

Rhett Marques Overview Backup

Rhett Marques is a cost-raising politician who looks out for his elite billionaire backers while supporting plans to raise taxes, raise healthcare costs, and increase prices on everyday items like groceries, gas, and farm supplies for Alabamians.

Rhett Marques Is A Cost-Raising Politician Who Looks Out For His Elite Billionaire Backers

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill, Applauded Its Passage, And Said He Was “Proud” Of The Legislation

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According to Rhett Marques at a candidate forum, “MARQUES: People are hurting right now. The country is, spent four years under the Biden administration with inflation rates going into historic highs. And that is, I am very proud to say that President Trump, with the Working Family Tax Cut, put more money in people's pocket with tax cuts on overtime, tips, and other tax cuts.” [District 1 Candidate Forum, [4/1/26](#)] (VIDEO)

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill And Applauded The President For Its Passage.

According to Rhett Marques on Alabama AgCast, “MARQUES: Our food supply is national security. And we have got to protect our farmers. And becoming energy dominant will help drive down fuel prices. But also with the fertilizer costs right now that are out of control. There in Muscle Shoals is one of the largest facilities for fertilizer and we're looking to expand that here in Alabama to put hopefully more facilities in, to where we can produce more fertilizer. And that will help drive down costs because it will be more local and we're not buying foreign etc. So I'm excited about this opportunity. And I applaud the president and the working family tax cut for putting in there the billions to go back to the farmers, but also extending the death tax, which I don't really believe in the death tax anyway, I've never understood, I think is a double tax.” [Alabama AgCast, [8/4/26](#)] (AUDIO)

Marques Said Trump Had Done A “Great Job” Passing The One Big Beautiful Bill. According to Rhett Marques on Rightside Media, “Marques: Well, it all comes down to putting more money in the pockets of the people of the state of Alabama. President Trump did a great job passing America's first, excuse me the working families tax cut, the largest tax cut in American history. We did the same thing in Alabama as a state representative. We cut taxes by 1.5 million billion, rather not million, but billion dollars. And we had Alabama's largest tax cut with cutting your grocery tax in half. And so, you know, right now prices are high because of the Obama administration. Inflation was out of control for 40 year highs on inflation. And we are still trying to work down the prices. And, you know, you look at what Wal-Mart did the other day by cutting their retail costs by 15% across the board, it's starting to happen. But it's going to take time. The Biden administration, the four years under the Biden administration, put us well behind. And it's going to take some time to get it fixed. But President Trump is doing that, and I'm proud to go help him continue that and make sure that we continue working for the farmers in our district, our military and our veterans. And so I'm excited. The second congressional district is a great, great place. We have a lot to offer.” [Rightside Media, [8/7/26](#)] (VIDEO)

The One Big Beautiful Bill Was A “Massive Tax Break For Billionaires”

BlueGreen Alliance: OBBB Was “A Massive Tax Break For Billionaires.” “The House budget bill, if enacted, puts at risk more than two million U.S. jobs from the provisions to repeal manufacturing tax

credits alone. If the provisions in this bill become law, workers will be the ones to pay the price. It sells them out to foot the bill for a massive tax break for billionaires. Across the country, and in red states especially, this bill would spell the loss of massive job creation and economic stimulus.” [BlueGreen Alliance Research Brief, pg. 3, accessed [10/22/25](#)]

The OBBB Extended Trump’s 2017 Corporate And Individual Tax Cuts. “The 1,100-page bill would extend corporate and individual tax cuts passed in 2017 during Trump’s first term in office, cancel many green-energy incentives passed by Democratic former President Joe Biden and tighten eligibility for health and food programs for the poor. It also would fund Trump’s crackdown on immigration, adding tens of thousands of border guards and creating the capacity to deport up to 1 million people each year. Regulations on firearm silencers would be loosened.” [Reuters, [5/22/25](#)]

- **2018: S&P 500 Companies Could See \$1.64 Trillion in Tax Cuts Under The Trump’s Bill.** “In other words, you can thank tax cuts for nearly half the growth in big-company earnings in the first quarter. For many companies – including a favorite target of Trump’s ire, Amazon.com Inc. – the boost was even more substantial, representing all, or nearly all, the quarter’s growth. It gets better: At the rate they’re going, S&P 500 companies could save \$1.64 trillion in taxes over the next decade, Steve estimates – \$300 billion more than lawmakers expected. Now we’re talking real money.” [Bloomberg News, [5/25/18](#)]

Marques Accepted Campaign Contributions From Multiple Billionaires

Marques Accepted \$13,000 From James W. Rane Sr., The Billionaire Founder And Chairman Of Great Southern Wood Preserving

Marques Has Accepted \$13,000 From James W. Rane Sr. [FEC, accessed [9/22/26](#)]

Contributions From James W. Rane To Rhett for Alabama			
DATE	CONTRIBUTOR	EMPLOYER	AMOUNT
9/30/25	RANE, JAMES W. SR.	GREAT SOUTHERN WOOD PRESERVING	\$3,500.00
9/30/25	RANE, JAMES W. SR.	GREAT SOUTHERN WOOD PRESERVING	\$3,500.00
9/30/25	RANE, JAMES W. SR.	GREAT SOUTHERN WOOD PRESERVING	\$3,000.00
9/30/25	RANE, JAMES W. SR.	GREAT SOUTHERN WOOD PRESERVING	\$3,000.00
TOTAL			\$13,000

