we be providing them with food and aid?” TOM: “You want to talk about China today on that?” Van Orden: “I want to highlight the fact that we’re basically feeding Nazi Germany in 1938 and do you think that’s an appropriate use of American resources. Would it have been then and is it now with China? Because that’s where we are with China. We’re in 1938. They haven’t invaded Poland yet but it’s on their horizon.” [Heartland Signal via Twitter, 0:00, [3/20/24](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Compared A Job Posting To “Pull ‘Stunts’” In His Congressional Race To “Nazi Brown Shirts And Chinese Communist Party Members”

Van Orden Compared A Job Posting To “Pull ‘Stunts’” In His Congressional Race To “Nazi Brown Shirts And Chinese Communist Party Members.” Van Orden posted a link to an article with the headline, “Bice: Liberal group posts job for a staffer to pull ‘stunts’ in the Derrick Van Orden race.” In his post accompanying the link, Van Orden said, “Nazi Brown Shirts and Chinese Communist Party members used to do ‘Political Stunts’ to disrupt opposition candidates. The Democrat party in Wisconsin is trying to buy and intimidate their way into power.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [3/1/24](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [3/1/24](#)]

Van Orden Called Jen Psaki, “Madam Goebbels”

Van Orden Called Jen Psaki, “Madam Goebbels” And Said She “Should Now Come Clean About The Russian Collusion Hoax And Then Slide Right Into Hunter Biden’s Laptop.” Van Orden posted a screenshot of a Fox News article with the headline, “Jen Psaki forced to edit book after making misleading claim about Biden not checking watch at ceremony.” In Van Orden’s post accompanying the screenshot, he said, “Madam Goebbels should now come clean about the Russian collusion hoax and then slide right into Hunter Biden’s laptop. The cabal of Leftwingnut propagandists should be shunned and they should publicly apologize to Donald Trump now.” [Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [5/13/24](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Facebook, [5/13/24](#)]

Van Orden Doubled Down On His Comparison After Someone Said It Was “Horrendous” To Do So, Saying, “I Know Exactly What I Am Talking About”

Van Orden Called Jen Psaki, “Madam Goebbels” And Said She “Should Now Come Clean About The Russian Collusion Hoax And Then Slide Right Into Hunter Biden’s Laptop.” Van Orden tweeted a Fox News article with the headline, “Jen Psaki forced to edit book after making misleading claim about Biden not checking watch at ceremony.” In Van Orden’s post accompanying the screenshot, he said, “Madam Goebbels should now come clean about the Russian collusion hoax and then slide right into Hunter Biden’s laptop. The cabal of Leftwingnut propagandists should be shunned and they should publicly apologize to @realDonaldTrump now.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/13/24](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/13/24](#)]

In Response To Someone Who Said That Comparing A Journalist To Goebbels Was “Horrendous,” Van Orden Double Down And Said, “I Know Exactly What I Am Talking About.” Terry Hansen tweeted in response to Van Orden, “To compare a journalist to Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels is horrendous. You should be ashamed of yourself.” Van Orden replied, “No. You should read more history. I know exactly what I am talking about. Start here and then get back to me:” Van Orden included a link to a Wikipedia article titled, “The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/13/24](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/13/24](#)]

NOTE: Hansen deleted his tweet as of May 14, 2024. Van Orden's reply to him was still up however, and it could be seen under the replies to his original tweet comparing Psaki to Goebbels.

Van Orden Repeatedly Fearmongered Over Refugees

Van Orden Fearmongered Over Afghan Refugees Who Risked Their Lives To Support American Troops

Van Orden Said That He Owed His Life To Afghans Who Support The US Military But That The Biden Administration Was Not Properly Vetting Afghan Refugees. “While emphasizing that he, Church and many other Americans owed their lives to Afghans who supported the U.S. military efforts in that country, Van Orden also charged the Biden administration with failing to develop a plan to properly vet the Afghan refugees who will be streaming to the United States. That includes hundreds of refugees expected to arrive at Fort McCoy in Wisconsin. Van Orden insisted the administration needs to tell the American people what processes will be used to ensure that every foreign national that enters Wisconsin is a former ally, what the long-term plan is for refugees that will be granted asylum and what will be done with Afghans found to have worked with the Taliban. ‘All of these things should have been thought of before we did this,’ he said.” [Leader-Telegram, [8/19/21](#)]

Van Orden Claimed That The State Department Did Not Give Information On Resettling Refugees In Eau Claire And Said He Would Not Support Their Resettlement If He Did Not Get The Information

Van Orden Said He Was “Monitoring The Potential Resettlement Of Refugees In Eau Claire, Wisconsin.” In a letter to Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Van Orden wrote, “To ensure the safety of my constituents I have been monitoring the potential resettlement of refugees in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.” [U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden, Press Release, [12/11/23](#)]

Van Orden Demanded To Know Who The Specific Refugees Were, Their Countries Of Origin, Documentation Showing Investigations, Who Conducted Them And Information Collected On Them. In a letter to Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Van Orden wrote, “I ask that you share a detailed report of the vetting procedures they have conducted including: who these specific individuals are, country of origin, documentation that the proper inquiries and investigations for refugee resettlement were thoroughly conducted, who conducted the inquiries and investigations (U.S. government personnel, and agencies or civilian contractors), if contractors, what specific contracting company was used, and the information collected and consideration criteria for each individual.” [U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden, Press Release, [12/11/23](#)]

Van Orden Said That Until He Got The Information He Requested, He Would Not Support Their Resettlement. “‘The silence from the State Department is incredibly concerning,’ said Rep. Van Orden. ‘I have a responsibility to ensure the well-being of my constituents, and without the ability to review the information I requested, I cannot say with confidence that these individuals were fully vetted. We are a nation of laws, and we must ensure that those who wish to immigrate or resettle here do so legally and are not threats to the safety and security of the United States. Until I have the information I requested, I will not support this resettlement.’” [U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden, Press Release, [12/11/23](#)]

Van Orden Supported A Bill To Let State And Local Governments Reject Federal Refugee Resettlements

Van Orden Supported A Bill To Let State And Local Governments Reject Federal Refugee Resettlements. “This week, Representatives Derrick Van Orden (WI-03), Tom Tiffany (WI-07), Andy Ogles (TN-05), and Lance Gooden (TX-05) introduced the Community Assent for Refugee Entry Act (CARE) Act, which will empower state and local governments by granting them the authority to reject federal refugee resettlements. Ultimately, the CARE Act will prohibit the resettlement of refugees in any state or locality that takes legislative or executive action to formally disapprove the resettlement intended for their respective jurisdiction. [...] ‘The lack of transparency between federal agencies and local governments regarding refugee resettlement must stop,’ said Congressman Van Orden. ‘It becomes incumbent upon states and localities to allocate their resources for refugees after a short period

of time, which strains their already limited resources, especially in rural communities. We have seen what an absence of communication with respect to refugee resettlement has done right here in Eau Claire. This bill will make sure that folks' voices are heard and are considered in future resettlement decisions.” [U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden, Press Release, [3/1/24](#)]

Van Orden Cozied Up To Scott Presler, Who Was A Lead Strategist For An Anti-Muslim “Extreme Hate Group” And Made At Least 50 QAnon Related Social Media Posts

December 27, 2023: Van Orden Told Presler, “We Need You Here In WI!”

