

(OH-09) Message #1 Backup

Derek Merrin is on the side of his big donors and not on the side of working people in Northwest Ohio. Merrin voted to raise taxes on working people, effectively raised our electric rates, voted to cut school funding, and is responsible for rising health care premiums for Ohio workers. Merrin voted for tax breaks for corporate special interests and billion dollar bailouts for his donors while supporting higher taxes for middle class families.

Derek Merrin Is On The Side Of His Big Donors And Not On The Side Of Working People In Northwest Ohio. Merrin Voted To Raise Taxes On Working People, Effectively Raised Our Electric Rates, Voted To Cut School Funding, And Is Responsible For Rising Health Care Premiums For Ohio Workers.

Merrin Voted For A State Budget That Would Have Raised Taxes For Working Families

Merrin Voted For The Final Passage Of H.B. 33 To Increase Taxes For “Middle” And “Working Class” Families

June 2023: Merrin Voted For H.B. 33, The 2023 Budget Bill. In June 2023, Merrin voted for: “Operating appropriations effective July 4, 2023. Other provisions generally effective October 3, 2023. Some provisions subject to special effective dates.” [Ohio Legislature, [H.B. 33](#), [6/30/23](#)]

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- **Policy Matters Ohio: The 2023 Budget Bill Increase Taxes On The “Middle 20%” With An Average Income Of About \$60,000 And On The “Working Class” With An Average Income Of \$34,000.** “While Republicans are cheering the budget signed by Gov. Mike DeWine, Democrats are frustrated at the expansion of vouchers, the takeover of power from the state board of education, and what they say are tax cuts for the wealthy. And a progressive research group says there’s a provision that will do the opposite of providing tax relief for some Ohioans. The budget includes \$3.1 billion in income tax cuts, from combining Ohio’s four tax brackets into two. But it also suspends the indexing of income tax brackets for inflation for two years. Hannah Halbert, executive director of Policy Matters Ohio, said that means it creates a tax increase for some people. ‘The middle 20% – so that’s folks with an average income of about \$60,000 – they’re going to see on average a \$15 tax increase, which is not what we’re being promised with this proposal,’ Halbert said. ‘People who are kind of working class, \$34,000 as an average income for that, that second 20% of Ohioans, they’re going to see a \$40 increase on average in 2024. So it’s not a middle class tax cut.’” [Statehouse News Bureau, [7/7/23](#)]
- **Policy Matters Ohio: “Some Middle-Income Households Will In Fact See A Temporary Net Increase Of Their Annual Tax Bill For The Next Two Years.”** “The Ohio Senate today passed a budget that will cost the state nearly a billion dollars each year for tax cuts that mostly benefit the wealthy. To pay for another tax cut to the wealthiest Ohioans and a handout to millionaires who are already sending their kids to private schools, the Senate takes away free school meals, food access, and long overdue increases teacher pay. It also increases barriers to basic health and economic security supports, including kids’ health insurance, and turns a blind eye to infant and maternal mortality. [...] The new analysis finds that more than four fifths (86%) of the proposed income tax cut would go to the 20% of households with the highest incomes. Half of the households in the state — the half with less than \$62,000 in annual income — would see little or no change to their tax bill. Some middle-income households will in fact see a temporary net increase on their annual tax bill for the next two years. Because wealth is concentrated in a handful of counties across the state, so are the benefits of the Senate’s cuts. However, in 72 of Ohio’s 88 counties — including all of Southeast Ohio — a family of three

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The Ohio State Budget Included Income Tax Rate Adjustments And The “Complete Elimination Of The Top Income Tax Bracket” And “Expansion Of The 0% Tax Bracket” So Those With Less Than \$25,000 In Taxable Income Have No State Income Tax Liability. “Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed the \$72 billion dollar state budget into effect earlier this month, a package which was met with opposition, including 14 line-items vetoed by DeWine himself. The Budget (‘House Bill 110’) includes numerous changes to the state tax policy, which many taxpayers may find beneficial. A summary of those changes can be found below, most notably were changes to the municipal income tax, commercial activity tax (‘CAT’), sales and use tax, and individual income tax. Individual Income Tax Changes The bill includes retroactive income tax rate adjustments that take effect as of January 1, 2021. [...] In addition to these general rate adjustments, there was a complete elimination of the top income bracket within the state, and an expansion of the 0% tax rate bracket so now Ohio taxpayers with less than \$25,000 of taxable income will have no state income tax liability.” [HBK, [8/3/21](#)]

Merrin Effectively Raised Electric Rates

After Getting Bailed Out By Taxpayers, FirstEnergy Tried To Raise Rates On Ohio Consumers Even Higher

July 2019: Merrin Voted For H.B. 6. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 6, [7/23/19](#)]

- **H.B. 6 Was The Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy Nuclear Plants.** “And so it went: At least \$3 million spent in 2018 to elect Republicans backing Mr. Householder’s speaker ambitions. Nearly \$17 million more in 2019 on a successful media campaign supporting H.B. 6, the legislation bailing out FirstEnergy nuclear plants.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “FirstEnergy Seeks \$1.4 Billion More From Ohio Ratepayers. Watchdog Objects.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [11/7/23](#)]

Merrin Voted The 1.3 Billion Dollar Taxpayer-Funded Bailout Of FirstEnergy

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Householder Accepted \$60 Million From FirstEnergy In Exchange For Passing A \$1.3 Billion Bailout For Two Of FirstEnergy’s Nuclear Power Plants. “The former speaker, Larry L. Householder, was convicted in March of racketeering and bribery for accepting some \$60 million from a major utility holding company,

FirstEnergy Corporation, in exchange for arranging a \$1.3 billion bailout for two troubled nuclear power plants the company operates.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

Merrin Is A Close Ally Of Former State House Speaker Larry Householder Who Is Serving 20 Years In Prison For Bribing FirstEnergy

Merrin’s Primary Opponent Accused Him Of Being A “Top Henchmen” To Disgraced And Convicted Ohio House Member Larry Householder, They Claimed “Speculation Swirls Merrin Could Be Charged Next.”

“Notably, [Ohio State Congressman Craig] Riedel’s campaign recently began airing a searing Merrin attack ad - blasting the legislator as ‘a top henchman’ to then-Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder. Householder was convicted last year in the largest bribery scheme in state history and sentenced in June to 20 years in prison. The ad suggests ‘speculation swirls Merrin could be charged next.’” [The Associated Press, [3/18/24](#)]

Before Householder Was Charged With Large-Scale Bribery, “Merrin Had Taken Upwards Of \$17,000 Between Householder’s Dark Money Growth & Opportunity Pac And His Official Committee.” “Merrin also has some eyebrow-raising ties to former Speaker Householder, who is serving 20 years in prison after being convicted in a \$60 million bribery case. Before the scandal broke, Merrin had taken upwards of \$17,000 between Householder’s dark money Growth & Opportunity PAC and his official committee.” [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

2021: Merrin Was One Of The Few Ohio House Members To Vote Against Householder’s Expulsion. “After Householder was arrested, Merrin was one of 20 Republicans who voted against expelling the former speaker from the legislature in 2021. (Since then, Merrin has sponsored an ethics reform bill to guard against future corruption schemes).” [The Daily Beast, [1/30/24](#)]

- **June 2021: Merrin Was One Of 16 Representatives To Vote Against H.Res. 69, A Resolution To Expel Householder.** “To expel Representative Larry Householder from the House of Representatives.” [Ohio Legislature, H.Res. 69, [6/16/21](#)]

HEADLINE: “Convicted Ex-Ohio House Speaker Moved To Oklahoma Prison To Begin His 20-Year Sentence.” [Associated Press, [8/28/23](#)]

U.S. Department Of Justice: Householder Was Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison For “Leading A Racketeering Conspiracy To Receive Nearly \$61 Million In Bribes To Pass And Uphold A Billion-Dollar Nuclear Plant Bailout.” “Former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, 64, of Glenford, Ohio, was sentenced in federal court here today to 240 months in prison for leading a racketeering conspiracy to receive nearly \$61 million in bribes to pass and uphold a billion-dollar nuclear plant bailout. The Court remanded Householder to the custody of the U.S. Marshals at the conclusion of sentencing.” [U.S. Department of Justice, [6/29/23](#)]

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- **FirstEnergy Gave Householder Money To Regain The Speaker’s Post In Exchange For Housholder Pushing Legislation To Bail Out FirstEnergy’s Nuclear Plants.** “Over several days of socializing at high-end restaurants, prosecutors said, they discussed a deal: Mr. Householder needed money to regain the speaker’s post when its occupant left office in 2018. The company needed a legislative solution to its nuclear power woes. What began with a handshake became a multimillion-dollar political operation, with the money laundered through nonprofit groups allowed by the tax code to conceal donors’ names.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

Merrin Voted To Keep Householder In Power Even After He Was Arrested

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HEADLINE: "Ohio House Speaker Arrested In Connection With \$60 Million Bribery Scheme." [NPR, [7/21/20](#)]

July 2020: Householder Was Indicted On Racketeering Charges In Connection To The FirstEnergy Scheme. “An ugly campaign for a taxpayer-funded corporate bailout was itself funded by an even uglier criminal conspiracy, federal law enforcement officials said Tuesday. Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, four political operatives and a dark-money group were charged Tuesday in a criminal complaint that an Ohio energy company paid them \$61 million to get a \$1.3 billion nuclear bailout from taxpayers. Charged along with Householder were Matt Borges, a lobbyist who was formerly chairman of the Ohio Republican Party, Neil Clark, a lobbyist who owns Grant Street Consulting, Juan Cespedes, also a lobbyist, and Householder’s aide, Jeffrey Longstreth. All are charged with racketeering, which carries a prison sentence of up to 20 years.” [Ohio Capital Journal, [7/21/20](#)]

Merrin Took Thousands Of Dollars In Campaign Donations From Householder

2018: Householder Supported The Candidacy Of 21 Republicans In The State House To Support His Speaker Campaign And Pass The Nuclear Bailout Law. “After returning to the legislature in 2016, Mr. Householder secretly spent millions in 2018 to support Republican candidates for 21 seats in the State House — more than a fifth of the 99 seats — who would back his insurgent campaign to again become House speaker. He spent more millions on a media campaign to push the nuclear bailout law to passage, and then tens of millions on a scorched-earth crusade to undermine a ballot initiative that threatened to undo it.” [New York Times, [6/29/23](#)]

- **2018: Householder Was Merrin’s Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign.** “On the Republican side, Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, is running against primary challenger Barbara Lang in the 47th District consisting of Lucas County’s western suburbs and most of Fulton County. Mr. Merrin raised \$47,673 with his largest contributions coming on behalf of House Speaker candidate Larry Householder (R., Glenford), whose campaign donated \$7,708.” [Toledo Blade, [4/26/18](#)]

2019: Merrin Received A Gift From “Friends Of Householder.” [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2019 Addendum #1, filed [2/18/20](#)]

Merrin Voted To Cut School Funding

Merrin Voted For School Vouchers, Effectively Cutting Public School Funding

The 2023 Budget Bill Included A “Universal Voucher Program Supporting Enrollment In Private Schools.” “The two-year, \$86 billion budget signed by Gov. Mike DeWine this week includes social safety net spending and a universal voucher program supporting enrollment in private schools. Tax cuts. Lawmakers passed income tax cuts for individuals earning above \$26,050 a year, though the biggest breaks are expected to go toward wealthy Ohioans. The budget also exempts most businesses from paying the commercial activity tax and exempts baby products from sales tax collection. These cuts will cost Ohio nearly \$2.6 billion in revenue over the next two fiscal years, budget analysts estimate. Social media crackdown. Kids under 16 will need their parent or guardian’s consent and ID verification in order to access social media sites.” [Axios Columbus, [7/6/23](#)]