[FEC, accessed [9/22/26](#)]

- **Forbes: Jimmy Rane, The Founder And Chairman Of Great Southern Wood Preserving, Had An Estimated Net Worth Of \$1.46 Billion.** “Jimmy Rane \$1.464B Real Time Net Worth as of 9/22/26 #2704 in the world today. Jimmy Rane is founder and chairman of Great Southern Wood Preserving, which makes decks, fences and other treated lumber products. Rane is better known as ‘the Yella Fella,’ his cowboy alter-ego who appeared in his company’s TV commercials. He and his brother transformed the family’s \$22,000 (1971 sales) backyard treating plant into a company with nearly \$2 billion in annual sales. Rane served as CEO for more than half a century before retiring from the top job in 2025.” [Forbes, accessed [9/22/26](#)]

Marques Has Accepted \$14,000 From Raymond J. Harbert, The Head Of Harbert Management Corporation, Which Was Worth An Estimated \$26 Billion In 2008

Marques Has Accepted \$14,000 From Raymond J. Harbert. [FEC, accessed [9/22/26](#)]

Contributions From Raymond J. Harbert to Rhett for Alabama			
DATE	CONTRIBUTOR	EMPLOYER	AMOUNT
11/6/25	HARBERT, RAYMOND J.	HARBERT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION	\$3,500.00
11/6/25	HARBERT, RAYMOND J.	HARBERT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION	\$3,500.00
11/6/25	HARBERT, RAYMOND J.	HARBERT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION	\$3,500.00
11/6/25	HARBERT, RAYMOND J.	HARBERT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION	\$3,500.00
TOTAL			\$14,000.00

[FEC, accessed [9/22/26](#)]

- **Washington Post: Raymond Harbert Inherited Harbert Corp. From His Father, A Billionaire, And Launched Harbert Capital Partners, And By 2008 The Company Had \$26 Billion Of Assets.** “Raymond Harbert, chief executive officer of Birmingham, Ala.-based Harbert Corp., had a radical proposal for his father. It was 1992, and the company that had made his dad, John M. Harbert III, a billionaire was \$300 million in debt and eking out small profits. Raymond proposed selling the core construction business, which dated to the company’s founding in 1946. The elder Harbert threw his son out of his office, an associate recalls. Raymond, then 33, eventually persuaded his father to sell. Once the debt was extinguished, he presented his father with another big idea: shifting the family business into finance. John Harbert not only gave his approval this time, he loaned his son \$3 million against his inheritance to launch the investment firm, Harbert Management Corp. [...] Raymond’s first crack at launching a hedge fund produced Harbinger Capital Partners — the firm run by Philip Falcone, who in 2001 took seed capital of \$25 million and by mid-2008 had turned it into \$26 billion of assets.” [Washington Post, [6/3/12](#)]

While Supporting Plans To Raise Taxes,

Marques Has Voted More Than 22 Times To Raise Taxes And Fees In Alabama

1: April 2026: Marques Voted To Advance A Bill To Raise Property Taxes In Henry County

April 2026: Marques Voted To Advance SB374, A Bill That Would Levy Property Taxes In Henry County To Be Used For School Projects. On 4/7/26, Rhett Marques voted YES on moving to a third reading: “This act proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, relating to Henry County, to levy an ad valorem tax of three mills per dollar of assessed value on all taxable property south of Sandy Creek to be used exclusively for public school projects in Headland beginning October 1, 2027 and continuing through September 30, 2034.” The motion carried 69-0 with 35 abstentions. [Alabama State Legislature, [SB374](#), Roll Call 1191, [4/7/26](#)]

2: March 2026: Marques Voted To Levy A Local Privilege Tax On Horse Racing In Mobile County

April 2026: Marques Voted For S.B. 346, Levying A Local Privilege Tax On Horse Racing In Mobile County. On March 31, 2026, Marques voted for SB346, “Relating to Mobile County; to levy a local privilege tax on the net gambling revenue collected on pari-mutuel wagering on historical horse racing activities in the county. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA” The motion passed by a vote of 93-0 with 10 abstentions. [Alabama State Legislature, [SB346](#), [3/31/26](#)]

3: February 2026: Marques Voted To Increase The Lodging Tax In Blount County

February 2026: Marques Voted For H.B. 331, Increasing The Lodging Tax In Blount County. In February 2026, Marques voted for H.B. 331: “Relating to Blount County; to amend Section 45-5-247, Code of Alabama 1975, to increase the existing lodging tax; to authorize the county commission to levy an additional lodging tax in the county; to provide for the collection of the tax; and to provide for distribution of the proceeds.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 331](#), Roll Call 263, [2/3/26](#)]

4: May 2025: Marques Voted To Levy A Rental Tax In Elmore County

May 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 372, Levying A Rental Tax In Elmore County. May 2025, Marques voted for H.B. 372: “An Act relating to Elmore County; to levy a county rental tax and provide for the calculation of the rate; and to provide for the distribution of the proceeds collected from the tax.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 372](#), Roll Cal 1240, [5/7/25](#)]

5: 2024-2025: Marques Voted To Create New Motor Vehicle Registration Fees And Raise License Tag Fees In Butler, Elmore, And Coffee Counties

May 2025: Marques Voted To Enact An Additional Annual Fee Of \$5.25 On Motor Vehicle Registrations In Butler County