December 27, 2023: Van Orden Told Presler, “We Need You Here In WI!” Scott Presler tweeted, “I’M THE HAPPIEST GUY IN THE WORLD! We will be registering voters on Groundhog Day in Punxsutawney, PA (Feb. 2) followed by the Great American Outdoor Show (Feb. 3-11). We’re literally going to spend a week registering 2A voters — will need an army of volunteers. LET’S GO!” Van Orden quoted tweeted Presler’s tweet, saying, “We need you here in WI!” [Derrick Van Orden, [12/27/23](#)]

Presler Was A Lead Strategist For An Anti-Muslim “Extreme Hate Group,” Which Was The Largest Anti-Muslim Organization In The United States And Made At Least 50 QAnon Related Social Media Posts

Presler Worked For The Anti-Muslim Group, “Act For America.” “Presler has also worked for the anti-Muslim group Act for America.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [3/23/23](#)]

- **The Southern Poverty Law Center Labeled “ACT For America” An “Extreme Hate Group” And The Anti-Defamation League Said It Was The Largest Anti-Muslim Organization In The United States.** “From 2017 to 2018, Presler was the lead activism strategist for ACT for America, according to his Facebook page. The Virginia Beach-based organization has been labeled an “extreme hate group” by the Southern Poverty Law Center and as the largest anti-Muslim organization in the country by the Anti-Defamation League. According to the SPLC, the organization ‘pushes wild anti-Muslim conspiracy theories’ and ‘denigrates American Muslims.’” [Wisconsin Examiner, [3/17/23](#)]

Presler Made More Than 50 Posts With QAnon Related Tags. “Presler has also regularly used hashtags associated with the umbrella of conspiracies theories known as QAnon in his social media posts. Media Matters for America has logged more than 50 posts in which he’s used QAnon related tags.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [3/23/23](#)]

Van Orden Consistently Attacked Colleagues And Others, Making It Difficult For Him To Work For All Wisconsinites In His District And Deliver For His Constituents

Van Orden Personally Attacked, Asked For The Home Address And Threatened To Publish The Public Information Of Someone Who Criticized Him Unless He Stopped His “Stalinist Practices”

Three Minutes After Eric Buxton Said Van Orden Manufactured Outrage And Failed To Offer Solutions, Van Orden Replied, “Is That Really Your Picture” And Asked, “So Your Real Name Is Eric Buxton?” “Minutes after he posted a tweet accusing the Republican running in Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District of manufacturing outrage and failing to offer solutions, Eric Buxton received a reply from the candidate. ‘Is that really your picture?’ Derrick Van Orden publicly responded three minutes later. ‘So your real name is Eric Buxton?’” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [10/4/22](#)]

Van Orden Asked Buxton For His Home Address, Who He Had Contributed To And Who He Had Voted For. “Van Orden then reshared the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Pharmacy professor’s July 13th

post, asking Buxton for his home address, who he works for, who he's contributed to and who he's voted for." [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [10/4/22](#)]

Van Orden Threatened To Publish Buxton's Public Information Unless He Stopped His "Stalinist Practices." "Van Orden then reshared the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Pharmacy professor's July 13th post, asking Buxton for his home address, who he works for, who he's contributed to and who he's voted for. He threatened to publish the man's public information unless he stopped his 'Stalinist practices.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [10/4/22](#)]

Van Orden Tweeted Four Screenshots Of Buxton's LinkedIn Profile. "Less than an hour later, Van Orden tweeted four screenshots of Buxton's LinkedIn profile. 'This you, hero?' Van Orden wrote for his thousands of Twitter followers to see." [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [10/4/22](#)]

"Van Orden Was Threatening Everyone" When Other House Republican Members Considered Ousting Speaker Mike Johnson

"Van Orden Was Threatening Everyone" When Other House Republican Members Considered Ousting Speaker Mike Johnson. "Momentum is growing quickly behind the effort to remove Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.) from power if he moves to alter the motion to vacate rule as part of a package of foreign aid that's expected to pass through the House this weekend. [...] The GOP lawmaker, who requested anonymity to discuss the private conversation, said Van Orden told conservatives 'I hope you do bring' the motion to vacate, in a way to try and call their bluff. The Wisconsin Republican also called others in the conversation 'tubby.' 'Van Orden was threatening everyone and he's telling us to, he hopes to go ahead with a motion to vacate, and nobody in the group wants a motion to vacate,' the GOP lawmaker said." [The Hill, [4/18/24](#)]

Van Orden Suggested That Former Chairman Of The Joint Chiefs Of Staff Mark Milley Be Tried For Treason

Van Orden: "If The Chairman Of The Joint Chiefs Of Staff Said That There Is A Real Potential That This Guy Committed Treason." VAN ORDEN: "Okay, there was a book CNN got an early release copy of it and it's got this explosive quote in there and I'll be real clear if this quote is accurate, if the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff said that there is a real potential that this guy committed treason. The context is the election happened, all of this stuff happened, what was deemed to be instability in the nation. General Miley allegedly called his counterpart in the Chinese Communist Party, the people's liberation army and said this: 'General Lee, you and I have known each other for five years. Milley added, if we're going to attack I'm going to call you ahead of time. It's not going to be a surprise.' So these kinds of back channel things, it's imperative that we have them. We learned this during the Cuban missile crisis, but they're not used to disclose what would be highly classified information to a foreign counterpart. So that can't happen. This is the perfect setup if I were the Chinese Communist Party to do a preemptive strike against the United States because you know that we're not going to attack them unless you get a call from General Milley. How many more people did he call and say this to? There is a bunch of people trying to equivocate the statement on different news sources, but I'm telling you what, if this guy said this, if this quote is accurate then he needs to be held up and potentially tried for treason." [Meg Ellefson Show, 13:55, [9/15/21](#)]
(AUDIO)

Van Orden Disrespected The American Flag And Said That "The Democratic Party Has Just Put The United States On The Same Level As Soviet Russia" After Trump Was Convicted Of Felonies In New York

May 30, 2024: Trump Was Convicted On All 34 Counts In His Manhattan Trial, Becoming A Convicted Felon

May 30, 2024: Trump Was Convicted On All 34 Counts In His Manhattan Trial, Becoming A Convicted Felon. “Donald J. Trump was convicted on Thursday of falsifying records to cover up a sex scandal that threatened to derail his 2016 presidential campaign, capping an extraordinary trial that tested the resilience of the American justice system and transformed the former commander in chief into a felon. The guilty verdict in Manhattan — across the board, on all 34 counts — will reverberate throughout the nation and the world as it ushers in a new era of presidential politics.” [New York Times, [5/30/24](#)]

May 30, 2024: Van Orden Said That “The Democratic Party Has Just Put The United States On The Same Level As Soviet Russia” And Posted An Image Of An Edited American Flag With A Hammer And Sickle