HEADLINE: “Lawsuit Seeks To Eliminate School Voucher Program In Ohio.” [NBC4, [4/4/24](#)]

- **Vouchers Hurt Ohio Was A Group Pushing To Eliminate EdChoice Vouchers In Ohio By Suing And Claiming The Vouchers Hurt Public Schools.** “A coalition of public schools is looking to grow its ranks as

its lawsuit against the state moves closer to its trial date. The group, Vouchers Hurt Ohio, is pushing to eliminate the EdChoice vouchers that allow students in designated public schools to attend participating private schools. [...]The lawsuit said these vouchers hurt public schools as more and more people apply for them. Those who are pro-vouchers say it's about parents having the ability to choose where to send their child. Those against the vouchers say it's about separating church and state and because the program isn't performing how it was promised. Vouchers Hurt Ohio is suing to eliminate the EdChoice vouchers. Dozens of school districts have signed on, and the group is trying to get more on board." [NBC4, [4/4/24](#)]

National Education Association: "Vouchers Take Scarce Funding From Students In Public Schools And Give Those Resources To Unaccountable Private Schools." "Vouchers take scarce funding from students in public schools and give those resources to unaccountable private schools. No matter how you look at it, vouchers undermine strong public education and student opportunity. They take scarce funding from public schools—which serve 90 percent of students—and give it to private schools—institutions that are not accountable to taxpayers. This means public school students have less access to music instruments and science equipment, modern technology and textbooks, and after-school programs. Moreover, there is ZERO statistical significance that voucher programs improve overall student success, and some programs have even shown to have a NEGATIVE effect for students receiving a voucher." [National Education Association, accessed [5/31/24](#)]

The Atlantic: School Vouchers Lead To Defunding And Closing Of Public Schools, Eventually Creating Education Deserts Where Parents And Children Have To Travel Miles And Hours For Their Children To Attend School. "What much fewer people realize is that the argument over 'school of choice' is only the latest chapter in a decades-long political struggle between two models of freedom—one based on market choice and the other based on democratic participation. Neoliberals like DeVos often assume that organizing public spaces like a market must lead to beneficial outcomes. But in doing so, advocates of school of choice ignore the political ramifications of the marketization of shared goods like the educational system. [...] In Detroit (where DeVos played a big role in introducing school choice) two decades of this marketization has led to extreme defunding and closing of public schools; the funneling of taxpayer money toward for-profit charter ventures; economically disadvantaged parents with worse options than when the neoliberal social experiment began; and finally, no significant increase in student performance. Indeed, some zones of Detroit are now educational deserts where parents and children have to travel exorbitant miles and hours for their children to attend school." [Atlantic, [4/17/17](#)]

The Atlantic: School Vouchers Are Hardest On Lower-Income Families Where Money Is Pulled Out Of Failing Schools And Into Succeeding Ones Creating A Vicious Cycle In Which Weak Schools With Less Funding Receive Even Less. "On the whole, neoliberalization is hardest on the poor. Market choice does, however, favor those who already have the education, wealth, and wherewithal to plan, coordinate, and execute moving their children to the optimal educational setting. This means the big beneficiaries of school of choice are often the rich. For instance, when Nevada recently passed an aggressive school-of-choice system the result was that the vast majority of those able to take advantage of it came from the richest areas of Reno and Las Vegas. As money is pulled from failing schools and funneled into succeeding ones, wealth can actually be redistributed by the state up the socioeconomic ladder. Market competition in the context of schools thus opens the possibility for a vicious cycle in which weak and low-performing communities are punished for their failings and wealthy communities receive greater and greater funding advantages." [Atlantic, [4/17/17](#)]

According To A Harvard Study, School Choice Programs "Fail To Yield Consistent Learning Gains' While Also Having, "The Potential To Further The Re-Segregation Of Public Schools." "Researchers found little evidence that school choice programs actually boost student achievement. 'Political enthusiasm and rhetorical claims about the virtues of school choice have far outpaced concrete evidence of merit,' reported HGSE Professor and study codirector Richard Elmore in his summary of the studies. [...] School choice also has the potential to further the re-segregation of public schools. For example, Montgomery County, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D.C., created magnet schools as part of its school desegregation efforts in the late 1970s. Researchers found that many parents choose magnet schools on the basis of racial composition and cultural similarity. White parents tend to choose schools with higher white enrollment, while black parents select schools with higher black enrollment.

Only by using their authority to deny transfer requests have school officials kept the choice process from increasing segregation.” [Harvard, [7/13/95](#)]

Duke History Professor: The Promise Of Vouchers Is Steeped In A Dark History From Segregation, “This History Reveals That Rather Than Giving Families More School Options, School Choice Became A Tool Intended To Give Most Families Far Fewer In The End.” “On its face, this new legislation may sound like a win for families seeking more school options. But the roots of the school choice movement are more sinister. [...] White Southerners first fought for ‘freedom of choice’ in the mid-1950s as a means of defying the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, which mandated the desegregation of public schools. Their goal was to create pathways for White families to remove their children from classrooms facing integration. Prominent libertarians then took advantage of this idea, seeing it not only as a means of providing private options, but also as a tool in their crusade to dismantle public schools altogether. This history reveals that rather than giving families more school options, school choice became a tool intended to give most families far fewer in the end. [...] The history behind vouchers reveals that the rhetoric of ‘choice’ and ‘freedom’ stands in stark contrast to the real goals sought by conservative and libertarian advocates. The system they dream of would produce staggering inequalities, far more severe than the disparities that already exist today. Wealthy and upper-middle-class families would have their pick of schools, while those with far fewer resources — disproportionately families of color — might struggle to pay to educate their children, leaving them with far fewer options or dependent on private charity. Instead of offering an improvement over underfunded schools, school choice might lead to something far worse.” [Washington Post, [9/7/21](#)]

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Brookings Institute: Statewide Voucher Programs Have Been Proven To Lower Test Scores In Students Who Move To Private Schools. “Recent research on statewide voucher programs in Louisiana and Indiana has found that public school students that received vouchers to attend private schools subsequently scored lower on reading and math tests compared to similar students that remained in public schools. The magnitudes of the negative impacts were large. These studies used rigorous research designs that allow for strong causal conclusions. And they showed that the results were not explained by the particular tests that were used or the possibility that students receiving vouchers transferred out of above-average public schools.” [Brookings Institute, [5/26/16](#)]

- **Center For American Progress: A Study Found That Students Who Attended Voucher Schools Performed Significantly Worse Than They Would Have In Their Original Public School And That Students Attended Private Schools Perform Significantly Worse Than Their Peers In Public School, Especially In Math.** “This analysis builds on a large body of voucher program evaluations in Louisiana, Indiana, Ohio, and Washington, D.C., all of which show that students attending participating private schools perform significantly worse than their peers in public schools—especially in math. A recent, rigorous evaluation of the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program from the U.S. Department of Education reaffirms these findings, reporting that D.C. students attending voucher schools performed significantly worse than they would have in their original public school.” [Center for American Progress, [3/20/18](#)]

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Failing Schools And Into Succeeding Ones Creating A Vicious Cycle In Which Weak Schools With Less Funding Receive Even Less. “On the whole, neoliberalization is hardest on the poor. Market choice does, however, favor those who already have the education, wealth, and wherewithal to plan, coordinate, and execute moving their children to the optimal educational setting. This means the big beneficiaries of school of choice are often the rich. For instance, when Nevada recently passed an aggressive school-of-choice system the result was that the vast majority of those able to take advantage of it came from the richest areas of Reno and Las Vegas. As money is pulled from failing schools and funneled into succeeding ones, wealth can actually be redistributed by the state up the socioeconomic ladder. Market competition in the context of schools thus opens the possibility for a vicious cycle in which weak and low-performing communities are punished for their failings and wealthy communities receive greater and greater funding advantages.” [Atlantic, [4/17/17](#)]

National Education Association: “Vouchers Harm Cash-Strapped Public Schools’ Ability To Provide Needed Classroom Resources For All Students.” “School voucher proponents in statehouses across the country have spent much of the past year working to pass legislation that transfers critical public school funding to the private sector. Vouchers harm cash-strapped public schools’ ability to provide needed classroom resources for all students. Educators in states across the country have rallied against proposed legislation that would transfer public money to private schools.” [National Education Association, [2/17/22](#)]

As Mayor, Merrin Pushed To More Than Double Health Care Premiums Waterville Village Employees

2010: Then-Mayor Merrin Proposed Raising Waterville Village Employees’ Health Insurance Premiums From 14 To 30 Percent. “Increasing group health insurance premiums paid by Waterville village employees could save taxpayers at least \$1 million in 10 years, based on figures from a proposal by Mayor Derek Merrin. His proposal, introduced as an ordinance to council last week, would raise the portion of premium for the basic plan to be paid by village employees from 14 percent to 30 percent.” [Toledo Blade, [12/22/10](#)]

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Merrin Voted For Tax Breaks For The Ultra Wealthy

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2016-2019: Merrin Received Significant Campaign Donations And A Gift From Householder And Campaign Donations From FirstEnergy PAC

2016-2017: Merrin Accepted \$1,500 From FirstEnergy PAC. [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin Contributions, accessed [2/5/24](#)]

Date	Contributor	Recipient	Amount
8/4/17	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$500
11/19/16	FirstEnergy PAC FSL	Friends of Derek Merrin	\$1,000

[Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin Contributions, accessed [2/5/24](#)]

- **2018-2022: Merrin Did Not Return Campaign Contributions From FirstEnergy PAC.** [Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin Expenditures, accessed [2/5/24](#)]

2019: Merrin Received A Gift From “Friends Of Householder.” [Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Derek Merrin 2019 Addendum #1, filed [2/18/20](#)]

2018: Householder Was Merrin's Largest Campaign Donor, Donating \$7,708 To His Campaign. “On the Republican side, Rep. Derek Merrin, of Monclova Township, is running against primary challenger Barbara Lang in the 47th District consisting of Lucas County's western suburbs and most of Fulton County. Mr. Merrin raised \$47,673 with his largest contributions coming on behalf of House Speaker candidate Larry Householder (R., Glenford), whose campaign donated \$7,708.” [Toledo Blade, [4/26/18](#); Ohio Secretary of State, Friends of Derek Merrin Contributions, accessed [2/5/24](#)]

(OH-09) Message #2 Backup

Merrin is funded by the Washington special interests that want to cut the Social Security and Medicare commitments that seniors have earned.

Merrin Is Funded By The Washington Special Interests That Want To Cut The Social Security And Medicare Commitments That Seniors Have Earned.