May 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 550, “Butler County, Levy Of Additional Motor Vehicle License And Registration Fee Authorized.” In April 2025, Marques voted for H.B. 550, “Butler County, levy of additional motor vehicle license and registration fee authorized.” The motion passed by a vote of 55-0-48. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 550](#), Roll Call 827, [4/15/25](#)]

- **H.B. 550 Authorized The Butler County Commission To Levy An Additional Annual Fee Of \$5.25 On Motor Vehicle License Registrations Within The County.** “Section 1. (a)(1) The Butler County Commission, prior to December 1, 2025, may levy and provide for the collection of an annual additional motor vehicle license and registration issuance fee in the amount of up to five dollars twenty-five cents (\$5.25) on each new registration, transfer, or renewal on any vehicle in the county with the motor vehicle license and registration year commencing on January 1, 2026. (2) The fee authorized by this section may only be for one continuing annual fee of up to five dollars twenty-five cents (\$5.25). (3) The county's license issuing official shall collect the issuance fee on each new registration, transfer, or renewal on a vehicle in the county.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 550, [4/9/25](#)]
- **Proceeds From H.B. 550 Would Be Distributed Evenly Amongst The Sheriff, Revenue Commissioner, And Judge Of Probate.** “Section 1. (a)(1) The Butler County Commission, prior to December 1, 2025, may levy and provide for the collection of an annual additional motor vehicle license and registration issuance fee in the amount of up to five dollars twenty-five cents (\$5.25) on each new registration, transfer, or renewal on any vehicle in the county with the motor vehicle license and registration year commencing on January 1, 2026. [...] (b) The license issuing official, on a monthly basis, shall distribute the proceeds from this section as follows: (1) One-third to the sheriff. (2) One-third to the revenue commissioner. (3) One-third to the judge of probate.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 550, [4/9/25](#)]

6: April 2025: Marques Voted To Increase The Lodging Tax In Blount County

April 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 534, Increasing The Lodging Tax In Blount County. In April

2025, Marques voted for H.B. 534: “Relating to Blount County; to increase the existing lodging tax; to authorize the county commission to levy an additional lodging tax in the county; to provide for the collection of the tax; and to provide for distribution of the proceeds.” The motion stalled in the Senate Committee on Local Legislation. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 534](#), Roll Call 766, [4/10/25](#)]

7: April 2025: Marques Voted For A 4.5% Tax On The Sale Of Vapor Products, Alternative Nicotine Products, And Tobacco Products

April 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 496, “Elmore County, To Allow County Commission To Levy A Tax On Vapor Products, Alternative Nicotine Products, And Tobacco Products; And To Levy A Property Assessment.” In April 2025, Marques voted for H.B. 496, “Elmore County, to allow county commission to levy a tax on vapor products, alternative nicotine products, and tobacco products; and to levy a property assessment.” The motion passed by a vote of 64-0-35. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 496](#), Roll Call 742, [4/9/25](#)]

- **H.B. 496 Authorized The Elmore County Commission To Levy A 4.5% Tax On The Sale Of Vapor Products, Alternative Nicotine Products, And Tobacco Products In The County.** “(b) The county commission may levy a county excise tax in Elmore County at the rate of four and one-half percent of the gross proceeds of the wholesale sale of vapor products, alternative nicotine products, and tobacco products in the county.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 496, [4/1/25](#)]
- **70% Of Proceeds From H.B. 496 Were Distributed To “Public Health And Safety.”** “(2) The county commission shall appropriate the proceeds of this tax as follows: a. Seventy percent for public health and safety. b. Thirty percent for county fire and rescue protection purposes. These funds shall be distributed to the Elmore County Firefighters Association for equal allocation to each member county fire department. These funds shall be used at the discretion of the individual department for fire protection, fire prevention, and emergency medical services to include, but not be limited to, fire or emergency medical equipment, fire or emergency medical supplies, training, buildings, capital improvements, insurance, dues, and professional services, unless otherwise prohibited by local law.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 496, [4/1/25](#)]
- **30% Of Proceeds From H.B. 496 Were Distributed To County Fire And Rescue Protection Purposes.** “(2) The county commission shall appropriate the proceeds of this tax as follows: a. Seventy percent for public health and safety. b. Thirty percent for county fire and rescue protection purposes. These funds shall be distributed to the Elmore County Firefighters Association for equal allocation to each member county fire department. These funds shall be used at the discretion of the individual department for fire protection, fire prevention, and emergency medical services to include, but not be limited to, fire or emergency medical equipment, fire or emergency medical supplies, training, buildings, capital improvements, insurance, dues, and professional services, unless otherwise prohibited by local law.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 496, [4/1/25](#)]

8: April 2025: Marques Voted To Tax Vapor, Alternative Nicotine, And Cannabis Products In Covington County

April 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 552, Taxing Vapor, Alternative Nicotine, And Cannabis Products In Covington County. In April 2025, Marques voted for H.B. 552: “Relating to Covington County; to levy county excise taxes on vapor products, vaping devices, alternative nicotine products, and psychoactive cannabinoids; to provide for civil penalties for violations; and to provide for the collection and distribution of the proceeds of the taxes.” The motion stalled in the Senate Committee on Local Legislation. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 552](#), Roll Call 832, [4/15/25](#)]

9: March 2025: Marques Voted To Enact A \$25 Fee On Each Motor Vehicle Registration, Transfer, Or Renewal In Elmore County