May 30, 2024: Van Orden Said That The Trump Trial And Verdict Were “Disgusting” And That “The Democratic Party Has Just Put The United States On The Same Level As Soviet Russia.” VAN ORDEN: “This verdict and entire Trump trial are disgusting. The Democratic Party has just put the United States on the same level as Soviet Russia. This is a black day for our nation.” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/30/24](#)]

In Van Orden’s Tweet Slamming The Trump Verdict And Putting The United States On The Same Level As The Soviet Union, He Shared An Image Of An Edited American Flag With A Hammer And Sickle. Van Orden posted, “This verdict and entire Trump trial are disgusting. The Democratic Party has just put the United States on the same level as Soviet Russia. This is a black day for our nation.” Accompanying his post, he shared an image of an edited American flag with a hammer and sickle in the upper left corner. [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/30/24](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [5/30/24](#)]

Van Orden Shouted “Lies!” At President Biden During His State Of The Union Address And Doubled Down Afterwards, Rather Than Apologize

Van Orden Shouted “Lies!” At President Biden During His State Of The Union Address After Biden Criticized Trump’s Handling Of COVID-19. “Wisconsin freshman Republican U.S. Rep. Derrick Van Orden shouted “lies” at President Joe Biden Thursday night during a piece of Biden’s State of the Union speech in which he was critical of former President Donald Trump. The interjection came early in the remarks, as Biden derided Trump over his handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. ‘My predecessor failed in the most basic presidential duty that he owes to the American people, the duty to care,’ Biden said, after which Van Orden yelled: ‘Lies!’” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [3/8/24](#)]

Van Orden: “If Biden Thinks For A Moment President Trump Doesn't Care About The American People, That Is A Lie.” “After the address, Van Orden confirmed to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel he was the member who yelled, saying: ‘If Biden thinks for a moment President Trump doesn't care about the American people, that is a lie.’ He cited Trump's handling of the border and attacked Biden for the withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [3/8/24](#)]

Rather Than Apologize For His Outburst, Van Orden Doubled Down. “‘Why did you yell out the president was lying?’ Raju asked Rep. Derrick Van Orden (R-WI) soon after the speech was over. ‘The president should have started and ended his State of the Union address by apologizing to the American people. He’s let 8 million illegal immigrants into the country open the border. And you know he can close it. So what he said there in the State of the Union, tremendous amount of it was just flat-out fabrication,’ Van Orden replied. ‘You’re obviously a member of the House. Is it appropriate for you to yell out lies when the president is addressing you guys?’ Raju pressed. Van Orden hit back, ‘Is it appropriate to tell the truth?’” [Mediaite, [3/8/24](#)]

After Van Orden’s Republican Colleague, Ken Buck, Announced He Would Not Run For Another Term In Congress, Van Orden Called Him A “Self-Righteous... Slipknot” And Said, “Don’t Let The Door Hit You In The Ass”

November 1, 2023: Republican Rep. Ken Buck Announced He Would Not Seek Reelection

November 1, 2023: Republican Rep. Ken Buck Announced He Would Not Seek Reelection. “Republican Rep. Ken Buck, a hardline conservative who has clashed with his own party, will not seek reelection, he announced Wednesday. ‘Our movement has always been fueled by immutable truths about human nature individual liberty and economic freedoms,’ the Colorado Republican said in his video announcement. ‘The Republican Party of today, however, is ignoring self-evident truths about the rule of law and limited government in exchange for self-serving lies.’ Buck cited stagnation in Congress and his party’s election denialism as driving factors in his decision to not run in 2024. ‘I have been here nine years and Congress refuses to deal with the big issues that we need to deal with,’ he told CNN’s Kaitlan Collins, pointing to the sustainability of Social Security and Medicare and cutting government spending.” [CNN, [11/1/23](#)]

November 27, 2023: In Response To Buck Criticizing “The McCarthy Era,” Van Orden Called Buck A “Self-Righteous... Slipknot” And Said, “Don’t Let The Door Hit You In The Ass”

November 27, 2023: In Response To Buck Criticizing “The McCarthy Era,” Van Orden Called Buck A “Self-Righteous... Slipknot” And Said, “Don’t Let The Door Hit You In The Ass.” On November 27, 2023, Rep. Ken Buck tweeted a clip from an interview on Face the Nation. In Buck’s tweet accompanying the video, he said, “House Republicans don’t blame @SpeakerJohnson for the difficult spending negotiations he’s facing. Those are leftover issues from the McCarthy era. I’m confident Speaker Johnson will find ways to reduce national spending and get the federal government back to solvency.” Van Orden quote tweeted Buck and said, “‘McCarthy era’ Hey Ken, less than a year doth not an era make You and your self-righteous pack of slipknots have been grinding America into a hole for decades. YOU put us on the fast track to the minority, giving the Left control again. Don’t let the door hit you in the ass” [Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [11/27/23](#)]



[Derrick Van Orden, Twitter, [11/27/23](#)]

Van Orden Was Fined For Bringing A Gun Through An Airport Security Checkpoint

Van Orden Was Cited For Having A Loaded 9MM Sig Sauer Handgun In His Bag At An Airport Security Screening Checkpoint

August 2021: Van Orden Was Cited For Having A Loaded 9MM Sig Sauer Handgun In His Bag At An Airport Security Screening Checkpoint. “Van Orden, a Republican running to fill the seat being vacated by Democratic U.S. Rep. Ron Kind of La Crosse, was cited in August for having a loaded 9mm Sig Sauer handgun in his bag at the security screening checkpoint at the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, airport, according to court records.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [5/9/22](#)]

Van Orden Was Required To Take A Firearms Safety Course And Pay A \$360 Fine, While He Was Also Fined An Unknown Amount By The Transportation Security Administration

A Magistrate Fined Van Orden \$360 And Required Him To Show That He Had Taken A Firearms Safety Course. “Van Orden, of Prairie du Chien, entered a guilty plea in December. A magistrate ordered him to pay \$360 and show he had taken a firearms safety course. He filed paperwork in April showing he had taken a class for a Wisconsin concealed weapons permit.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [5/9/22](#)]

Van Orden Was Fined An Unknown Amount By The Transportation Security Administration, But It Typically Charged \$4,100 For First Offenses. “Separately, Van Orden was fined by the Transportation Security Administration, according to his campaign. The campaign and TSA did not provide details on the size of that fine, but TSA typically charges \$4,100 for first offenses.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [5/9/22](#)]

Van Orden's Campaign Released A Statement Saying That He "Was Traveling With His Family And This Situation Was Purely Accidental"

Van Orden's Campaign Released A Statement Saying That He "Was Traveling With His Family And This Situation Was Purely Accidental." "Van Orden declined to be interviewed, but his campaign released a statement that said he brought the gun to the airport checkpoint by mistake. 'Derrick Van Orden is a decorated Navy SEAL veteran with 5 deployments to combat zones who is an expert with firearms and firearm safety,' the campaign statement said. 'Derrick was traveling with his family and this situation was purely accidental. He fully cooperated and apologized to TSA for adding to the stress of their job, thanked them for the work they do keeping us safe, and it has been fully adjudicated.'" [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [5/9/22](#)]