Merrin Accepted \$5,000 From American Revival PAC, Speaker Mike Johnson's Leadership PAC. [Federal Election Commission, [2/1/24](#)]

January 2024: Merrin Accepted The Endorsement Of U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson. “I'm honored to have the support of Speaker @MikeJohnson. We will expand the Republican majority with NW Ohio delivering a mandate to uphold the Constitution, Balance the Budget, Secure our Border, Protect the US Dollar from further devaluation & enact congressional term-limits. Let's take back America.” [Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [1/25/24](#)]



Derek Merrin
@DerekMerrin

I'm honored to have the support of Speaker @MikeJohnson. We will expand the Republican majority with NW Ohio delivering a mandate to uphold the Constitution, Balance the Budget, Secure our Border, Protect the US Dollar from further devaluation & enact congressional term-limits. Let's take back America 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 🇺🇸



11:14 AM · Jan 25, 2024 · 10.2K Views

[Twitter, @DerekMerrin, [1/25/24](#)]

- **Johnson's Republican Study Committee Budget Proposed Cutting Medicare By Raising The Eligibility Age.** "Adjust the Medicare Eligibility Age to Reflect Life Expectancy: Since Medicare's creation in 1965, advances in science and medical technology have increased average life expectancy. This is a great miracle, but it does put additional stresses on the solvency of the Medicare program. As a result, the amount of time a Medicare beneficiary is expected to be covered by the program has increased from 14.6 years in 1965 to over 19 years in 2015. As beneficiaries continue to live longer, the ratio of workers to retirees shrinks threatening the solvency of Medicare. In 1965 there were 4.5 workers per Medicare beneficiary. That number shrunk to 3.3 workers in 2011, 3.1 in 2015, 2.8 in 2018 and is expected to continue to decrease to 2.3 workers per beneficiary by 2030. To address the increased demands on Medicare, this budget proposes increasing the age of Medicare so it is aligned with the normal retirement age for Social Security and then indexing this age to life expectancy, ensuring Medicare remains available for future generations." [Republican Study Committee, Budget, [FY 2020](#)]
- **Johnson's Republican Study Committee Budget Called For Raising The Retirement Age To 69 And Eventually 70 Years Old.** "The goal of the Social Security Reform Act is to ensure the long-term solvency of Social Security for this and future generations. It does so by modernizing the program, phasing out antiquated elements and bringing together a number of commonsense ideas to make the system work better for today's workers and retirees. Many of the specific policies included in this legislation have bipartisan support and have been included in proposals put forward by members of Congress on both sides of the aisle and well-respected non-partisan organizations. Adjust the Retirement Age to Reflect Longevity: The bipartisan Social Security Amendments of 1983 phases in an increase in the Social Security full retirement age over time, beginning at 65 and reaching 67 by 2022 for those born in 1960 and later. The Social Security Reform Act would continue this gradual increase of the normal retirement age at a rate of three months per year until it reaches 69 for those

reaching age 62 in 2030. The RSC Budget recognizes that, due to Congressional inaction, the Social Security Reform Act's retirement age increase would need to be extended, likely to age 70, to achieve long-range sustainable solvency. Further, the existing 5-year gap between the normal and early retirement ages would be maintained as the full retirement age is incrementally adjusted." [Republican Study Committee, Budget, [FY 2020](#)]

Merrin Accepted \$5,000 From First In Freedom PAC, The Leadership PAC For Richard Hudson. [Federal Election Commission, [2/21/24](#)]

Merrin Accepted \$1,000 From VALOR PAC, The Leadership PAC For Brian Mast. [Federal Election Commission, [2/28/24](#)]

Merrin Accepted \$1,000 From Brian Babin For Congress [Federal Election Commission, [2/28/24](#)]

Hudson, Mast, And Babin Voted For Final Passage Of The Tax Cuts And Jobs Act. According to the Federal Election Commission, Bresnahan accepted \$110,300 from Republicans that voted in favor of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017. [HR 1, [Vote #699](#), 12/20/17; CQ Floor Votes, [12/20/17](#)]

- **AP: "A Wide Range Of Economists And Nonpartisan Analysts Have Warned That The Bill Will Likely Escalate Federal Debt, Intensify Pressure To Cut Spending On Social Programs And Further Widen America's Troubling Income Inequality."** "The tax overhaul of 2017 amounts to a high-stakes gamble by Republicans in Congress: That slashing taxes for corporations and wealthy individuals will accelerate growth and assure greater prosperity for Americans for years to come. The risks are considerable. A wide range of economists and nonpartisan analysts have warned that the bill will likely escalate federal debt, intensify pressure to cut spending on social programs and further widen America's troubling income inequality." [AP, [12/17/17](#)]
- **US News: "The Most Likely Targets For Cuts And Restructuring In The Coming Months Are Likely To Be Medicare And Social Security Benefits."** "Instead, the most likely targets for cuts and restructuring in the coming months are likely to be Medicare and Social Security benefits. Rubio last week indicated 'the driver of our debt is the structure of Social Security and Medicare for future beneficiaries.' Ryan issued a similar assessment just a few days later, noting that 'health care entitlements ... are the big drivers of our debt.'" [US News, [12/7/17](#)]
- **On The Eve Of Passage Of The Tax Bill, Ryan Said Republicans Planned To Target Welfare, Medicare, Medicaid Spending For Cuts In The Future.** "House Speaker Paul D. Ryan (R-Wis.) said Wednesday that congressional Republicans will aim next year to reduce spending on both federal health care and anti-poverty programs, citing the need to reduce America's deficit. 'We're going to have to get back next year at entitlement reform, which is how you tackle the debt and the deficit,' Ryan said during an appearance on Ross Kaminsky's talk radio show. '... Frankly, it's the health care entitlements that are the big drivers of our debt, so we spend more time on the health care entitlements — because that's really where the problem lies, fiscally speaking.' Ryan said that he believes he has begun convincing President Trump in their private conversations about the need to rein in Medicare, the federal health program that primarily insures the elderly. [...] Ryan said he's optimistic, adding that Republicans could target the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid next year in addition to Medicare, despite their failure to repeal the health care law in 2017." [Washington Post, [12/6/17](#)]
- **2019: Republicans In Congress Pointed To Rising Deficits And Promised To Cut Social Security And Medicare After They Expanded Deficits Through The Tax Cuts.** "Donald Trump won't say it, but Republicans in the Senate will: Social Security and Medicare would be on the chopping block in a second Trump term. Pointing to rising deficits, Republican senators have all but promised to gut entitlements if Trump gets four more years. Sen. John Thune (R-SD), the second-ranking Senate Republican, expressed hope to the New York Times that Trump would be 'interested' in reforming Social Security and Medicare. Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) was even more optimistic. 'We've brought it up with President Trump, who has talked about it being a second-term project,' Barrasso said. Senate Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has made no secret of

wanting to cut Social Security. In using deficit fears to target entitlement programs, many Republicans are hoping to use Trump's second term to cut Medicare and Social Security. First, expand deficits through tax cuts, then declare that spending must be slashed. The chief target of these proposed cuts is Social Security, which historians have noted the mainstream Republican party has long sought to diminish, privatize, or both.” [Forbes, [8/23/19](#)]

- **Trump’s 2021 Budget Proposed \$500 Billion In Net Medicare Spending Reductions Over 10 Years.** “President Trump’s 2021 budget proposes about \$500 billion in net Medicare spending reductions over ten years (see table), most of which would come from reducing payments to health care providers and not affect beneficiaries directly. For the most part, the budget does not reflect the President’s efforts to end the Affordable Care Act (ACA) or his executive order calling for various Medicare changes. These policies, which a budget would typically include, would weaken Medicare in several ways.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [2/13/20](#)]

Richard Hudson, Brian Mast, And Brian Babin Were Members Of The Republican Study Committee.

[Republican Study Committee, Membership, accessed [5/28/24](#)]

The RSC Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposed Increasing The Retirement Age For Social Security Benefits.

“For instance, the RSC Budget would make modest changes to the primary insurance amount (PIA) benefit formula for individuals who are not near retirement and earn more than the wealthiest PIA benefit factor. It would also make modest adjustments to the retirement age for future retirees to account for increases in life expectancy. Finally, for these individuals, it would limit and phase out auxiliary benefits for high income earners.” [Republican Study Committee, [3/20/24](#)]

- **Raising The Social Security Age Even By Three Years Would Cut Currently Scheduled Benefits By Nearly 20%.** “The last major Social Security overhaul, in 1983, gradually raised the age to 67, effectively cutting benefits by 13 percent. Now there is renewed talk of moving the age to 70, which would effectively cut currently scheduled benefits by nearly 20 percent.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [4/25/23](#)]
- **The Impact Of Raising The Social Security Age Would Affect Lower- And Middle-Income Beneficiaries The Most.** “Some policymakers, such as those on the Republican Study Committee, have proposed to raise Social Security’s full retirement age to 70 and beyond. Raising the retirement age cuts benefits for all new retirees — that is, those claiming Social Security benefits for the first time. These cuts could be deep, and they would fall hardest on lower- and middle-income beneficiaries because they rely most heavily on Social Security benefits.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [4/25/23](#)]

The RSC Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposed A Premium Support Model For Medicare. “Implementing a Premium Support Model The RSC Budget is committed to protecting current retirees from the across-the-board 11 percent cut to benefits and subsequent rationing that would result from the bankruptcy of the Hospital Insurance Trust Fund. To achieve this, the RSC budget would implement a premium support model where private, Medicare Advantage (MA) plans would compete with a federal Medicare plan (the ‘Fed Plan’) that would offer the traditional Medicare benefits received through Part A, B, and D. Medicare Advantage (MA) plans provide the same services as Medicare but are administered by private health insurance providers.” [Republican Study Committee, [3/20/24](#)]

- **Premium Support Models Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries.** “In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. [...] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits.” [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, [3/28/12](#)]

(OH-09) Message #3 Backup

Merrin is obsessed with trying to completely ban abortion without exceptions for victims of rape and incest, or to save the life of the woman. In the legislature, he led the effort to pass a total ban on abortion with no exceptions for victims of rape even when the life of the woman is at risk. Merrin is still trying to take away a woman's right to an abortion even after Northwest Ohioans voted against an abortion ban just last year. The morning after the vote, Merrin said "we will not give up" trying to ban abortion in Ohio, even though it would override the will of the voters.

Merrin Is Obsessed With Trying To Completely Ban Abortion Without Exceptions For Victims Of Rape And Incest, Or To Save The Life Of The Woman.

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, Which Was An Abortion Ban. "To enact sections 2904.01, 2904.02, 2904.03, 2904.031, 2904.032, 2904.04, 2904.05, 2904.22, 2904.30, 2904.35, and 2904.40 of the Revised Code to enact the Human Life Protection Act to prohibit abortions based upon a condition precedent." [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 598, introduced [3/15/22](#)]

- **H.B. 598 Had No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest Or Life Or Health Of The Woman, But Instead Required Doctors To Use An Affirmative Defense To Certify An Abortion Was Necessary Or Be Liable To Prosecution.** "Companion bills in the Republican-controlled Ohio General Assembly -- Senate Bill 123 and House Bill 598 -- were pushed as 'trigger' bills, new laws that would become effective when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on abortion. [...] There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense — which is different than an exception — if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman's life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship." [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]
- **An Affirmative Defense Required A Defendant To Bear The "Burden Of Going Forward With The Evidence And The Burden Of Proof By A Preponderance Of The Evidence."** R.C. 2901.05(A) -- On an affirmative defense the defendant bears both the burden of going forward with the evidence and the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C. 2901.05(C) -- An affirmative defense is either: (1) designated by statute as such; or (2) 'A defense involving an excuse or justification peculiarly within the knowledge of the accused, on which he can fairly be required to adduce supporting evidence.'" [Office of the Ohio Public Defender, Law Library, Criminal Law Casebook, accessed [7/16/24](#)]
- **Under The Bill, Physicians Would Have To Certify In Writing That The Abortion Was Necessary, And So Would A Second Doctor With Whom The First Doctor Has No Professional Relationship.** "Companion bills in the Republican-controlled Ohio General Assembly -- Senate Bill 123 and House Bill 598 -- were pushed as 'trigger' bills, new laws that would become effective when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on abortion. [...] There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense — which is different than an exception — if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman's life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship." [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 413. [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 413, introduced [11/14/19](#)]