March 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 371, “Elmore County, To Create Motor Vehicle And Watercraft Registration Fees And Provide For Distribution Of Funds.” In March 2025, Marques voted for: “Elmore County, to create motor vehicle and watercraft registration fees and provide for distribution of funds.” The motion failed by a vote of 50-0-51. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 371](#), Roll Call 402, [3/18/25](#)]

- **H.B. 371 Authorized The Revenue Commissioner Of Elmore County To Charge A \$25 Fee On Each Motor Vehicle Registration, Transfer, Or Renewal.** “Relating to Elmore County; to levy an annual motor vehicle registration fee on each motor vehicle registered in Elmore County; and to provide for the distribution of the proceeds of the fee. [...] (b)(1) The Revenue Commissioner of Elmore County shall charge and collect a twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee on each motor vehicle registration, transfer, or renewal. (2) The fee established by this subsection shall not apply to trailers. (c)The fee provided in subsection (b) shall be in addition to all other fees, taxes, and other charges provided by law.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 371, [4/1/25](#)]
- **Proceeds From H.B. 371 Would Be Distributed To The Enhance Elmore Fund For Infrastructure And Economic Development.** “(e) The Revenue Commissioner shall collect the fees in the same manner and at the same time as other motor vehicle registration fees. (f)(1) All proceeds from the collection of the fees shall be deposited into the Enhance Elmore Fund. (2) The county commission shall appropriate the proceeds of these fees as follows: a. Ninety-five percent for infrastructure. b. Five percent for economic development.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 371, [4/1/25](#)]

10: March 2025: Marques Voted To Levy A County Sales And Use Tax In Elmore County

March 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 369, Levying A County Sales And Use Tax In Elmore County. “In March 20225, Marques voted for H.B. 369: Relating to Elmore County; to levy a county sales and use tax and provide for the calculation of the rate; to provide for the distribution of the proceeds collected from the tax; to create the Enhance Elmore Fund; and to provide for the allocation of monies deposited into the fund.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 369](#), Roll Call 400, [3/18/25](#)]

11: February 2025: Marques Voted To Increase The Lodging Tax In Dale County

February 2025: Marques Voted For H.B. 135, Increasing The Lodging Tax In Dale County. In February 2025, Marques voted for H.B. 135, “Relating to Dale County; to amend Section 45-23-243 of the Code of Alabama 1975, authorizing the county commission to levy a lodging tax in the county and providing for the distribution of the net proceeds for economic and tourism development; to increase the tax to be distributed for the same purposes.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 135](#), Roll Call 88, [2/13/25](#)]

12: April 2024: Marques Voted To Levy A Lodging Tax In Houston County

April 2024: Marques Voted For H.B. 395, Levying A Lodging Tax In Houston County. In April 2024, Marques voted for H.B. 395: “Relating to Houston County; authorizing the Houston County Commission to levy a lodging tax in the county; providing for the distribution of the proceeds from the tax; and to provide for a referendum.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 395](#) Roll Call 502, [4/11/24](#)]

13: April 2024: Marques Sponsored And Voted For A Bill To Increase Motor Vehicle License Tag Fees By \$8 In Coffee County

April 2024: Marques Sponsored H.B. 416, “Coffee County, Motor Vehicle License Tags, Additional \$8 Fee, Distributed To Sheriff And District Attorney.” In April 2024, Marques sponsored “Coffee County, motor vehicle license tags, additional \$8 fee, distributed to sheriff and district attorney.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 416](#), sponsored [4/4/24](#)]

April 2024: Marques Voted For H.B. 416, “Coffee County, Motor Vehicle License Tags, Additional \$8 Fee, Distributed To Sheriff And District Attorney.” In April 2024, Marques voted for: “Coffee County, motor vehicle license tags, additional \$8 fee, distributed to sheriff and district attorney.” The motion passed by a vote of 15-0-83. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 416](#), Roll Call 510, [4/11/24](#)]

- **2024: H.B. 416 Increased Motor Vehicle License Tag Fees In Coffee County By \$8.** “An \$8 tag fee increase in Coffee County to benefit law enforcement is being considered by the Alabama legislature and the Coffee County Commission Monday unanimously agreed to support that bill. House Bill 416, introduced by State Rep. Rhett Marques, will add \$8 to each motor vehicle license tag issued in Coffee County, with the funds generated split between the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and the 12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney's office. [...] Under the bill, the fee will be ‘on each motor vehicle license and registration, transfer, or renewal of any vehicle in the county; and to provide for distribution of the proceeds from the fees to the general fund to be used by the sheriff's office and the office of the district attorney. The fee shall be in addition to all other fees, taxes, and other charges provided by law.’ According to the bill, \$3 of the tag fee increased will be distributed to the district attorney's office and \$5 to the sheriff's office. If passed by the legislature, the fee increase becomes effective Oct. 1 of this year. The Coffee County Commission meets at 9 a.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month in the community room in the government complex in New Brockton. The meetings are open to the public.” [Dothan Eagle, [4/9/24](#)]
- **Under H.B. 416, \$3 Of The Motor Vehicle License Tag Fee Would Be Distributed To The District Attorney’s Office And \$5 Would Be Distributed To The Sheriff’s Office.** “An \$8 tag fee increase in Coffee County to benefit law enforcement is being considered by the Alabama legislature and the Coffee County Commission Monday unanimously agreed to support that bill. House Bill 416, introduced by State Rep. Rhett Marques, will add \$8 to each motor vehicle license tag issued in Coffee County, with the funds generated split between the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and the 12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney's office. [...] Under the bill, the fee will be ‘on each motor vehicle license and registration, transfer, or renewal of any vehicle in the county; and to provide for distribution of the proceeds from the fees to the general fund to be used by the sheriff's office and the office of the district attorney. The fee shall be in addition to all other fees, taxes, and other charges provided by law.’ According to the bill, \$3 of the tag fee increased will be distributed to the district attorney's office and \$5 to the sheriff's office. If passed by the legislature, the fee increase becomes effective Oct. 1 of this year. The Coffee County Commission meets at 9 a.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month in the community room in the government complex in New Brockton. The meetings are open to the public.” [Dothan Eagle, [4/9/24](#)]