Van Orden Was Close With Marjorie Taylor Greene

Van Orden Called Marjorie Taylor Greene A "Friend," Posted A Video On Twitter With Her Where They Appeared Friendly And Voted With Her More Than 90 Percent Of The Time

2023: Van Orden Posted A Video On Twitter With Marjorie Taylor Greene In Which They Appeared Friendly

Van Orden Posted A Tweet, In Which He Said That "In The Spirit Of Bipartisanship, @RepMTG And I Have Decided To Show Our Colleague How To Use A Door." VAN ORDEN: "In the spirit of bipartisanship, @RepMTG and I have decided to show our colleague how to use a door." [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, [10/2/23](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Pretended She Thought That Pulling The Fire Alarm Was Needed To Open The Door, After Which Van Orden Said "No," And Opened The Door To "Show Her How It Works." Marjorie Taylor Greene walked towards the fire alarm and said, "Wait, I've got to pull the fire alarm to get out." Van Orden said, "No, no, no." Taylor Greene said, "Oh, we don't do that?" Van Orden, "No, hear let me show you how this works." Van Orden then walked over and opened the door. [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, 0:00, [10/2/23](#)] (VIDEO)

Marjorie Taylor Greene Sarcastically Asked What To Do On Weekends When The Doors Are Locked And Suggested Taking The Tunnels Or Another Exit, Which Van Orden Said Would Be Good Alternatives. After Derrick Van Orden opened a door, Marjorie Taylor Greene asked in a sarcastic tone, "But what if it's locked like it is normally? Normally on Saturdays and Sundays these doors are locked. I mean, everyone in Congress knows that. Should we just go down the tunnel to go vote or find an exit door that's open?" Van Orden said, "Well, those would both seem to be reasonably good alternatives." [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, 0:12, [10/2/23](#)] (VIDEO)



[Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, 0:30, [10/2/23](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Said That He And Marjorie Taylor Greene Were “Friends”

Van Orden Said That He And Marjorie Taylor Greene Were “Friends.” VAN ORDEN: “We had just a foolish maneuver yesterday by Marjorie Taylor Greene, who you know, we’re friends. And I get along with the Freedom Caucus folks a lot. Most of them are my friends.” [John Fredericks Radio Show, Episode #1353 Rep. Derrick Van Orden Slams MTG, Bob Good & Freedom Caucus, 8:06, [5/9/24](#)] (AUDIO)

As Of July 2023, Van Orden Had Voted With Marjorie Taylor Greene 91.4% Of The Time

As Of July 14, 2023, Van Orden Had Voted With Marjorie Taylor Greene 91.4% Of The Time. According to the Center for American Progress, in the 118th Congress, as of July 14, 2023, Van Orden had had voted with Marjorie Taylor Greene 91.4% of the time. [Center for American Progress, [7/27/23](#)]

As Of July 2024, Van Orden Had Voted With Marjorie Taylor Greene 80% Of The Time

As Of July 2024, Van Orden Had Voted With Marjorie Taylor Greene 80% Of The Time. According to ProPublica, in the 118th Congress, Van Orden has voted with Marjorie Taylor Greene 80% of the time. [ProPublica, Head to Head: Compare Voting Records, accessed [7/9/24](#)]

NOTE: As of July 10, 2024, ProPublica's head to head vote comparisons were no longer active.

Marjorie Taylor Greene Spread Theories That The Democratic Party Was Involved In A Child Sex Ring, Human Trafficking, And Organ Harvesting

Greene Rose To Prominence On Social Media As A Supporter Of QAnon. “Soon, however, Greene began filming herself spreading an array of far-right views, laying the groundwork for her political persona. Energized by Trump’s election, she became particularly entranced by QAnon. She adopted the baseless belief an anonymous person called Q was revealing secrets about a child trafficking ring orchestrated by Democrats and global elites. ‘Have you guys been following 4chan? Q? Any of that stuff?’ Greene asked her followers in November 2017. ‘Q is a patriot, we know that for sure. . . . He is someone that very much loves his country, and he’s on the same page as us, and he is very pro-Trump.’ In that video, which Greene has since removed from her social media accounts but has been reposted to YouTube, the future congresswoman told the uninitiated where to go to learn more:

AmericanTruthSeekers.com, a now-defunct blog. Greene's author page on an archived version of the site, highlighted by NBC News in August, says she wrote 59 posts. One is headlined: 'MUST READ — Democratic Party Involved With Child Sex, Satanism, and The Occult.' A January 2018 post extolled Q for possessing 'obvious intelligence beyond the normal person.' [...] Greene also embraced bogus claims about the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and she has posited that laser beams from space may have started California wildfires, another baseless QAnon theory. In August, Greene told Fox News that she once had supported the theories of QAnon but said she 'decided that I would choose another path.' [Washington Post, [1/30/21](#)]

- **QAnon Was A Conspiracy Theory That Speculated That The U.S. Government Was Run By A "Cabal" Of Satan-Worshipping Pedophiles That Trump And His Followers Would Take Down.** "Followers of the tentpole Qanon conspiracy theory believe there is a "deep state" within the US government that is controlled by a cabal of Satan-worshipping pedophiles. According to the theory, the cabal is largely run by Democratic politicians and liberal celebrities who work to traffic children – and former President Donald Trump is trying to take them down with the help of Qanon 'patriots.' Their work will come to fruition on a day known as the 'Storm,' when thousands of people will be arrested and face military tribunals and mass executions for their alleged crimes." [CNN, [5/9/22](#)]

September 2017: Marjorie Taylor Greene Claimed, "There Are Too Many Documented Cases Of Child Sex In The Democratic Party To Ignore." Greene: "Finally, one news piece from this week involves an issue that would drive most of us to serious action in a matter of seconds and that is Child Sex Perpetrators. We know that these evil people can come in every walk of life, but why are we seeing a disturbing trend in the Democratic Party? [...] Saveedra tells of 'several major Democrats are facing charges or received convictions regarding sexual crimes related to children over the past year.' All of which is being mostly ignored by the main stream media. Why would they ignore this? It does not matter who, or what party, or where a child sex predator comes from, this is something that should be reported and stopped. [...] Combine all of this with the Anthony Weiner's relentless pursuit of underage girls, and flight records proving Bill and Hillary Clinton flew multiple times to Jeffery Epstein's, Orgy Island, there are too many documented cases of child sex in the Democratic Party to ignore." [American Truth Seekers, Marjorie Greene, [9/15/17](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Expressed Support For A Conspiracy Claiming That DACA Was Being Used As A Front For Sex Trafficking And Organ Harvesting By Prominent Democrats. "Greene also liked a meme that was posted to her Facebook page in June 2018 claiming that Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Clinton, former President Barack "Obama and their Democrat friends ... can't have Trump repeal DACA as it would show DACA was used by them ... for human trafficking pedophilia in high places and organ harvesting." (The meme has since been removed.)" [Media Matters, [1/26/21](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Supported Conspiracy Theories That The Democratic Party And Its Allies Are Involved In Satanism And Witchcraft