- **ACLU Ohio: H.B. 413 Was A "Total Ban On Abortion."** "House Bill 413 – The 'total abortion ban'. The global-attention grabbing of the nine, this bill, which claims life begins at conception, is a total ban on abortion, with additional regulations forcing doctors to re-implant ectopic pregnancies and punishments for doctors and individuals seeking abortions." [ACLU Ohio, [12/19/19](#)]

- **Jurist News: H.B. 413 Had No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest Or Mental Health Of The Woman.** “The Ohio State House of Representatives on Friday introduced HB 413 that, if passed, would severely restrict abortion care and require unproven medical practices. HB 413 would outlaw abortion in almost all circumstances. [...] Additionally, there are no exceptions for rape or incest in the bill, nor would a woman be allowed to seek out an abortion for any mental health condition she might have, or for any disease or injury caused by the pregnancy itself.” [Jurist News, [11/29/19](#)]
- **The Guardian: H.B. 413 Would Ban Abortion “Outright.”** “In addition to ordering doctors to do the impossible or face criminal charges, H.B. 413 bans abortion outright and defines a fertilized egg as an ‘unborn child’.” [The Guardian, [11/29/19](#)]

2019: Merrin Voted For S.B. 23. In April 2019, Merrin voted for S.B. 23 as the House passed the bill in a 56-36 vote. “Prohibit abortion if detectable heartbeat. To amend sections 2317.56, 2919.171, 2919.19, 2919.191, 2919.192, 2919.193, and 4731.22; to amend, for the purpose of adopting new section numbers as indicated in parentheses, sections 2919.191 (2919.192), 2919.192 (2919.194), and 2919.193 (2919.198); and to enact new sections 2919.191 and 2919.193 and sections 2919.195, 2919.196, 2919.197, 2919.199, 2919.1910, 2919.1912, 2919.1913, and 5103.11 of the Revised Code to enact the Human Rights and Heartbeat Protection Act.” The bill received 56 Republican votes and 0 Democratic votes. [Ohio Legislature, S.B. 23, [4/10/19](#)]

- **The Heartbeat Bill Banned Abortions After A Detectable Heartbeat.** “A bill imposing one of the most stringent abortion restrictions in the nation was signed into law in Ohio on Thursday, banning abortions after a detectable heartbeat in a long-sought victory for abortion opponents that drew an immediate constitutional challenge.” [Associated Press, [4/12/19](#)]
- **The Heartbeat Bill Made No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.** “The law makes no exceptions for pregnancies resulting from rape or incest.” [Associated Press, [4/12/19](#)]

In The Legislature, He Led The Effort To Pass A Total Ban On Abortion With No Exceptions For Victims Of Rape Even When The Life Of The Woman Is At Risk.

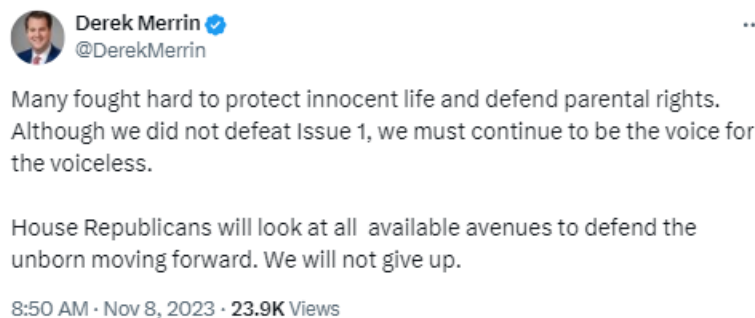
Merrin Cosponsored H.B. 598, Which Was An Abortion Ban. “To enact sections 2904.01, 2904.02, 2904.03, 2904.031, 2904.032, 2904.04, 2904.05, 2904.22, 2904.30, 2904.35, and 2904.40 of the Revised Code to enact the Human Life Protection Act to prohibit abortions based upon a condition precedent.” [Ohio Legislature, H.B. 598, introduced [3/15/22](#)]

- **H.B. 598 Had No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest Or Life Or Health Of The Woman, But Instead Required Doctors To Certify An Abortion Was Necessary Or Be Liable To Prosecution.** “Companion bills in the Republican-controlled Ohio General Assembly -- Senate Bill 123 and House Bill 598 -- were pushed as ‘trigger’ bills, new laws that would become effective when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on abortion. [...] There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense — which is different than an exception — if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman’s life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]
- **An Affirmative Defense Required A Defendant To Bear The “Burden Of Going Forward With The Evidence And The Burden Of Proof By A Preponderance Of The Evidence.”** R.C. 2901.05(A) -- On an affirmative defense the defendant bears both the burden of going forward with the evidence and the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence. R.C. 2901.05(C) -- An affirmative defense is either: (1) designated by statute as such; or (2) ‘A defense involving an excuse or justification peculiarly within the knowledge of the accused, on which he can fairly be required to adduce supporting evidence.’” [Office of the Ohio Public Defender, Law Library, Criminal Law Casebook, accessed [7/16/24](#)]

- **Under The Bill, Physicians Would Have To Certify In Writing That The Abortion Was Necessary, And So Would A Second Doctor With Whom The First Doctor Has No Professional Relationship.** “Companion bills in the Republican-controlled Ohio General Assembly -- Senate Bill 123 and House Bill 598 -- were pushed as ‘trigger’ bills, new laws that would become effective when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on abortion. [...] There are no exceptions in the bills for rape or incest. Each bill allows doctors to use an affirmative defense — which is different than an exception — if prosecuted for criminal abortion if they perform one when a woman’s life or health is in peril. Physicians would have to certify in writing that the abortion was necessary, and so would a second doctor with whom the first doctor has no professional relationship.” [Cleveland.com, [11/7/22](#)]

Merrin Is Still Trying To Take Away A Woman’s Right To An Abortion Even After Northwest Ohioans Voted Against An Abortion Ban Just Last Year. The Morning After The Vote, Merrin Said “We Will Not Give Up” Trying To Ban Abortion In Ohio, Even Though It Would Override The Will Of The Voters.

November 8, 2023: Merrin Tweeted At 8:50 AM “Although We Did Not Defeat Issue 1, We Must Continue To Be The Voice For The Voiceless. [...] We Will Not Give Up.” [Derek Merrin, Twitter, [11/8/23](#)]



[Derek Merrin, Twitter, [11/8/23](#)]

November 7, 2023: Ohio Issue One Passed And All But Undid The State’s Abortion Ban. “Ohio voters approved a constitutional amendment on Tuesday that ensures access to abortion and other forms of reproductive health care, the latest victory for abortion rights supporters since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade last year. [...] Ohio’s constitutional amendment, on the ballot as Issue 1, included some of the most protective language for abortion access of any statewide ballot initiative since the Supreme Court’s ruling. [...] Voter turnout for Ohio’s amendment, including early voting, was robust for an off-year election. Issue 1’s approval will all but certainly undo a 2019 state law passed by Republicans that bans most abortions after fetal cardiac activity is detected, with no exceptions for rape and incest. That law, currently on hold because of court challenges, is one of roughly two dozen restrictions on abortion the Ohio Legislature has passed in recent years.” [Associated Press, [11/7/23](#)]

- **November 2023: Yes On Ohio Issue 1 Won In Lucas, Erie, Wood, And Ottawa Counties.** [Ohio Secretary of State, Election Results, [11/7/23](#)]

Ohio Issue 1 Certified Results – Vote Count		
County Name	Yes	No
Lucas	76,197	43,012
Erie	16,085	12,093
Wood	25,929	21,037
Ottawa	9,061	8,056

October 2023: Ohio's Six Week Abortion Ban Was Likely To Go Back Into Effect If Issue 1 Failed To Pass.

"Perhaps the most instructive example of state Republicans' overreach is the severe abortion restrictions that almost certainly will go into effect if Issue 1 fails. GOP supermajorities in the Ohio General Assembly muscled through a draconian six-week abortion ban in July 2019 (Senate Bill 23) that for medical practitioners, criminalized most abortions after fetal cardiac activity (not a 'heartbeat') is registered and levied serious civil liability and professional disciplinary sanctions. That can be as early as six weeks into pregnancy, before many women (or girls) know they're pregnant. That law, which likely will go back into effect unless Issue 1 passes in November, does not include exceptions for rape or incest but does include exceptions for 'medical necessity or medical emergency.' However, as the Ohio Capital Journal reported in November 2022, doctors have testified that those exceptions are so vague that many medical practitioners would be rightly afraid to risk the fifth-degree felony charges and other penalties outlined in the law." [Ohio Capital Journal, [10/23/23](#)]

October 2023: Ohio Issue 1 Enshrined "The Individual Right To One's Own Reproductive Medical Treatment Including But Not Limited To Abortion."

"Ohio residents this week began voting on a constitutional amendment whose fate will ultimately determine abortion access in the state. Voters are considering two ballot initiatives; ballots began being accepted on Wednesday and go through Election Day on Nov. 7. The two measures are: Issue 1, the amendment that if approved would add abortion rights to the state constitution; and Issue 2, which would legalize recreational marijuana. The proposed abortion amendment would establish an 'individual right to one's own reproductive medical treatment including but not limited to abortion' and then creates legal protections for those individuals, among other guarantees like for contraception and fertility treatment." [ABC News, [10/30/23](#)]

- **October 2023: Ohio Issue 1 Created Legal Protections For Contraception And Fertility Treatment.** "Ohio residents this week began voting on a constitutional amendment whose fate will ultimately determine abortion access in the state. Voters are considering two ballot initiatives; ballots began being accepted on Wednesday and go through Election Day on Nov. 7. The two measures are: Issue 1, the amendment that if approved would add abortion rights to the state constitution; and Issue 2, which would legalize recreational marijuana. The proposed abortion amendment would establish an 'individual right to one's own reproductive medical treatment including but not limited to abortion' and then creates legal protections for those individuals, among other guarantees like for contraception and fertility treatment." [ABC News, [10/30/23](#)]

(OH-09) Message #4 Backup

Libertarian Tom Pruss is a conservative outsider who is focused on draining the corrupt Washington swamp, securing the border, lowering taxes, cutting government spending to address the deficit, and standing up to the radical left.

Libertarian Tom Pruss Is A Conservative Outsider Who Is Focused On Draining The Corrupt Washington Swamp, Securing The Border, Lowering Taxes, Cutting Government Spending To Address The Deficit, And Standing Up To The Radical Left.

Pruss's Website Claimed "The Government Shouldn't [...] Tax Individuals Excessively" And "We Must Reduced Government Interference And Let Individuals Decide How To Spend Their Hard-Earned Money." "Americans are struggling in an economy where the government and special interests dictate the rules. To end these cycles of economic crises, we must reduce government interference and let individuals decide how to spend their hard-earned money, sparking real innovation. [...] No government should regulate personal activities or impose harsh penalties. We must end the death penalty, corporate bailouts, drug criminalization, abortion restrictions before viability, and excessive employment regulations. The government shouldn't draft citizens, tax individuals excessively, mandate medical treatments, or censor private communication." [Tom Pruss For Congress, accessed [10/10/24](#)]

Pruss' Website Claimed He Supported "Slashing Spending And Balancing The Budget." "Government overspending and reckless money printing are fueling skyrocketing costs, hurting those who can least afford it. By slashing spending and balancing the budget, we can crush inflation and ignite a stronger, more vibrant economy that works for everyone." [Tom Pruss For Congress, accessed [10/10/24](#)]

(OH-09) Message #5 Backup

Derek Merrin is another Washington-swamp politician who has voted to raise taxes on working people, raised our electric rates, and is responsible for rising health care premiums for Ohio workers. Merrin voted for tax breaks for corporate special interests and billion dollar bailouts for his special interest donors while supporting higher taxes for middle class families.