14: May 2023: Marques Voted To Levy An 8% Tax On The Gross Proceeds Of Retail Cannabis Products

May 2023: Marques Voted For S.B. 66, Levying An 8% Tax On The Gross Proceeds Of Retail Cannabis Products. In May 2023, Marques voted for S.B. 66: “Relating to cannabis; to prohibit the sale, distribution, marketing, or possession of psychoactive cannabinoids found in hemp for certain age

groups; to levy an eight percent tax on the gross proceeds of products containing psychoactive cannabinoids sold at retail; to distribute the gross proceeds of the tax to the State General Fund; and in connection therewith would have as its purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased expenditure of local funds within the meaning of Section 111.05 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022.” The bill passed the House 105-0 and was signed into law by the Governor. [Alabama State Legislature, [S.B. 66](#), Roll Call 519, [5/2/23](#)]

15: April 2023: Marques Voted To Increase Property Taxes In The City Of Vestavia Hills

April 2023: Marques Voted For S.B. 63, Increasing Property Taxes In The City Of Vestavia Hills. In April 2023, Marques vote for SB 63: “To authorize the governing body of the City of Vestavia Hills, Alabama, pursuant to Amendment No. 373 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 217 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to increase the rate at which there is levied and collected by the city, on all taxable property situated within the city, the special ad valorem tax for public school purposes authorized in Amendment No. 56 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 216.04 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to a maximum rate, for any tax year of the city, which is equal to \$3.54 on each one hundred dollars (\$100) (35.4 mills on each dollar) of assessed value.” [Alabama State Legislature, [S.B. 63](#), Roll Call 44, [4/6/23](#)]

16: March 2022: Marques Voted To Increase Taxes On Alcohol In Washington County

March 2022: Marques Voted For H.B. 426, Increasing Taxes On Alcohol In Washington County. In March 2022, Marques voted for H.B. 426: “An Act, To propose an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, relating to Washington County, to provide that Washington County would be a wet county for the purposes of the laws of this state relating to alcoholic beverages subject to subsequent elections to change the classification; and to authorize the county commission to levy additional taxes on alcoholic beverages to be deposited in the county general fund.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 426](#), Roll Call 478, [3/8/22](#)]

17: February 2021: Marques Voted To Propose A Local Amendment To The Alabama Constitution Enabling Certain Municipalities To Levy An Ad Valorem Tax

February 2021: Marques Voted For H.B. 178, Proposing A Local Amendment To The Alabama Constitution Enabling Certain Municipalities To Levy An Ad Valorem Tax. In February 2021, Marques voted for H.B. 178: “An Act, Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to authorize each municipality authorized under Amendment No. 8 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing Section 216.01 of the Recompiled Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to levy and collect the ad valorem tax under Amendment No. 8 for the purpose of paying debt service on bonds, to levy and collect the ad valorem tax at the rate lawfully permitted for such municipality to directly pay the costs of public capital improvements, as well as to pay the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other securities issued to finance or refinance the costs of improvements; and to ratify, validate, and confirm any prior levy and collection of the ad valorem tax for these purposes.” The bill passed the House 98-0 and was enrolled and delivered to the Secretary of State. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 178](#), Roll Call 178, [2/4/21](#)]

18: May 2020: Marques Voted To Propose A Local Amendment To The Alabama Constitution Authorizing An Additional Property Tax To Be Levied In Crenshaw County

May 2020: Marques Voted For H.B. 472, Proposing A Local Amendment To The Alabama Constitution Authorizing An Additional Property Tax To Be Levied In Crenshaw County. In May

2020, Marques voted for H.B. 472: “An Act, To propose a local amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, relating to Crenshaw County, to authorize the Crenshaw County Commission to levy an additional ad valorem tax at the rate not to exceed three mills on each dollar of assessed value of taxable property in the county to be distributed to the Crenshaw County Health Care Authority for public hospital purposes and related health care purposes.” The motion passed 65-0-10 and was enrolled and delivered to the Secretary of State. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 472](#), Roll Call 519, [5/7/20](#)]

19: March 2020: Marques Voted To Increase Property Taxes In The City Of Guntersville

March 2020: Marques Voted For H.B. 389, Increasing The City Of Guntersville’s Special School Ad Valorem Tax. “To authorize the City Council of the City of Guntersville in Marshall County, pursuant to Amendment No. 373 of the Constitution of Alabama 1901, as amended, to increase the rate of the city's special school ad valorem tax levied and collected on all taxable property in the city authorized pursuant to the applicable provisions of the general laws of this state and pursuant to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, by an additional amount up to 9 mills on each dollar (\$0.90 on each one hundred dollars) of assessed value, to be used exclusively for capital outlay or debt service for public schools.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 389](#), Roll Call 298, [3/12/20](#)]