May 2018: Marjorie Taylor Greene Backed A Conspiracy Theory That Claimed Hillary Clinton And Huma Abedin Took A Child's Face For Use In A Satanic Ritual. "One of the most disturbing violent conspiracies Greene engaged with in May 2018 is the "Frazzledrip" conspiracy, which exists deep within conspiracy rabbit hole. The conspiracy baselessly contends that Hillary Clinton and former Clinton aide Huma Abedin were videotaped sexually assaulting a child and then ripping off the child's face to wear as a mask in a Satanic blood sacrifice. The theory then alleges that Clinton ordered an assassination hit against the police officer who found the footage, named "Frazzledrip," according to reporting from Media Matters." [CNN, [2/4/21](#)]

- **Greene Endorsed The 'Frazzledrip' Conspiracy On Facebook In 2018.** "Greene endorsed the conspiracy theory on Facebook in May 2018. She posted a picture of the mother of slain New York Police Department Detective Miosotis Familia with former President Donald Trump. A commenter wrote: 'This is the mother of a NYPD officer who watched a horrific video seized on anthony weiners laptop of huma and hillary filleting a childs face. This was another hillary hit.' Greene liked that comment and replied: 'Yes Familia.' She added in another comment: 'I post things sometimes to see who knows things. Most the time people don't. I'm glad to

see your comment. I've decided it's time to start doing a lot more videos and engage further in the fight. Most people honestly don't know so much. The [mainstream media] disinformation warfare has won for too long!" [Media Matters, [1/26/21](#)]

September 2017: Marjorie Taylor Greene Supported Breitbart Conspiracy Theory That Planned Parenthood Worked With The Satanic Temple. Greene: "In a Breitbart piece on Wednesday titled, 'Planned Parenthood Teams up with Satanists to Promote Abortion in Missouri', tells about the Satanic Temple's sickening push for abortion.[...] With the Satanic Temple fighting to push abortion in the Missouri courts, we can no longer look the other way." [American Truth Seekers, Marjorie Greene, [9/15/17](#)]

- **Marjorie Taylor Greene Alleged That "Left Wing Media And DNC Elites" Might Be "Openly Involved In The Occult."** Greene: "Breitbart also released another article by John Nolte titled, 'Gatekeeper of DC Society Sally Quinn Comes Out as Occultist, Used Hex to Kill People' [...] 'We now know, at the very least, that John Podesta, one of the most powerful men in DC, is comfortable with the occult practice of Spirit Cooking, comfortable enough that his own brother invited him to a Spirit Cookout.' If the elite class of Left wing media and DNC elites like John Podesta are openly involved in the Occult, what are the things and who are the people involved that we don't know about?" [American Truth Seekers, Marjorie Greene, [9/15/17](#)]
- **Marjorie Taylor Greene Warned That Hilary Clinton Should "Not Dabble In Witchcraft."** Greene: "The Daily Caller published a piece titled, 'Hillary Wanted To Make Voodoo Dolls Of The Media And Congressmen.' [...] Aaron Klein of Breitbart also wrote about Hillary's confession of wanting to use voodoo dolls, reminding us of other times she has written about dabbling in very dark places. [...] This sheds light on more extremely disturbing issues with Hillary Clinton. For a woman who just recently said she was considering becoming a pastor, she should be fully aware that God warns very plainly do not dabble in witchcraft." [American Truth Seekers, Marjorie Greene, [9/15/17](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Backed Conspiracy Theories That The Democratic Party, The Clintons, And President Obama Arranged Murders Of Political Adversaries

November 2017: Marjorie Taylor Greene Suggested That Former DNC Staffer Had Been Murdered By Democratic Forces. Greene: "Shockingly, the website tells about information that was only whispered about and called conspiracy theories by all main stream news media. Yet when you go to the website, it tells as if Seth Rich is speaking from the dead saying all the horrible things are true. That Hillary rigged the election against Bernie Sanders. That John Podesta had him murdered. [...] Seth Rich is the now famous DNC staffer that was murdered walking home in Washington DC in a so called "robbery gone bad." Yet the so called robbers that murdered him never took his wallet or watch! The Clinton campaign and DNC accused the Russians of leaking the DNC emails to Wikileaks during the election, yet Wikileaks adamantly denied that Russia was their source. Wikileaks alluded all along that it was Seth Rich who was their source and now that is being proven." [American Truth Seekers, Marjorie Greene, [11/15/17](#)]

- **Marjorie Taylor Greene Also Said Obama Had Seth Rich Killed By MS-13.** "In a now-deleted tweet and again in a separate video, Rep. Greene stated that President Obama had Rich killed by the MS-13 street gang." [Haaretz, [2/4/21](#)]

September 2017: Marjorie Taylor Greene Insinuated Hillary Clinton Has A Kill List For Those Who Investigate Her. Greene: "What is the quickest way to wind up dead when you aren't suicidal and don't have any health problems? Investigate Hillary Clinton of course. [...] Do you know any one who has died mysteriously? If you are the Clintons, you do. The Clinton body count keeps climbing. And lately it has an interesting direction.. Russia." [American Truth Seekers, [9/13/17](#)]

2018: Marjorie Taylor Greene Said That John F. Kennedy Jr. Was Murdered By Hillary Clinton. "That's another one of those Clinton murders,' Ms. Greene said, referring to John F. Kennedy Jr.'s death in a 1999 plane

crash, suggesting that he had been assassinated because he was a potential rival to Hillary Clinton for a New York Senate seat.” [New York Times, [1/29/21](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Agreed With Claims That The 2012 Sandy Hook Shooting, The 2017 Las Vegas Shooting, And The 2018 Parkland Shooting Were Staged

Marjorie Taylor Greene Agreed With A Facebook Post Claiming The Shooting At Sandy Hook In 2012 Was Staged. “In a 2018 post uncovered by Media Matters, the QAnon-supporting now-congresswoman responded ‘that is all true’ to a commentator who asserted that the Parkland and Sandy Hook shootings were ‘STAGGED [sic],’ along with the 1981 assassination attempt of Ronald Reagan and the 9/11 terrorist attacks.” [The Daily Beast, [1/21/21](#)]

Greene Claimed The 2017 Las Vegas Shooting And 2018 Parkland Shooting Were “False Flag” Events. “Greene also began advancing baseless theories that appeal to extreme gun rights advocates: that several mass shootings were ‘false flag’ events that were staged by gun control proponents. Greene said that these included the 2017 massacre in Las Vegas and the 2018 Parkland school shooting.” [Washington Post, [1/30/21](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Has Made Repeated Antisemitic Statements And Embraced Replacement Theory