Derek Merrin Is Another Washington-Swamp Politician Who Has Voted To Raise Taxes On Working People, Raised Our Electric Rates, And Is Responsible For Rising Health Care Premiums For Ohio Workers. Merrin Voted For Tax Breaks For Corporate Special Interests And Billion Dollar Bailouts For His Special Interest Donors While Supporting Higher Taxes For Middle Class Families.

See Message #1 Backup.

(OH-09) Message #6 Backup

Marcy is endorsed by Planned Parenthood and would protect women's reproductive rights. She would fight against any national abortion ban.

Marcy Is Endorsed By Planned Parenthood And Would Protect Women's Reproductive Rights. She Would Fight Against Any National Abortion Ban.

October 2023: Planned Parenthood Action Fund Endorsed Marcy Kaptur For Her 2024 Reelection. "Today, Planned Parenthood Action Fund announced its endorsement of nearly two dozen reproductive rights champions in their re-election bids for the U.S. House of Representatives in 2024. From the very start of the 118th Congress, anti-abortion politicians in the House have done everything they can to try to block access to sexual and reproductive health care — including, most recently, in negotiations to fund the government. The U.S. needs a House majority that will fight for our reproductive freedom, so voters must elect reproductive rights champions. Protecting these seats is a critical step to gaining that majority in 2024. [...] Marcy Kaptur (OH-09)." [Planned Parenthood, [10/6/23](#)]

Kaptur Opposed A National Abortion Ban And Agreed "That The Criminalization Of Reproductive Healthcare Must Be Fought In Every Instance." "A woman's health decisions must be between a woman and her doctor, not out-of-touch lawmakers. Marcy opposes a national abortion ban, especially a ban that would not make exceptions for rape, incest or life of the mother. Marcy knows that the criminalization of reproductive healthcare must be fought in every instance." [Kaptur For Congress, Issues, [10/3/24](#)]

(OH-09) Message #7 Backup

Marcy has fought and brought back good-paying union jobs to the district. She helped keep Jeep in Ohio, has helped usher in the revitalization of the American steel industry right here in Toledo with Cleveland Cliffs, and brings back millions for local businesses like Libbey Glass and others to stay competitive and create good jobs.

Marcy Has Fought And Brought Back Good-Paying Union Jobs To The District. She Helped Keep Jeep In Ohio,

Kaptur Announced BP And Husky Energy Invested \$2.5 Billion In Toledo. “The proposed expansion and modernization of the facility is predicted to bring thousands of jobs to Northwest Ohio. The announcement, a joint venture between BP and Husky Energy, lays out a plan to upgrade the Toledo facility to handle up to 170,000 barrels a day by 2015 of Canadian heavy crude oil from Husky's Alberta oilsands fields. Kaptur thanked the company for its continuing confidence in the management and skilled employees of BP's Toledo area operations, and noted that ‘\$2.5 billion for our economy, and the resulting jobs, secures our community as a major energy producer for our nation.’ In a conversation with BP America Chairman Robert Malone this morning, Kaptur pledged assistance on the many environmental challenges the company will face as it develops this project. In addition, Malone and Kaptur vowed to work together to develop renewable energy sources in Northern Ohio. BP's announcement came on the same day Congress debates the Energy Independence and Security Act which would take significant steps toward energy independence and economic security. The bill, on which Congress expects to vote by the end of the week, outlines a plan to reduce dependence on foreign oil sources and lower energy costs by toughening standards for utility companies, offering incentives for green technological initiatives, and investing in scientific research. Kaptur said, ‘Congress has finally entered the fight for energy security, and this bill gives me hope that one day America will run on green energy, no longer leaning on unfriendly foreign governments to supply us with oil.’” [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [12/5/07](#)]

Kaptur Secured Funding For A Local Training Program To Prepare Workers To Get Good-Paying Jobs. “Marcy isn't afraid to stand up to Democrats in Congress to defend Ohio. She is fighting to bring jobs home, take away tax breaks from companies that ship jobs overseas, and for tariffs that protect Ohio-based factories and companies. Marcy believes that if you're willing to work hard, then you shouldn't need a four-year college degree to get a good-paying job. That's why she is a strong supporter of job training and technical skills programs, and secured funding for a local training program to prepare workers to get good-paying jobs in the changing economy that don't require college degrees.” [Kaptur For Congress, accessed [10/10/24](#)]

Kaptur Pledged Her Support To Keep Jeep In Toledo. “Congresswoman Kaptur said today she is confident that Fiat Chrysler will keep vehicle production in Toledo and pledged her full commitment to efforts aimed at retaining the iconic Jeep brand. ‘We have the finest workers in the world at our Jeep plant,’ Kaptur said. ‘They've done everything that has been asked of them—and then some. The Jeep workforce in Toledo has put real meaning to the term ‘world-class manufacturing.’ Fiat Chrysler Automobiles chief Sergio Marchionne said on Thursday the company is discussing a possible shift from steel to aluminum construction for the Jeep Wrangler and that such a move would result in production leaving Toledo. Marchionne also said there would be no job losses at the Toledo assembly plants, which employ approximately 1,700 workers. ‘We build the leading brands here—the Wrangler and Cherokee,’ said Kaptur. ‘Jeep is in our soul. It's our tradition and we want it to continue.’ Kaptur said she was discussing with local leaders various options to help keep Jeep production in Toledo.” [Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [10/3/14](#)]

Kaptur Joined UAW Local 12 Workers To Rally To Keep Jeep Production In Toledo. “Congresswoman Kaptur joined workers at packed UAW Local 12 hall today to rally for keeping Jeep Wrangler production in Toledo. ‘It's a part of our life. It's our substance,’ Kaptur said of the iconic Jeep brand. ‘Our vehicles have gone to war. We're part of the core. We hold it together. We make things. And we invent, too. I hope that we can invent the future of the auto industry here.’ Kaptur was joined by UAW Region 2 Director Ken Lortz and Local 12 President Bruce Baumhower, along with U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown and a bevy of local officials. The community has rallied to keep production of the Jeep Wrangler in Toledo. Chrysler Fiat CEO Sergio Marchionne indicated recently that production might be moved elsewhere if the company proceeds with a proposal to shift to an aluminum unibody construction. ‘We're going to get this done,’ Baumhower said of efforts to keep Jeep in Toledo. ‘We've done it before and we're going to do it again.’” [Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [10/20/14](#)]

Kaptur: “We Need To Keep Jeep Right Here In Toledo.” “WTOL has it right. We need to keep Jeep right here in Toledo. This much we know: Jeep's workforce in Toledo is the best in the country. It's a winning team and it's our greatest asset. But the Jeep brand is a valuable asset in its own right - and a symbol of the special bond between

our community and the vehicles we deliver to the world. From the time the first Jeep rolled off the line in Toledo during World War II, Jeep has been part of our core. It's what we do. We make things here. We move America forward. We hold it together. We have the know-how and we have the hottest-selling product in the lineup. Jeep is one of the greatest brand names in the world. Last year, Jeep was named the most patriotic brand in America. The power of that brand - the Jeep nameplate - brings a strong sense of security about good jobs here in coming years. Job security and America's economic security - that's what this is all about. We've got some work to do, but if we work together, I believe we can get the job done and keep Jeep where it belongs: right here in Toledo. Our story is Jeep's story...and it belongs here, in Toledo." [WTOL, Rep. Marcy Kaptur Op-Ed, [7/2/18](#)]

Has Helped Usher In The Revitalization Of The American Steel Industry Right Here In Toledo With Cleveland Cliffs,

Kaptur Attended The Celebration For Cleveland-Cliffs Inc.'s New Direct Reduction Plant. "The Cleveland-Cliffs Inc. chairman joined with Toledo Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Gov. Mike DeWine and Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz outside the company's new Direct Reduction plant Wednesday morning to celebrate the facility's success. The plant has been in operation for six months, employing almost 160 workers to produce hot-briquetted iron while utilizing natural gas for iron reduction. 'This event formally marks the culmination of our \$1 billion investment to build and operate the world's most modern and environmentally friendly Direct Reduction plant, and the first plant of its kind constructed for the present and for the future,' Lourenco Goncalves— chairman, president and CEO — said in a statement. 'Natural gas based iron reduction is the future of our industry. The production and use of HBI within our operations has catalyzed what has been a phenomenal year for us and, very importantly, has supercharged our greenhouse emissions reduction program.' HBI can reduce greenhouse gases by lowering coke needed for steel production and by replacing foreign-sourced pig iron and prime scrap, which lowers costs or emissions from pig iron production and transportation." [NBC 24, [6/10/21](#)]

Kaptur Was Involved In Bringing The Project For A New Cliffs Natural Resources Inc. Factor To Manufacture Steel In Toledo. "A company that will employ at least 130 people making hot briquetted iron for the manufacture of steel in a \$700 million development will locate on a vacant former industrial site in East Toledo, local economic development authorities announced today. Cliffs Natural Resources Inc., headquartered in Cleveland, has selected for its new factory a site owned since 2008 by the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority, the company said, ending months of closely guarded negotiations over site incentives. [...] The operation will include construction of a tower in making the hot briquetted iron, which will be visible from downtown, followed by 100 ships annually bringing 2 million tons of raw materials and 16,000 rail cars and trucks a year carrying finished briquettes to plants in Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. [...] Involved in bringing the project to fruition over the last few months were also Regional Growth Partnership, Ohio Rail Development Commission, and U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D., Toledo), who was the first to announce the economic development project this morning. 'A big Toledo welcome to Cleveland-based Cliffs Natural Resources as it embarks on new corporate investment to serve the American steelmaking market,' Miss Kaptur said." [Toledo Blade, [6/15/17](#)]

Kaptur Claimed The \$700 Million Investment In Cleveland Cliffs' Would "Help Modernize The Steel Industry." "Leaders broke ground on a big economic development project for the Glass City, Monday. A \$700 million investment in east Toledo on Millard Avenue off Front Street to be specific. Eventually the land will be home to a hot-briquetted iron (HBI) plant, new technology, and the first plant of its kind for Cleveland Cliffs. ... 'This reinvestment will help modernize the steel industry of this country, we will become a major supplier of the most modern product that will move into mills across this region,' said Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. Kaptur said this re-anchors Toledo as a major supplier in the steel industry. The port, rail connections, along with major roadways in the area made Toledo attractive for the HBI plant. Throughout construction, 1200 construction jobs will be created, and when it's all said and done 130 permanent jobs." [WTOL, [8/14/18](#)]

Kaptur Wanted To Crack Down On The Imported Steel. "Toledo Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur wants the U.S. Commerce Department and U.S. Trade Representative to crackdown on imports of the electrical transformer components made with foreign-produced grain-oriented electrical steel of the sort produced by Cleveland-Cliffs subsidiary AK Steel. [...] Kaptur on Monday joined Zanesville Republican Rep. Troy Balderson, Pennsylvania

Republican Rep. Mike Kelly and Pennsylvania Democratic Rep. Conor Lamb in a letter seeking relief for Cleveland-Cliffs (NYSE: CLF) from the imported electrical transformer parts. AK Steel facilities in Zanesville and Butler, Pennsylvania, are the only places in the United States that make grain-oriented electrical steel. The company has previously said it might have to shutter the nation's last production line of key power transformer components if no action is taken." [WTOL, [8/14/28](#)]

And Brings Back Millions For Local Businesses Like Libbey Glass And Others To Stay Competitive And Create Good Jobs.