20: May 2019: Marques Voted To Levy A Lodging Tax In Autauga County

May 2019: Marques Voted For S.B. 43, Levying A Lodging Tax In Autauga County. In May 2019, Marques voted for S.B. 43: “Relating to Autauga County; authorizing the levy of a lodging tax and providing for the distribution of the proceeds from the tax.” [Alabama State Legislature, [S.B. 43](#), Roll Call 648, [5/4/19](#)]

21: April 2019: Marques Voted For A Lodging Tax In Coffee County

April 2019: Marques Voted For H.B. 382, Establishing A Lodging Tax In Coffee County. In April 2019, Marques voted for H.B. 382: “Relating to Coffee County; to authorize the Coffee County Commission to levy a lodging tax; and to provide for the collection of the tax and the distribution of the proceeds from the tax.” The motion failed to pass the House by a vote of 21-0 with 73 abstentions. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 382](#), Roll Call 270, [4/18/19](#)]

22: April 2019: Marques Voted To Tax Tobacco Products In Mobile County

April 2019: Marques Voted For H.B. 104, Establishing A Tax On Tobacco Products In Mobile County. In April 2019, Marques voted for H.B. 104: “Relating to Mobile County; to provide for the local collection and enforcement of all county privilege, license, or excise taxes on the sale, distribution, storage, use, or other consumption of tobacco products in the county.” The motion failed to pass the House by a vote of 29-0 with 68 abstentions. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B.104](#), Roll Call 241, [4/18/19](#)]

23: 2019: Marques Voted To Enact A \$5 Fee For All Transactions In Houston County Involving The Probate Court, Recording, Licenses, And Tags

April 2019: Marques Voted For H.B. 331, “Houston County, County Commission, Authorized To Levy Probate Transaction Fee, Distribution.” In April 2019, Marques voted for H.B. 331, “Houston county, county commission, authorized to levy probate transaction fee, distribution.” The motion failed by a vote of 22-0-75. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 331](#), [4/9/19](#)]

- **H.B. 331 Authorized The Houston County Probate Judge To Collect A Probate Transaction Fee Of \$5 On Transactions That Involved The Probate Court, Recording, Licenses, Or Tags.** “Section 1. (a)(1) The Judge of Probate of Houston County shall collect a probate transaction fee in the amount of five dollars (\$5) for each probate transaction that involves probate court, recording, licenses, or tags.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 331, [4/3/19](#)]
- **Proceeds From H.B. 331 Would Be Distributed To The Probate Judge Office, Sheriff's Office, And County General Fund.** “(b) The probate transaction fees collected shall be distributed as follows: (1) One dollar (\$1) of each five dollar (\$5) fee shall be paid into a special fund to be used for the operation of the office of the judge of probate. (2) One dollar (\$1) of each five dollar (\$5) fee shall be paid into a special fund to be used for the operation of the office of the sheriff. (3) The remainder of the proceeds from the fees shall be deposited into the county general fund.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 331, [4/3/19](#)]

24: 2019: Marques Voted For A 10 Cent Gas Tax Increase, And Said, “You Know, It Wasn’t Easy. Nobody Likes To Raise Taxes”

March 2019: Marques Voted To Increase Alabama’s Gas And Diesel Tax By A Total 10 Cents Per Gallon Over Three Years

March 2019: Marques Voted For H.B. 2, “Motor Vehicles And Motor Fuels, Rebuild Alabama Act, Additional Tax On Gasoline And Diesel Fuel Of Ten Cents In Increments, Additional Licensing Tax On Electric And Hybrid Electric Automobiles, Distribution Of Proceeds.” In March 2019, Marques voted for H.B. 2, “Motor vehicles and motor fuels, rebuild Alabama act, additional tax on gasoline and diesel fuel of ten cents in increments, additional licensing tax on electric and hybrid electric automobiles, distribution of proceeds.” The motion passed by a vote of 83-20-0. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 2](#), Roll Call 18, [3/8/19](#)]

- **H.B. 2 Increased Alabama’s Gas And Diesel Tax By A Total 10 Cents Per Gallon Over Three Years.** “Section 6. (a) Effective for tax periods beginning after August 31, 2019, an additional excise tax of six cents (\$0.06) is imposed on each net gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel. (b) Effective October 1, 2020, this additional excise tax is increased by two cents (\$.02) to eight cents (\$0.08) on each net gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel. (c) Effective October 1, 2021, this additional excise tax is increased by two cents (\$.02) to ten cents (\$0.10) on each net gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 2, [3/6/19](#)]
- **2019: Alabama’s State Gas Tax Was 18 Cents Per Gallon And 19 Cents Per Gallon For Diesel.** “Alabama’s infrastructure is in need of repair. To cover the cost, Gov. Kay Ivey has proposed a 10-cent-a-gallon gas tax. Here’s what you need to know: First, what is the current state tax on gasoline? Alabama’s current state gas tax is 18 cents per gallon. It increases to 19 cents per gallon for diesel fuel. What other gas taxes do we currently pay? There’s a federal excise tax of 18.4 cents per gallon of gasoline and 24.4 cents per gallon on diesel. Cities and counties in Alabama can also levy a gas tax, ranging from the most common – 1 cent – up to 6 cents in places like Flomaton and Chickasaw.” [AL.com, [2/28/19](#)]
- **2019: Alabama’s 18 Cents Per Gallon Gas Tax Had Not Changed Since 1992.** “When was the last time Alabama’s gas tax was increased? Alabama’s 18 cents-per-gallon tax hasn’t changed since 1992.” [AL.com, [2/28/19](#)]
- **2019: Governor Ivey Said Proceeds From The 10 Cent Gas Tax Increase Would Be “Used For**