Marjorie Taylor Greene Shared A Video Claiming That There Was A Jewish Plan To Destroy Europe Through A Great Replacement Theory Style Takeover. “A 2015 video, which appeared to be the result of a collaboration between 4chan and 8chan users — both message forums which lean heavily toward fringe conspiracy theories — spliced Barbara Lerner Spectre, an Israeli-American academic, out of context so that she appeared to be discussing a Jewish plan to destroy Europe. The video also quoted Nick Griffin, a former leader of far-right British political party, warning about an “unholy alliance of leftists, capitalists and Zionist supremacists” plotting to destroy European society by ‘breeding us out of existence in our own homelands.’ Greene shared the video in 2018, complaining that she had been censored from speaking about the issue of ‘illegal invaders.’” [Haaretz, [2/4/21](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Said That Holocaust Survivor George Soros Was A Nazi Sympathizer And A Nazi. “In videos unearthed by Politico, Greene goes on hourslong rants against Muslims, Democrats and Soros. Frustrated with his criticisms of Trump, Greene accused the billionaire Holocaust survivor of collaborating with Nazis and ‘[turning] in his own people over to the Nazis.’ Later, she called Soros ‘the Nazi himself trying to continue what was not finished.’” [Haaretz, [2/4/21](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Said That The Entire Neo-Nazi Rally In Charlottesville Was A False Flag Operation And That George Soros Hired James Alex Fields Jr. “Writing on American Truthseekers in 2017, Greene theorized that James Alex Fields Jr., who drove his car into a crowd of peaceful counter-protestors at the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, was actually a Democrat on the payroll of George Soros. She further alleged that Heather Heyer’s death was an inside job and that the entire neo-Nazi rally was a false flag operation to ‘further the agenda of the elites.’” [Haaretz, [2/4/21](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Seemed To Allege That Ruth Bader Ginsburg Was Using A Body Double. “In 2019 on a streaming program for pro-Trump site UniteAmericaFirst.com, a caller suggested that a photo of RBG walking through an airport was not the actual Supreme Court Justice, since she looked too healthy. Greene agreed with the caller, saying she did not believe it was the justice.” [Haaretz, [2/4/21](#)]

Marjorie Taylor Greene Embraced The Camp Fire Laser Beam Conspiracy, Seeming To Accuse Rothschild Inc. And Gov. Jerry Brown Of Burning Down The Forest To Clear The Way For High Speed Rail Or Beaming Power Back To Earth From Solar Stations In Space

Marjorie Taylor Greene Promoted The Camp Fire Laser Beam Conspiracy, Writing A Long Post Suggesting The Fires May Have Been Caused By A Laser From Space. “Rep. Greene is a proponent of the Camp Fire laser

beam conspiracy theory. She wrote a November 17, 2018, Facebook post -- which is no longer available online -- in which she said that she was speculating 'because there are too many coincidences to ignore' regarding the fire, including that then-California Gov. Jerry Brown (D) wanted to build the high-speed rail project and 'oddly there are all these people who have said they saw what looked like lasers or blue beams of light causing the fires.' She also speculated that a vice chairman at 'Rothschild Inc, international investment banking firm' was somehow involved, and suggested the fire was caused by a beam from 'space solar generators.' [Media Matters, [1/28/21](#)]

Greene Posted A YouTube Video In Which She Questioned Whether A Plane Really Flew Into The Pentagon On September 11, 2001

2018: Greene Posted A YouTube Video In Which She Questioned Whether A Plane Really Flew Into The Pentagon On September 11, 2001. "Marjorie Taylor Greene had just finished questioning whether a plane really flew into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, and flatly stating that President Barack Obama was secretly Muslim when she paused to offer an aside implicating another former president in a crime. 'That's another one of those Clinton murders,' Ms. Greene said, referring to John F. Kennedy Jr.'s death in a 1999 plane crash, suggesting that he had been assassinated because he was a potential rival to Hillary Clinton for a New York Senate seat. Ms. Greene casually unfurled the cascade of dangerous and patently untrue conspiracy theories in a 40-minute video that was originally posted to YouTube in 2018. It provides a window into the warped worldview amplified by the freshman Republican congresswoman from Georgia, who in the three months since she was elected has created a national brand for herself as a conservative provocateur who has proudly brought the hard-right fringe to the Capitol." [New York Times, [1/29/21](#)]

Key Visuals

Video

Marjorie Taylor Greene

Van Orden Posted A Video With Marjorie Taylor Greene Joking About Pulling A Fire Alarm To Exit A House Office Building. Marjorie Taylor Greene walked towards the fire alarm and said, “Wait, I’ve got to pull the fire alarm to get out.” Van Orden said, “No, no, no.” Taylor Greene said, “Oh, we don’t do that?” Van Orden, “No, hear let me show you how this works.” Van Orden then walked over and opened the door. After Derrick Van Orden opened a door, Marjorie Taylor Greene asked in a sarcastic tone, “But what if it’s locked like it is normally? Normally on Saturdays and Sundays these doors are locked. I mean, everyone in Congress knows that. Should we just go down the tunnel to go vote or find an exit door that’s open?” Van Orden said, “Well, those would both seem to be reasonably good alternatives.” Van Orden’s tweet said, “In the spirit of bipartisanship, @RepMTG and I have decided to show our colleague how to use a door.” [Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, 0:00, [10/2/23](#)] (VIDEO)



[Rep. Derrick Van Orden Press Office, Twitter, 0:30, [10/2/23](#)] (STILL OF A VIDEO)

- September 30, 2023: Jamaal Bowman Pulled A Fire Alarm In A House Office Building And Said He Thought That Doing So Would Open A Locked Door.** “Rep. Jamaal Bowman, D-N.Y., indicated Wednesday that he will plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge for pulling a fire alarm in a congressional building on Capitol Hill last month. [...] The alarm was set off Sept. 30 in the Cannon House Office Building as Republican lawmakers sought to kick off a vote on a spending measure to keep the government open. In a statement hours after the incident, Bowman said he activated the alarm by mistake after having come across a door that was typically open for votes but would not open that day. ‘I am embarrassed to admit that I activated the fire alarm, mistakenly thinking it would open the door. I regret this and sincerely apologize for any confusion this caused,’ he said at the time.” [NBC News, [10/25/23](#)]

Senate Pages

News 3 Now: “A Wisconsin Congressman Is Now On The Hot Seat After He Levelled A Series Of Profanity Laced Statements At Young Senate Staffers Taking Photos At The Capitol Rotunda.” NEWS ANCHOR: “A Wisconsin Congressman is now on the hot seat after he leveled a series of profanity laced statements at young Senate staffers taking photos at the Capitol Rotunda.” [Channel 3000 / News 3 Now via YouTube, 0:00, [7/28/23](#)]



[Channel 3000 / News 3 Now via YouTube, 0:00, [7/28/23](#)] (STILL OF A VIDEO)

News Segment Banner: “Rep. Van Orden Curses Out Capitol Interns.” [WKOW 27 NEWS via YouTube, 0:42, [7/28/23](#)] (VIDEO)



[WKOW 27 NEWS via YouTube, 0:42, [7/28/23](#)] (STILL OF A VIDEO)