HEADLINE: "Libbey's New \$45 Million DOE Grant Means Emission Cuts, Jobs And Technology Transfer." [Toledo Blade, [4/4/24](#)]

- **Kaptur Supported Libbey Glass' Grant Application To The U.S. Department Of Energy.** "Libbey Glass intends to use a \$45 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to advance furnace technology at its Toledo glassmaking complex — progress that hopefully will transfer to other U.S. manufacturers, Deputy Energy Secretary David Turk said at a grant celebration Thursday. Mr. Turk was followed to the podium by U.S. Rep Marcy Kaptur (D., Toledo), who supported Libbey's grant application to the DOE. The program, which detailed the goals behind the DOE's \$6 billion multiyear initiative, was held at Libbey's Toledo manufacturing complex at 940 Ash St. inside a Libbey showroom that displays the glass tableware that the company is noted for globally. [...] Ms. Kaptur applauded the Biden Administration for pushing to restore America's manufacturing base through green-energy programs. Toledo, known as the Glass City, is a beneficiary, she said. She said Toledo glassmakers and First Solar here, the largest maker of solar panels in America, have hung tough over the years against sometimes unfair foreign competition, and the grants provide an opportunity for those companies to gain an advantage. 'Now we have a chance to really modernize the manner in which these furnaces work and be a world leader in that sector as well,' Ms. Kaptur said." [Toledo Blade, [4/4/24](#)]

Kaptur Announced U.S. Department Of Energy Awards Of \$45.1 Million For Libbey Glass LLC's Toledo Ohio, Facility, And \$16.246 Million For Kraft Heinz Corporation's Fremont, Ohio Facility. "Today, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and the Department of Energy (DOE) announced major awards of \$45.1 Million for Libbey Glass LLC's Toledo Ohio, facility, and \$16.246 Million for Kraft Heinz Corporation's Fremont, Ohio Facility. Additional Ohio based awards for production sites out of the area include Cleveland Cliffs for a total award of \$575 Million, Owens-Brockway with a total award of \$125 Million, and Kraft-Heinz for 9 of its other facilities will receive an additional award of \$154 Million. The projects were announced today by the DOE as part of the Investing in America agenda, with \$6 Billion for 33 projects across more than 20 states to decarbonize energy-intensive industries, reduce industrial greenhouse gas emissions, support good-paying union jobs, revitalize industrial communities, and strengthen the nation's manufacturing competitiveness. Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act, the projects will create and maintain tens of thousands of high-quality jobs and help accelerate the commercial-scale demonstration of emerging industrial decarbonization technologies crucial to meeting America's climate and domestic manufacturing goals. 'The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act are doing as we promised: creating and retaining jobs and moving America forward. Libbey Glass, Kraft Heinz Corp., Owens-Brockway Glass Container Inc., and Cleveland-Cliffs Steel in Ohio will modernize and be on stronger footing to compete because we are investing in domestic production across our NW Ohio region and elsewhere in Ohio,' said Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. 'These transformational investments in the Industrial Heartland prove that reducing greenhouse gas emissions is good for America's bottom line. This funding will help ensure that our manufacturers are leading and on the cutting edge of the low-carbon economy of the future.'" [Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [3/25/24](#)]

(OH-09) Message #8 Backup

Marcy has and will always fight against unfair trade deals. She successfully pushed both Trump and Biden to increase penalties on products made in China.

Marcy Has And Will Always Fight Against Unfair Trade Deals. She Successfully Pushed Both Trump And Biden To Increase Penalties On Products Made In China.

Kaptur Said The \$56 Billion Funding Plan Should Bring Relief To First Solar, Toledo Solar, And Other Manufacturers That Expect To Be Hurt By Biden's Suspension Of Tariffs On Solar Panels Made In China And Other Asian Countries. "House passage of legislation Wednesday should help bring some relief to First Solar, Toledo Solar, and other manufacturers that expect to be hurt by President Biden's suspension of tariffs on solar panels made in China and other Asian countries, U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur said. Though it won't likely make up for the entire difference, money from the Energy and Water Development Bill should likely soften the blow if approved by the U.S. Senate and signed into law by Mr. Biden, Ms. Kaptur said of her bill. 'I'm trying to find a way to help them offset unfair competition,' she said Wednesday. 'First Solar should let its voice be heard as we move forward. If they feel the gap has not been effectively solved by this, they should work with the Senate, and hopefully we could modify it as we go forward.' First Solar is America's largest solar manufacturer. The \$56 billion funding plan includes \$100 million for the U.S. Department of Energy. Mr. Biden invoked the Defense Production Act so it can invest in American companies that can expand clean energy manufacturing, build clean energy facilities, process clean energy components, and install clean energy technologies for consumers. A portion of that \$100 million is expected to go to manufacturers of solar panels, such as First Solar and Toledo Solar, affected by the Asian tariff controversy. 'That's certainly the reason we put it in the bill,' said Ms. Kaptur, who leads the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development." [Toledo Blade, [7/20/22](#)]

Kaptur Called The Biden Administration's Exclusion Of Bifacial Solar Panels From 201 Tariffs "A Disappointing, Misguided Decision." "Today, Representatives Marcy Kaptur (OH-09) and Tim Ryan (OH-13), and Senators Sherrod Brown (OH) and Rob Portman (OH), released the following statement on the news of the Biden-Harris administration's exclusion of bifacial solar panels from 201 tariffs. 'This is a disappointing, misguided decision. The administration is missing the best opportunity in a generation to ensure the United States leads the way in manufacturing solar supply chain components. Excluding bifacial modules from the solar tariffs undermines American workers and manufacturers at a moment when domestic solar production is poised to dramatically expand.' Roughly 80 percent of solar panels are made in China. The Chinese government has a long history of heavily subsidizing its solar enterprises and dumping solar panels made with exploited workers into other markets in order to gain market share. These kinds of products should not enter the United States duty free." [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [2/4/22](#)]

Kaptur Crossed Party Lines And Voted For A Resolution To Restart Tariffs On Solar Power Imports That Were Suspended By The Biden Administration. "Twelve Democrats and eight Republicans crossed the aisle on Friday with their votes on a resolution that seeks to restart tariffs on solar power imports that were suspended by the Biden administration. The House approved the resolution in a 221-202 vote. President Biden signed an order in June 2022 to free Southeast Asian countries from new tariffs on solar panels for two years, a move that was meant to bolster the solar industry during a Commerce Department investigation into whether Southeast Asian nations were being used to circumvent tariffs on Chinese solar companies. The order pertained to certain solar imports from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam. An inquiry by the Commerce Department ultimately found probable trade violations. On Friday, House Republicans and a coalition of Democrats moved to undo that freeze on tariffs through a Congressional Review Act resolution, which allows Congress to overturn federal rules. Republicans broadly saw the measure as a way to crack down on China. On Monday, the Biden administration issued a Statement of Administration Policy saying it 'strongly opposes' the resolution, arguing the Commerce Department rule 'provides a short-term bridge to ensure there is a thriving U.S. solar installation industry ready to purchase the solar products that will be made in these American factories once they are operational.' The statement said the president would veto the measure if it landed on his desk. Twelve House Democrats, nonetheless, supported the resolution: Reps. Don Davis (N.C.), Chris Deluzio (Pa.), John Garamendi (Calif.), Jared Golden (Maine), Marcy Kaptur (Ohio), Ro Khanna (Calif.), Dan Kildee (Mich.), Frank Mrvan (Ind.), Bill Pascrell (N.J.), Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (Wash.), Terri Sewell (Ala.) and Elissa Slotkin (Mich.). In a statement following the vote, Kaptur said she broke with the president on his tariff freeze in an effort to crack down on China. 'The evidence of

China's targeting of our domestic solar industry required a forceful response,' Kaptur wrote. 'Deploying new energy technologies in our country cannot come at the expense of America's solar industry and the thousands of workers at Ohio's hometown companies like First Solar and Toledo Solar.'" [The Hill, [4/28/23](#)]

- **Kaptur Voted For Vetoing A Joint Resolution That Disapproved Of A Rule That Suspended Solar Panels That Had Parts Manufactured In China.** In May 2023, Kaptur voted for: "Passage, over President Biden's May 16, 2023, veto of the joint resolution that would provide for congressional disapproval of the September 2022 Commerce Department rule that provided for the suspension of duties for certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells and modules, or solar panels, assembled in Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand or Vietnam using parts and components manufactured in China. The rule took effect on Nov. 15, 2022. Under the provisions of the joint resolution, the Commerce Department rule would have no force or effect." The joint resolution passed by a vote of 214-205. [H.J.Res. 39, [Vote #233](#), 5/24/23; CQ, [5/24/23](#)]

Kaptur Led A Letter Calling On The U.S. Department Of Treasury To Issue Rules For New Solar Energy Tax Credits To Support American Manufacturing Jobs And Reduce The U.S.' Dependence On China For Solar Components. "February 26th, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09) joined Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-08) in a letter with other Members of Congress calling on the US Department of Treasury to issue rules for new solar energy tax credits that will support American manufacturing jobs and reduce America's dependence on the People's Republic of China for solar components. 'I have long fought for American energy manufacturing and an all of the above energy strategy that moves us toward energy independence. It is hard to understand decisions made by the Biden Administration that seek to reward those who offshore jobs in China and elsewhere,' said Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. 'The Administration must not allow China to undercut domestic manufacturers and the workers who power them with our own tax code. We must ensure that the 'domestic content' bonus established as part of the Inflation Reduction Act doesn't reward those who cut corners, offshore jobs, and buy cheaper components produced in China. When a product is given the benefit of being called American made, that should include all stages and steps in the production process. Giving an additional tax benefit to those who cut corners is yet another reward for bad behavior.'" [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [2/27/24](#)]

Kaptur Called On Trump To Visit Lorain To Help Prevent The Closure Of Some Of The City's Steel Operations. "Democratic Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur has invited President Donald Trump to visit Lorain and help prevent the closure of some of the city's steel operations. U.S. Steel plans to permanently close one of its tubular operations in June, after idling it in 2015. That part of the plant makes smaller pipes; Kaptur says there's been less demand for those pipes with the downturn in the natural gas industry. She says Trump could start by placing a tariff on foreign steel. 'We have to have a capability as a country -- for the sake of our own economy as well as our defense -- to have a robust domestic steel industry. We can't just keep doling it away to foreign countries that, by the way, don't play by the rules. 'I'm obviously not in the president's party. But he made a promise: he talked about re-doing various trade deals. He talked about places like Ohio. So I think this should be a high priority for his administration and I'm hoping he will jump to the occasion.' Kaptur also plans to invite Vice President Mike Pence to meet with representatives from U.S. Steel and Republic Steel, which recently idled its Lorain plant. She says she's crossing party lines after hearing Trump's campaign promise to get tough on global trade.'" [Ideastream Public Media, [3/12/17](#)]

Kaptur Supported Trump's 25 Percent Tariff On Steel And 10 Percent Tariff On Aluminum. "President Donald Trump is doing the right thing by proposing tariffs on steel and aluminum, Democratic Rep. Marcy Kaptur told CNBC on Friday. Trump announced Thursday that the U.S. will impose a 25 percent tariff for steel and a 10 percent tariff for aluminum as early as next week. 'Regions like my own have been heavily harmed by this very unreciprocal trade across the board, almost in every sector. Steel has been particularly hard hit,' said Kaptur, who represents Ohio's 9th District in the northern part of the state. 'We cannot afford to lose the steel production platform of this country. So we have to find our way through the thicket and begin to rebuild critical industries just as we've done with our automotive industry,' she said on 'Power Lunch.' [...] Proponents, however, believe the tariffs are needed to help level an unfair playing field. 'We have to have markets that are open and free. When markets become controlled or the United States becomes a dump market and jobs are wiped out and entire platforms are wiped out, we lose our defense industrial base,' Kaptur said.'" [CNBC, [3/2/18](#)]

(OH-09) Message #9 Backup

Marcy helped pass the largest expansion of benefits and services for veterans in more than 30 years. She's secured funding for new state-of-the-art V.A. clinics across northern Ohio. She helped lead an effort to save the 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo when it was threatened to be closed.