Transportation Infrastructure Improvement, Preservation And Maintenance Projects.” “How will the money be spent? According to Ivey, revenue from the tax would be ‘used for transportation infrastructure improvement, preservation and maintenance projects.’ In making her case for the tax increase, Ivey cited a report by the University of Alabama’s Alabama Transportation Institute and Alabama Transportation Policy Research Center that found cars and trucks are putting approximately 69 billion miles on Alabama’s roadways annually, a 17 percent increase over the past 15 years. ‘With more travelers on the road, areas of congestion and public safety are a major concern. One-third of all traffic fatalities are estimated to be a direct result of a deficient roadway feature, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers,’ the governor’s office said in a press release.” [AL.com, [2/28/19](#)]

25: 2014: Marques Voted To Increase Enterprise’s City Sales Tax From 8.5% To 9%

2014: As An Enterprise City Councilmember, Marques Voted For A Half-Cent Sales Tax Increase For Enterprise, Increasing The City’s Sales Tax From 8.5% To 9%. “The half-cent sales tax increase for the City of Enterprise was unanimously approved Tuesday night and actually was met with little resistance from the public as only two residents chose to address the city council before the matter went to a vote. The increase moves Enterprise from 8.5 percent to 9 percent and will go into effect on Sept. 1. Enterprise’s last change in sales tax was six years ago when the city moved from 8 to 8.5. The tax is actually a derivative of three taxes - 4.0 from the state, 4.0 from the city and 1.0 from the county. The increase only matches that of neighboring Dothan and Troy and is still below Montgomery’s 10.0 percent. The increase was necessary, said city officials, to help the Enterprise City Schools meet its \$26.6 million in capital plans. The school will pay \$10 million and the city will forgive a 12-year annual payment of \$550,000 to the city as agreed upon from a previous bond issue. The sales tax will help raise the \$16.5 million still needed to meet the capital plans. [...] Councilman Al Miller said that the council had indeed performed its due diligence, noting the multiple occasions the public had to voice their concerns previously at city council and school board meetings as well as the public hearing. ‘We wouldn’t be wanting a half-cent increase if it wasn’t necessary,’ Miller said. ‘Nobody wants it, but it’s something we’ve got to do. ‘This administration supports the children of the schools, it supports Fort Rucker. This is not unwarranted.’ Miller made the motion to adopt the sales tax increase. Councilman Bill Cooper made a second to the motion. Rhett Marques, Tommy Johnson, Jr., and Council President Kirk Donaldson joined them in making the vote unanimous.” [Enterprise Ledger, [7/17/14](#)]

- **2014: Enterprise Ledger: “The Half-Cent Sales Tax Increase For The City Of Enterprise Was Unanimously Approved Tuesday Night.”** “The half-cent sales tax increase for the City of Enterprise was unanimously approved Tuesday night and actually was met with little resistance from the public as only two residents chose to address the city council before the matter went to a vote. The increase moves Enterprise from 8.5 percent to 9 percent and will go into effect on Sept. 1. Enterprise’s last change in sales tax was six years ago when the city moved from 8 to 8.5. The tax is actually a derivative of three taxes - 4.0 from the state, 4.0 from the city and 1.0 from the county. The increase only matches that of neighboring Dothan and Troy and is still below Montgomery’s 10.0 percent. The increase was necessary, said city officials, to help the Enterprise City Schools meet its \$26.6 million in capital plans. The school will pay \$10 million and the city will forgive a 12-year annual payment of \$550,000 to the city as agreed upon from a previous bond issue. The sales tax will help raise the \$16.5 million still needed to meet the capital plans.” [Enterprise Ledger, [7/17/14](#)]

Raise Healthcare Costs,

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill, Applauded Its Passage, And Said He Was “Proud” Of The Legislation

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill And Said He Was “Proud” Of The Legislation.

According to Rhett Marques at a candidate forum, “MARQUES: People are hurting right now. The country is, spent four years under the Biden administration with inflation rates going into historic highs. And that is, I am very proud to say that President Trump, with the Working Family Tax Cut, put more money in people's pocket with tax cuts on overtime, tips, and other tax cuts.” [District 1 Candidate Forum, [4/1/26](#)] (VIDEO)

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill And Applauded The President For Its Passage.

According to Rhett Marques on Alabama AgCast, “MARQUES: Our food supply is national security. And we have got to protect our farmers. And becoming energy dominant will help drive down fuel prices. But also with the fertilizer costs right now that are out of control. There in Muscle Shoals is one of the largest facilities for fertilizer and we're looking to expand that here in Alabama to put hopefully more facilities in, to where we can produce more fertilizer. And that will help drive down costs because it will be more local and we're not buying foreign etc. So I'm excited about this opportunity. And I applaud the president and the working family tax cut for putting in there the billions to go back to the farmers, but also extending the death tax, which I don't really believe in the death tax anyway, I've never understood, I think is a double tax.” [Alabama AgCast, [8/4/26](#)] (AUDIO)