Van Orden Was Rebuked In Senate Floor Speeches By Majority Leader Schumer And Minority Leader McConnell For His Behavior. “In floor speeches Thursday before departing for August recess, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell indirectly rebuked Van Orden as they praised the work done by pages on what was their final day. Schumer said it was his understanding that ‘late last night, a member of the House majority thought it appropriate to curse at some of these young people, these teenagers, in the rotunda.’ ‘I was shocked when I heard about it and I am further shocked at his refusal to apologize to these young people,’ the Democratic leader continued, adding he didn’t believe ‘one member’s disrespect is shared by this body.’ McConnell, the chamber’s top Republican, agreed with Schumer and reaffirmed that ‘everybody on this side of the aisle feels exactly the same way.’” [ABC News, [7/28/23](#)]

- **Schumer On Van Orden’s Behavior: “I Was Shocked When I Heard About It, And I Am Further Shocked By His Refusal To Apologize To These Young People.”** SCHUMER: “Pages can help make this place run smoothly. They’re here when we need them, and they have served this institution with grace. However, I understand that late last night, a member of the House majority thought it appropriate to curse at some of these young people, these teenagers in the rotunda. I was shocked when I heard about it, and I am further shocked at his refusal to apologize to these young people. I can’t speak for the House of Representatives, but I do not think that one member’s disrespect is shared by this body, by Leader McConnell and myself.” [U.S. Senate Session via CSPAN, 9:54:52, [7/27/23](#)] (VIDEO)
- **McConnell Said, “I Want To Associate Myself With The Remarks Of The Majority Leader” And “Everybody On This Side Of The Aisle Feels Exactly The Same Way.”** MCCONNELL: “I want to associate myself with the remarks of the Majority Leader. Everybody on this side of the aisle feels exactly the same way.” [U.S. Senate Session via CSPAN, 9:55:57, [7/27/23](#)] (VIDEO)

News Segment: “Members Of The House Also Spoke Out About The Issue, Saying They Were Not Surprised By The Representative’s Actions, As He Has Shown A History Of Behavior Just Like This.” NEWS REPORTER: “Members of the House also spoke out about the issue, saying they were not surprised by the Representative’s actions, as he has shown a history of behavior just like this.” [WKOW 27 NEWS via YouTube, 0:50, [7/28/23](#)] (VIDEO)

July 2024: Van Orden Said Everyone “But Senate Pages” Loved His Tours Of The Capitol At Night. VAN ORDEN: “Hey, who’s been to the Capitol? Ok, so who has not been to the Capitol? Alright, if you guys are coming out to DC, get a hold of my office. And you’ve got to come on a tour with me at night. Everybody loves them but Senate pages.” There was then laughter from the crowd, and Van Orden pointed at someone and said, “You got that.” [Kit Tapdasan via Facebook, 20:11, [7/4/24](#)] (VIDEO)

Seniors

Van Orden: Besides Social Security And “Medicaid For Our Elderly Folks,” There Were “Really Not A Lot Of Things That Are Sacrosanct” In The Budget. REPORTER: “Wouldn’t a balanced amendment, though, hurt the Defense Department budget? I mean, if you have a balanced budget amendment, wouldn’t in effect all federal programs have to take some cut including the Pentagon, sir?” VAN ORDEN: “Okay.” REPORTER: “You’re fine with that. Okay.” VAN ORDEN: “Listen, if it works, it works. If we have to collectively tighten our belt as American citizens, and that certainly does not mean, that does not mean the four trillion dollar tax increase that Joe Biden and Ron Kind and Nancy Pelosi are all behind, I disagree with that completely. But if we have to really take a hard look at all of these programs, so that we can collectively come out on the other side better, then that’s what we do. There should be, other than Social Security, Medicaid for our elderly folks, there’s really not a lot of things that are sacrosanct. And I know people don’t think that a retired Navy SEAL would say that but when you have programs with trillions of dollars worth of budget you’re going to have a tremendous amount of waste in there.” [WisconsinEye via YouTube, 5:15, [10/12/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Sexism

Van Orden Said That The “Different Gender Role Models That Have Been Erased Throughout Our Nations” Starting In The 70’s And Late 60’s Had “Been A Disservice.” VAN ORDEN: “The different gender role models that have been erased throughout our nation throughout the last- really starting in the 70’s, in the late 60’s, has really been a disservice, and you can say whatever you want, but it’s just factual. If you look at the degradation of our society and pin that to when the family started breaking up, it’s undeniable.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 8:56, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Praised Cultures Where “The Mom Is At Home With The Baby For The First Six Years Of Their Life.” VAN ORDEN: “I find it fascinating that it started in vogue to look back at you know, we call them primitive cultures, which I think that’s a derogatory term so I don’t really use it, but if you look at aboriginal cultures, there are very very clearly defined gender roles. The mom is at home with the baby for the first six years of their life and if you look at the inner family violence that takes place in those cultures as compared to western cultures, it’s almost non-existent. If you look at the murder rate, the theft, all these things that we track as metrics in our society, in our advanced cultures.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 11:31, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Spoke Positively Of Allowing “The Father To Do More External Things” And “Providing For That Mother So That She Doesn’t Have To Go To Work Outside Of The Village Or Outside Of The Home.” VAN ORDEN: “And we’ve got to remember, only females are capable of growing a child and giving birth, so let’s just remember that, and they’re the only folks that are capable of actually nourishing a child with their body. That’s just a fact. And when you grow that bond with the child to the mother and allow the father to do more external things, providing for that mother so that she doesn’t have to go to work outside of the village or outside of the home, it allows that bond to grow between the mother and the child which really humanizes the child more, and then the child can look towards the father that’s doing a more traditional provision of sustenance, and it works.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 12:29, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Van Orden Spoke Dismissively About “Societies Where Everybody Splits Off To Work And Mom Drops A Kid Off At Daycare, And You See Him Nine Hours Later.” VAN ORDEN: “Look at these cultures and you can’t argue that they’re not more peaceful than we are in our advanced super societies where everybody splits off to work and mom drops a kid off at daycare, and you see him nine hours later. You spent two hours with the child that day.” [Alec Lace via YouTube, 13:10, uploaded [9/18/20](#)] (VIDEO)

Audio

Abortion

Van Orden: “My First Job Is To Make Sure I Do Everything I Can To Defund Planned Parenthood And Other Associated Organizations.” VAN ORDEN: “I base my entire platform on seven words from the Declaration of Independence and I wrote this all before all of this covid stuff happened. Those words are ‘life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,’ and that’s how I take things in order. When I say life, man, I am ardently pro-life. I believe life begins at conception, this comports with my religious belief. This also comports with science. Running against Ron Kind gets a 100% rating from Planned Parenthood, a 100% rating from NARAL. Those are the organizations that the Governor of Virginia was talking about where you can have a human baby survive an abortion and have a discussion about whether or not you’re going to render aid to it. That’s completely unacceptable and I am not going to tolerate that. So my first job is to make sure I do everything I can to defund Planned Parenthood and other associated organizations. It’s just the right thing to do.” [Preston Scott Show via Listen Notes, 1:14:07, [6/15/20](#)] (AUDIO)