Marcy Helped Pass The Largest Expansion Of Benefits And Services For Veterans In More Than 30 Years.

Kaptur Cosponsored And Voted For The PACT Act

June 2021: Kaptur Cosponsored The Honoring Our PACT Act Of 2022

June 2021: Kaptur Cosponsored The Honoring Our PACT Act Of 2022. In June 2021, Kaptur cosponsored the Honoring our PACT Act of 2022: which “would expand Veterans Affairs Department health care benefits for veterans with service-connected exposure to burn pits or other toxic substances, making such veterans eligible for VA hospital care, medical services and nursing home care. Specifically, it would establish a presumption of service-connected exposure for certain types of cancer and certain respiratory illnesses, including asthma diagnosed after service, for all veterans who served in certain periods and locations where burn pits or other airborne hazards were present, including those who served in Iraq, Afghanistan and Persian Gulf countries beginning in August 1990. It would require the VA to conduct outreach to inform such veterans of their eligibility. It would also require the VA to coordinate federally funded research activities related to health consequences of military toxic exposures; establish a toxic exposure advisory committee to assess cases of toxic exposure; and conduct research based on committee recommendations to make determinations for new or modified presumptions of service-connected exposure. Among other provisions, it would require the VA to publish a list of resources for toxic-exposed veterans and their caregivers and survivors; include a toxic exposure questionnaire in initial screenings conducted by VA primary care providers; provide department health care personnel with education and training to identify and treat illnesses related to toxic exposure; and establish a registry for servicemembers who may have been exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances due to the release of aqueous film-forming foam on military installations.” [H.R. 3967, cosponsored [6/17/21](#)]

2022: Kaptur Voted For The PACT Act

Kaptur Voted For Expanding Veterans Affairs Health Care Benefits For Burn Pit And Toxic Exposure During Service To Include Hospital Care, Medical Services, And Nursing Home Care. In July 2022, Kaptur voted for: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would expand VA health care benefits for veterans with service-connected exposure to burn pits or other toxic substances, making such veterans eligible for VA hospital care, medical services and nursing home care. Specifically, it would establish a presumption of service-connected exposure for certain types of cancer and certain respiratory illnesses, including asthma diagnosed after service, for all veterans who served in certain periods and locations where burn pits or other airborne hazards were present, including those who served in Iraq, Afghanistan and Persian Gulf countries beginning in August 1990. It would also expand benefits for certain veterans exposed to radiation during the Cold War and certain Vietnam War-era veterans exposed to Agent Orange. It would require the VA to establish a department working group to assess cases of toxic exposure and make determinations for new or modified presumptions of service-connected exposure based on working group recommendations; conduct outreach to inform veterans of new eligibility following all such modifications; and enter into a five-year agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine to evaluate scientific evidence related to determining the associations between diseases and military toxic exposure. It would also require the VA to publish a list of resources for toxic-exposed veterans and their caregivers and survivors; include a toxic exposure questionnaire in initial screenings conducted by VA primary care providers; provide department health care personnel with education and training to identify and treat illnesses related to toxic exposure; establish an interagency working group to coordinate collaborative federal research on health consequences of military toxic exposure; and require the National Academies to conduct a study on toxic exposures

and mental health conditions and a study on health trends of veterans who participated in Manhattan Project activities. It would provide \$500 million for fiscal 2022 for a new fund to support veterans' health care associated with toxic exposure and authorize the VA to use such funding to improve Veterans Benefits Administration operations, including for claims automation, to support increased claims processing for veterans made eligible by the bill. Among other provisions, it would modify certain VA leasing authorities and appropriate funding for VA medical facility leases, including \$922 million for fiscal 2022 for enhanced-use leases, and \$1.9 billion for fiscal 2023 and over \$3.6 billion for fiscal years 2024 through 2031 for major medical facility leases. It would also include various provisions related to VA personnel policy, including to require the VA, in collaboration with the directors of outpatient clinics and medical centers, to develop and implement a national rural recruitment and hiring plan for the Veterans Health Administration; require the VA to establish qualifications for each human resources position within the department; and authorize the VA to issue retention bonuses, student loan repayment and other incentives to retain and recruit personnel. This version of the bill would not include a blue-slip provision that would specify that contract buy-outs by the VA to employ health care professionals at rural VA facilities would not be considered a taxable benefit or event." The bill passed by a vote of 342-88. [S. 3373, [Vote #309](#), 7/13/22; CQ, [7/13/22](#)]

March 2022: Kaptur Voted For The Honoring Our Pact Act To Expand Veterans Affairs Health Care Benefits To Include Burn Pit And Other Toxic Substance Exposure. In March 2022, Kaptur voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, as amended, that would expand Veterans Affairs Department health care benefits for veterans with service-connected exposure to burn pits or other toxic substances, making such veterans eligible for VA hospital care, medical services and nursing home care. Specifically, it would establish a presumption of service-connected exposure for certain types of cancer and certain respiratory illnesses, including asthma diagnosed after service, for all veterans who served in certain periods and locations where burn pits or other airborne hazards were present, including those who served in Iraq, Afghanistan and Persian Gulf countries beginning in August 1990. It would require the VA to conduct outreach to inform such veterans of their eligibility. It would also require the VA to coordinate federally funded research activities related to health consequences of military toxic exposures; establish a toxic exposure advisory committee to assess cases of toxic exposure; and conduct research based on committee recommendations to make determinations for new or modified presumptions of service-connected exposure. Among other provisions, it would require the VA to publish a list of resources for toxic-exposed veterans and their caregivers and survivors; include a toxic exposure questionnaire in initial screenings conducted by VA primary care providers; provide department health care personnel with education and training to identify and treat illnesses related to toxic exposure; and establish a registry for servicemembers who may have been exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances due to the release of aqueous film-forming foam on military installations." The bill passed by a vote of 256-174. [H.R. 3967, [Vote #57](#), 3/3/22; CQ, [3/3/22](#)]

The Honoring Our PACT Act Was The Most Significant Expansion Of Benefits And Services For Toxic Exposed Veterans And Their Survivors In More Than 30 Years

The PACT Act Was The Most Significant Expansion Of Benefits And Services For Toxic Exposed Veterans And Their Survivors In More Than 30 Years. "Two years ago, President Biden signed the landmark bipartisan Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act into law, enacting the most significant expansion of benefits and services for toxic exposed veterans and their survivors in more than 30 years." [White House, Press Release, [8/9/24](#)]

3.5 Million U.S. Military Service Members Were Estimated To Have Been Exposed To Toxic Substances From Burn Pits. "U.S. officials estimate that more than 3.5 million service members who deployed were exposed to toxic smoke from the roughly 250 pits used in Iraq and Afghanistan." [New York Times, [9/7/21](#)]

Honoring Our PACT Act Designated 23 Illnesses And Cancers As Linked To Toxic Exposures From "Burn Pits And Airborne Hazards." "The bill would specifically designate 23 respiratory illnesses and cancers as likely linked to toxic exposures related to military burn pits and airborne hazards exposure. Currently, the Department of Veterans Affairs decides these exposure claims on a case-by-case basis, with the exception of those filed for asthma, rhinitis or sinusitis. The burden of proving one's illness is related to a burn pit exposure falls on the veteran, leading to delays in health care." [ABC News, [3/3/22](#)]

Honoring Our PACT Act Included Veterans Affairs Benefits For Radiation During The Cold War And Additional Illnesses Linked To Agent Orange Used In The Vietnam War. “The bill also provides for new benefits for veterans who faced radiation exposure during deployments throughout the Cold War, adds hypertension and monoclonal gammopathy to the list of illnesses linked to Agent Orange exposure in the Vietnam War, and requires new medical exams for all veterans with toxic exposure claims.” [Military.com, [3/3/22](#)]

Honoring Our Pact Act Provided Retroactive Veterans Affairs Benefits For Previously Denied Claims And To Deceased Veterans’ Survivors. “The bill would open up Department of Veterans Affairs health care to millions of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans exposed to toxic substances during their service even if they don’t have a service-connected disability. The bill also would provide new or increased disability benefits to thousands of veterans who have become ill with cancer or respiratory conditions such as bronchitis or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD. The VA would presume that veterans developed their illness as a result of exposure to toxic substances during their service. [...] The bill also provides for retroactive benefits to veterans whose disability claims have been denied and to survivors of deceased veterans.” [AP News, [3/3/22](#)]

She’s Secured Funding For New State-Of-The-Art V.A. Clinics Across Northern Ohio.

Kaptur Secured Funding For New State-Of-The-Art V.A. Clinics Across Northern Ohio. “She’s secured funding for new state-of-the-art V.A. clinics across northern Ohio. She helped lead an effort to save the 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo when it was threatened to be closed and delivered massive federal support to construction of new base facilities and an expanded mission for the unit.” [Marcy Kaptur for Congress, Marcy’s Priorities, accessed [10/10/24](#)]

Kaptur Announced That Ohio Veterans Home In Sandusky Ohio Was Awarded Over \$5 Million Through The American Rescue Plan. “Today, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09) released the following statement announcing that the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky, Ohio has been awarded \$5,304,687 through the American Rescue Plan to assist in operational needs and to address inflated costs of operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.” [Ohio Department of Veterans Services, Press Release, [5/19/21](#)]

- **HEADLINE: “Kaptur Announces Over \$5 Million In Funds For Veterans Home.”** [Ohio Department of Veterans Services, Press Release, [5/19/21](#)]

Kaptur’s Work Helped To Open A New Lorain County VA Outpatient Clinic, The State-Of-The-Art Facility Served Lorain County’s 25,000 Veterans. “Officials formally celebrated the opening of the new Lorain County VA outpatient clinic, 5329 Abbe Road in Sheffield Village, on Aug. 13 with a ribbon-cutting in honor of the collaboration and hard work in bringing the new state-of-the-art facility to serve Lorain County’s 25,000 veterans. [...] Hunter thanked the 41 Lorain County veterans service organizations, the 68 employees at the VA clinic, Lorain County officials and members of U.S. District Representatives Marcy Kaptur and Jim Jordan for helping make it a reality in the heart of Lorain County. ‘They all had a large part about what’s happening here today,’ he said. ‘I know in working with the people that put this together, it hasn’t been an easy task.’” [The Morning Journal, [8/13/21](#)]

She Helped Lead An Effort To Save The 180th Fighter Wing In Toledo When It Was Threatened To Be Closed.