Van Orden: “I’m 100% Pro-Life And If I Get A 0% Rating From Planned Parenthood And A 0% Rating From NARAL I’ve Run A Successful Political Campaign.” VAN ORDEN: “He gets a 100% rating from Planned Parenthood and a 100% rating from NARAL. Those are the organizations that say you can literally have a

human baby survive an abortion and you can discuss whether or not you're going to render aid to that child. Ron Kind has a 100% rating from those organizations. There is nobody that can say that is a moderate position at all. I'm 100% pro-life and if I get a 0% rating from Planned Parenthood and a 0% rating from NARAL I've run a successful political campaign." [John Muir Show via Listen Notes, 3:05, [6/17/20](#)] (AUDIO)

Child Tax Credit

2021: Van Orden Said "Taking Away This Child Tax Credit Thing" Was Something He Would Do In Congress. VAN ORDEN: "I think primarily the problem that we see in Washington, DC is that not enough people do things just because they're right and wrong. So something is either right or wrong. I'm always going to work every single day to do things that are right, just because they're right. They may not always be popular with everybody. Like, do you think that taking away this child tax credit thing is going to be popular with people? Well, is that fiscally responsible, yes or no? Is it good for the greater good? That's what I'll be working for." [Breitbart via Soundcloud, Derrick Van Orden, 13:50, [8/14/21](#)](AUDIO)

Marjorie Taylor Greene

Van Orden Said He And Marjorie Taylor Greene Were "Friends." VAN ORDEN: "We had just a foolish maneuver yesterday by Marjorie Taylor Greene, who you know, we're friends. And I get along with the Freedom Caucus folks a lot. Most of them are my friends." [John Fredericks Radio Show, Episode #1353 Rep. Derrick Van Orden Slams MTG, Bob Good & Freedom Caucus, 8:06, [5/9/24](#)] (AUDIO)

Military

Van Orden Criticized Opening SEAL Training To Women As A "Political Decision Based On A Crappy Study." VAN ORDEN: "However, a political decision was made in order to open up Seal training to women, and that was a political decision based on a crappy study by RAND." [Derrick Van Orden, 2021 06 03 Derrick Van Orden Interview, WI, WIBA Vicki McKenna Show, 11:43] (AUDIO)

Van Orden Said That Women Having Children Would Cause Them To Need Two-Year Breaks From Their Service In The Military. VAN ORDEN: "It's a business decision. The ability to get enough women through training isn't really, it's not worth the end. And the reason being this, once you have a person in the military, your career is planned for 30 years. So, women take different breaks. If they want to have children, that's fantastic, we would encourage that. That's a two-year break. When the woman is on her two-year break, someone has to fill that void, and that would be a man who has to work up, deploy and leave his family for that two-year period of time, and that, quite frankly, it's not a good business decision." [Derrick Van Orden, 2021 06 03 Derrick Van Orden Interview, WI, WIBA Vicki McKenna Show, 12:21] (AUDIO)

Images

George Santos

Van Orden Was Photographed Speaking With Geoge Santos. CAPTION: "Three Republicans elected to the House but yet to be sworn in, Derrick Van Orden of Wisconsin, George Santos of New York, and Andy Ogles of Tennessee, conferred in the House chamber on Thursday." [Boston Globe, [1/5/23](#)]



[Boston Globe, [1/5/23](#)]

Senate Page Incident

Bottles Of Alcohol Were Photographed In Van Orden’s Office The Same Night He Swore At The Senate Pages. Max Cohen tweeted a picture of the open entrance to Derrick Van Orden’s congressional office, which showed several bottles of alcohol. In his tweet accompanying the image, Cohen said, “Per a source, here’s a photo from last night of a bunch of alcohol in Van Orden’s office. Van Orden and staff were heard partying loudly before he cursed out a group of teenage Senate pages.” [Max Cohen, Twitter, [7/27/23](#)]



[Max Cohen, Twitter, [7/27/23](#)]

Headlines

Abortion

“OP-ED: Right Wing U.S. Representative Van Orden Still Wants A Seat In Our Medical Exam Rooms.” [A Better Wisconsin, [4/19/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Van Orden Doubles Down On Anti-Abortion Stance, Says Life Begins At Conception.” [Wisconsin Independent, [5/15/24](#)]

COVID

HEADLINE: “Derrick Van Orden Called COVID-19 Relief A ‘Disaster,’ But The Group He Works With Got \$170k In Aid” [Wisconsin Examiner, [6/29/21](#)]

Senate Pages And Other Concerning Behavior And Offensive Statements

Claims That “Leftists” Cannot Be Christians

HEADLINE: “Van Orden At Sparta Prayer Breakfast: 'Leftists' Can't Be Christian.” [La Crosse Tribune, [10/27/22](#)]

Library

LA CROSSE TRIBUNE HEADLINE: “Library Staff Felt 'Threatened' After GOP Candidate Complained About Pride Month Display.” [La Crosse Tribune, [8/22/21](#)]

Senate Pages

HEADLINE: “‘Jackasses,’ ‘Little S----’: GOP Congressman Curses Out Teenage Senate Pages.” [The Hill, [7/27/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Congressman Defends Screaming At High School Pages In Capitol Rotunda: ‘Wake The F*ck Up You Little Sh*T’s’.” [Mediaite, [7/27/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “GOP Congressman Unleashes Profanity-Filled Tirade On Teen Senate Pages.” [Daily Beast, [7/27/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Senators Rebuke Wisconsin Congressman Who Yelled Vulgarities At High School-Age Pages.” [Associated Press, [7/28/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Rep. Van Orden Gets Bipartisan Scolding After He Cursed At Teen Senate Pages.” [NPR, [7/29/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Wisconsin Congressman Derrick Van Orden Curses At Teen Senate Pages During Capitol Tour.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [7/28/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “An Anger Problem From Congressman.” [Beloit Daily News, [8/1/23](#)]

EDITORIAL HEADLINE: “Van Orden Keeps Getting In Trouble For Picking On Teenagers.” [Cap Times, Editorial, [7/31/23](#)]

Temper

EDITORIAL HEADLINE: “Derrick Van Orden’s Evil Clown Act Is Getting Old.” [Cap Times, Editorial, [3/13/24](#)]

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL HEADLINE: “‘A Thin Skin’: Questions Over Derrick Van Orden's Temperament Color Race For Key Wisconsin Congressional District.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [10/4/22](#)]

Gun At Airport

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL HEADLINE: “Congressional Candidate Derrick Van Orden Fined For Having A Loaded Gun In An Airport. He Calls The Incident A Mistake.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [5/9/22](#)]

January 6th

HEADLINE: “‘That Is A Regret’: Van Orden Returns To Capitol Two Years After His Jan. 6 Appearance, Says He Disavows Political Violence.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [1/6/23](#)]

Sexism

HEADLINE: “Female Veterans Outraged Over Van Orden’s Memoir.” [WXOW, [10/2/20](#)]

HEADLINE: “In 2015 Book, Van Orden Brags About Exposing A Man's Genitals To Two Female Officers.”
[La Crosse Tribune, [9/25/20](#)]