Kaptur Helped Lead An Effort To Save The 180th Fighter Wing In Toledo When It Was Threatened To Be Closed. “She’s secured funding for new state-of-the-art V.A. clinics across northern Ohio. She helped lead an effort to save the 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo when it was threatened to be closed and delivered massive federal support to construction of new base facilities and an expanded mission for the unit.” [Marcy Kaptur for Congress, Marcy’s Priorities, accessed [10/10/24](#)]

Kaptur Announced The Inclusion Of \$15 Million In The Military Construction And Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill For The 180th Fighter Wing. “Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), a senior Member of the House Appropriations Committee, announced the inclusion of \$15 million in the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill for the 180th Fighter Wing. The funds will be used to replace and upgrade the temporary hangers that are part of North American Air Defense Command's (NORAD) mission. Kaptur, whose work on the Appropriations is widely credited with upgrading the 180th's facilities in Toledo and Ottawa County's Camp Perry, voted today to move the funding bill out of the Appropriations Committee and on to the House floor.” [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [6/15/17](#)]

- **Kaptur’s Work On The Appropriations Was Widely Credited With Upgrading The 180th's Facilities In Toledo And Ottawa County's Camp Perry.** “Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-09), a senior Member of the House Appropriations Committee, announced the inclusion of \$15 million in the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill for the 180th Fighter Wing. The funds will be used to replace and upgrade the temporary hangers that are part of North American Air Defense Command's (NORAD) mission. Kaptur, whose work on the Appropriations is widely credited with upgrading the 180th's facilities in Toledo and Ottawa County's Camp Perry, voted today to move the funding bill out of the Appropriations Committee and on to the House floor.” [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [6/15/17](#)]

(OH-09) Message #10 Backup

Marcy has made massive investments in our community. She's brought back millions for parks, small businesses, infrastructure, community redevelopment, and so much more. Just in 2024 alone, she's brought back \$777 million.

Marcy Has Made Massive Investments In Our Community. She's Brought Back Millions For Parks, Small Businesses, Infrastructure, Community Redevelopment, And So Much More.

Kaptur Brought Millions Back To The District For Parks

HEADLINE: “Kaptur Announces \$1.15 Million National Park Service Award For Toledo’s Harvey Savage Park.” [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [9/25/24](#)]

Kaptur Announced A \$2.5 Million National Park Service Grant Award For The Replacement Of The Boardwalk Trail At Maumee Bay State Park. “Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) announced a \$2.5 million National Park Service grant award for the replacement of the boardwalk trail at Maumee Bay State Park. The 2.4-mile ADA accessible trail is open to the public year-round, going through the wetlands of the park. The grant will cover 50 percent of the funding for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources’ costs related to the design, engineering, permitting, and construction of a .7-mile section of the trail.” [WTVG, [10/5/21](#)]

Kaptur Secured Nearly \$43 Million In Federal Funding For The Toledo Glawss City River Walk Over The Last Five Years. “A \$19 million grant has been awarded to the Toledo Metroparks to construct close to one mile of the Glass City Riverwalk’s five-mile multi-use trail. The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program awarded the grant. According to a press release from Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, this grant is the second significant federal award for the Glass City Riverwalk. According to Kaptur Toledo Metroparks has secured nearly \$43 million in federal funding for the Glass City Riverwalk over the last five years.” [WTVG, [6/21/24](#)]

Kaptur Brought Millions Back To The District For Small Businesses

Kaptur Announced A \$28 Million Improvement To Help Connect East Toledo To The City’s Downtown Riverfront, To Help Lift Up Small Businesses And Foster Economic Opportunity. “Today, U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH-9) announced a new investment to make

safety improvements and increase access to Front Street, helping lift up small businesses and fostering economic opportunity. The \$28 million improvement will help connect East Toledo to the city's downtown riverfront – and create jobs while improving residents' quality of life and access to greenspace. [...] The investment is made possible by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which Brown and Kaptur helped write and pass." [Sherrod Brown, Press Release, [3/11/24](#)]

Kaptur Brought Millions Back To The District For Infrastructure

Kaptur Brought Back \$1 Million For The Board Of Lucas County Materials Recovery Facility Toward Construction Of A New, State Of The Art Recycling Center. "Congresswoman Kaptur's community-led project funding [...] Board of Lucas County Commissions – Lucas County, Ohio, Materials Recovery Facility: \$1M for the Board of Lucas County Materials Recovery Facility toward construction of a new, state of the art recycling center." [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [3/8/24](#)]

Kaptur Brought Back \$959,752 For Pleasant View Wastewater Treatment Plant To Improve Operations And Reduce Costs For Property Owners. "Congresswoman Kaptur's community-led project funding [...] Board of Fulton County Commissioners on behalf of Public Utilities – Pleasant View Wastewater Treatment Plant \$959,752 for Pleasant View Wastewater Treatment Plant to improve operations and reduce costs for property owners." [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [3/8/24](#)]

HEADLINE: "Kaptur Announces \$4.3 Million In Federal Funding To Boost Clean Energy And Energy Efficiency For Ohio's Appalachian Region And Toledo." [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [8/22/24](#)]

Kaptur Brought Millions Back To The District For Community Redevelopment

Kaptur Brought Back \$4 Million For The Toledo Family Center, To Be Used For Preschool/Head Start, Youth Athletics/Enrichment, Senior Programming, And Community Events. "Congresswoman Kaptur's community-led project funding [...] East Toledo Family Center – Community Center Expansion: \$4M for the East Toledo Family Center to develop a 23,000 square foot addition to its current facility and part of Navarre Park. It will be used for preschool/head start, youth athletics/enrichment, senior programming, and community events." [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [3/8/24](#)]

Kaptur Brought Back \$1.05 Million For The North Toledo Home Ownership Project To Be Used For The Rehabilitation Of Homes. "Congresswoman Kaptur's community-led project funding [...] Lucas Housing Services Corporation – North Toledo Home Ownership Project: \$1.05M for Lucas Housing Services Corporation for rehabilitation of homes at an average cost of \$72,000 per house. Each household will be well qualified and provided with the necessary training and tools to be successful homeowners and North River neighbors." [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [3/8/24](#)]

Just In 2024 Alone, She's Brought Back \$777 Million.

The Blade: In 2024 Alone, Kaptur Brought Back More Than \$777 Million Into The 9th Congressional District. "U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D., Toledo) has brought more than \$777 million into the 9th Congressional District this year, but she didn't do it alone. Funding opportunities first start in Congress, when it passes legislation that would allocate a specific amount of money to local projects. A window of time opens where local governments, nonprofits, and agencies can write grant proposals." [The Blade, [8/12/24](#)]

(OH-09) Message #11 Backup

Marcy is endorsed by the state's largest union of police officers. Marcy has helped hire 100 more officers in Toledo, and has secured millions for local police departments for new equipment, technology upgrades, community policing, and K-9 units.

Marcy Is Endorsed By The State's Largest Union Of Police Officers.

HEADLINE: “Ohio FOP Endorses Kaptur For Congress.” [Toledo Blade, [9/5/24](#)]

- The Ohio FOP Was The Largest Law Enforcement Organization In Ohio. “For the first time in recent history, the Ohio Fraternal Order of Police is weighing in on the 9th District race, throwing its support behind U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D., Toledo). ‘We feel strongly that she’s the candidate who will best represent our members in Washington,’ said Jay McDonald, the president of Ohio’s FOP. The Ohio FOP is the largest law enforcement organization in Ohio. While it hasn’t endorsed a candidate for the 9th District in recent years, Mr. McDonald said the organization decided to endorse Ms. Kaptur this year because of her long history of supporting labor unions and her support of the Social Security Fairness Act.” [Toledo Blade, [9/5/24](#)]

HEADLINE: “Ohio Fraternal Order Of Police Endorses U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur For Congress.” [Chronicle, [9/7/24](#)]

Marcy Has Helped Hire 100 More Officers In Toledo, And Has Secured Millions For Local Police Departments For New Equipment, Technology Upgrades, Community Policing, And K-9 Units.

2021: The City Of Toledo Announced Plans For \$180 Million In Federal Funding, Including For Almost 100 Police Officers. “More than \$180 million in federal funds will be pumped into Toledo over the next three years, and Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz said there's something in it for everyone. The mayor released his plans Wednesday for allocating \$180.9 million awarded to the city through the American Rescue Plan. The money will allow for the addition of nearly 100 police officers and replace every private lead water line in the city. [...] Highlights of the mayor's suggested allocations include: \$80.9 million - Maintaining city services and adding nearly 50 firefighters and 100 police officers.” [WTOL, [10/13/21](#)]

- **Toledo Received \$180 Million From The American Rescue Plan.** “Toledo got \$180 million from the American Rescue Plan and according to the mayor, the city will use as much as 33% of that for public safety for things like hiring more police officers and expanding shot-spotter.” [WTOL, [5/16/22](#)]

Kaptur Voted For Concurring In The Senate Amendment To The American Rescue Plan Act. In March 2021, Kaptur voted for: “Yarmuth, D-Ky., motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill comprising a \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package to further address the health and economic effects of COVID-19, including approximately \$362 billion in direct aid to state and local governments; \$47.8 billion for testing and contact tracing; \$168 billion to assist educational institutions; and \$53.6 billion to assist small businesses. It would extend federal unemployment compensation benefits through Sept. 6, 2021; provide tax rebates of \$1,400 for individuals with incomes of \$75,000 or less; and extend or expand a number of employer and individual tax credits, including credits to subsidize health insurance premiums. The bill would provide direct assistance of \$195.3 billion for states and \$130.2 billion for local governments, as well as \$10 billion for grants to states to support capital projects, such as broadband access. It would provide \$122.8 billion for an Education Department elementary and secondary school emergency relief fund; \$39.6 billion for grants to higher education institutions; \$3 billion for education programs for individuals with disabilities and \$2.75 billion for non-public schools. It would provide \$39 billion for child care block grants to states. It would provide \$27.8 billion for emergency rental assistance and housing vouchers, \$10 billion for homeownership assistance and \$5 billion for assistance to individuals experiencing homelessness. It would continue the 15% increase in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits through September 2021. It would provide over \$92 billion for the Health and Human Services Department, including \$47.8 billion for COVID-19 testing and contact tracing; \$7.5 billion for vaccine administration and distribution; \$6.1 billion for vaccine and therapeutic development, manufacturing and procurement; \$7.6 billion to expand the public

health workforce; \$7.6 billion for community health centers; \$6.1 billion for Native American health programs; and \$3 billion for substance abuse and mental health block grant programs. It would provide \$50 billion for the Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster relief fund; \$14.5 billion for veterans' health care services; \$10 billion for emergency medical supply production under the Defense Production Act; \$8.7 billion for COVID-19 health response efforts overseas; and \$200 million for Labor Department worker protection activities, including at least half for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. It would extend federal unemployment compensation benefits of \$300 per week through Sep. 6, 2021. It would provide an additional tax rebate of \$1,400 for individuals with incomes of \$75,000 or less, increased by \$1,400 for each dependent. It would expand eligibility and increase the maximum earned income tax credit for childless adults and increase the child tax credit to \$3,000 per child. It would expand and extend through September 2021 paid sick and family leave tax credits for employers. It would require Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program to fully cover the cost of COVID-19 vaccines. It would provide for full federal subsidies of individual COBRA premiums and require the VA to waive health treatment copayments through September 2021. It would expand eligibility in 2021 and 2022 for federal tax subsidies toward Affordable Care Act marketplace insurance premiums, including to fully cover premium costs for individuals earning up to 150% of the federal poverty level and cap premiums at 8.5% of household income. It would provide for temporary increases in federal medical assistance percentages for certain services and eliminate the Medicaid drug rebate cap beginning in 2023. It would provide \$50 billion for small business assistance, including \$28.6 billion for restaurants and \$7.25 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program. It would provide \$4 billion for Agriculture Department pandemic-related assistance." The motion was agreed to by a vote of 220-211. [HR 1319, [Vote #72](#), 3/10/21; CQ, [3/10/21](#)]

2020: Kaptur Announced Nearly \$8 Million To Hire Cleveland Police To Combat Violent Crime. "Today, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) announced \$7,968,944 in federal funding has been awarded to the Cleveland Division of Police by the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) through its COPS Hiring Program (CHP) and Operation Relentless Pursuit. The funding will enable the Cleveland Division of Police to deploy sworn veteran officers to important task force duties and use the CHP funding to hire new recruits to back-fill those positions." [Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Press Release, [5/12/20](#)]