Marques Said Trump Had Done A “Great Job” Passing The One Big Beautiful Bill. According to Rhett Marques on Rightside Media, “Marques: Well, it all comes down to putting more money in the pockets of the people of the state of Alabama. President Trump did a great job passing America's first, excuse me the working families tax cut, the largest tax cut in American history. We did the same thing in Alabama as a state representative. We cut taxes by 1.5 million billion, rather not million, but billion dollars. And we had Alabama's largest tax cut with cutting your grocery tax in half. And so, you know, right now prices are high because of the Obama administration. Inflation was out of control for 40 year highs on inflation. And we are still trying to work down the prices. And, you know, you look at what Wal-Mart did the other day by cutting their retail costs by 15% across the board, it's starting to happen. But it's going to take time. The Biden administration, the four years under the Biden administration, put us well behind. And it's going to take some time to get it fixed. But President Trump is doing that, and I'm proud to go help him continue that and make sure that we continue working for the farmers in our district, our military and our veterans. And so I'm excited. The second congressional district is a great, great place. We have a lot to offer.” [Rightside Media, [8/7/26](#)] (VIDEO)

The Federal Spending Plan Made Health Care More Expensive For Seniors And Older Americans

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Force Nearly \$500 Billion In Medicare Cuts Over The Next Ten Years

The Big Beautiful Bill Would Require Automatic Sequestration Cuts That Would Cause \$490 Billion In Cuts To Medicare Over The Next Ten Years. “Because of a statutory requirement to automatically impose budget cuts when legislation increases the deficit, the Big Beautiful Bill would require automatic sequestration cuts across the board, something that has been confirmed by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) but has been largely absent from the debate over the bill. Medicare is one of the programs that will face the axe, and the damage sums to \$490 billion over the next ten years, starting in the next fiscal year that begins in October. While many of the safety-net cuts in the bill are

delayed to help Republicans with their re-election campaigns, the Medicare cuts must begin next year.” [The American Prospect, [7/3/25](#)]

The Republican Reconciliation Bill Could Force Nearly \$500 Billion In Medicare Cuts. “President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans’ mammoth tax and immigration bill would add so much to the national debt that it could force nearly \$500 billion in cuts to Medicare beginning in 2026, Congress’s nonpartisan bookkeeper reported late Tuesday.” [Washington Post, [5/21/25](#)]

- **Washington Post Headline: “Trump And GOP’s Tax Bill Would Force Cuts To Medicare, CBO Says.”** [Washington Post, [5/21/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made Health Care More Expensive For Seniors On Medicare

Center For American Progress Headline: “House Republicans’ Big, ‘Beautiful’ Bill Would Make Health Care More Expensive For Americans With Medicare And Other Insurance.” [Center for American Progress, [6/12/25](#)]

- **Costs Would Increase For Americans With Medicaid, Medicare, ACA Marketplace Plans, And Job-Based Insurance.** “The House Republican-passed tax and budget reconciliation bill would increase health care costs for many Americans with Medicaid, Medicare, ACA marketplace plans, and job-based insurance. Individuals and families could face steep increases in premiums, deductibles, and other out-of-pocket expenses, amounting to thousands of dollars per year.” [Center for American Progress, [6/12/25](#)]

CBPP: The Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Terminate Cost-Sharing Assistance For 1.4 Million Seniors Dually Eligible For Medicaid And Medicare Resulting In Higher Out-Of-Pocket Costs. “The House Republicans’ bill includes provisions that will add burdens for seniors, contributing to coverage losses and higher costs. One such provision would block implementation of a rule designed to make it easier for low-income seniors and people with disabilities who receive Medicare to access Medicare Savings Programs, a part of state Medicaid programs that help pay people’s Medicare premiums and cost-sharing charges. According to data from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), roughly 1.4 million people who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare would no longer receive this cost-sharing assistance and would therefore face increased out-of-pocket costs under the bill.” [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made Health Care More Expensive For Older Americans On ACA Marketplace Plans

Center For American Progress Headline: “Older Adults With ACA Coverage Would Face Steep Premium Hikes Under House Republicans’ One Big Beautiful Bill Act.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

- **The House Republican Proposal Would Effectively Price Many Aging Americans Out Of Their Affordable Coverage That They Have Relied On.** “These sharp cost increases represent a real threat to older adults’ ability to access health care. If enacted, the House Republican proposal would effectively price many aging Americans out of the affordable coverage they rely on until they become eligible for Medicare.” [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

The Republican Reconciliation Bill Would Increase The Costs For Older Adults In The ACA Marketplace. “Another element of House Republicans’ health agenda targets the ACA marketplaces,

which provide coverage and financial assistance to more than 20 million people, including many older people not yet eligible for Medicare. The legislation not only fails to extend the expiring enhanced premium tax credits for marketplace coverage, which will lead to skyrocketing premiums, but it also makes changes that will further increase people's costs, such as changing how maximum out-of-pocket limits are adjusted." [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

Older Adults Would Face, On Average, At Least A \$1,200 Increase In Annual Premiums To Keep Their Current ACA Marketplace Plan. "Last month, House Republicans passed a tax and budget reconciliation bill that, if enacted, would raise health insurance premiums for millions of Americans who purchase coverage through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces. A new Center for American Progress analysis makes clear that older adults would be hit especially hard—facing, on average, at least \$1,200 more in annual premiums to keep their current ACA marketplace plan. In multiple states, premium hikes for adults 55 years old and older would exceed an average of \$10,000—including a staggering \$15,200 average increase in West Virginia and a \$16,700 average increase in Alaska." [Center for American Progress, [6/26/25](#)]

CBPP: The Big Beautiful Bill Would Leave Older Adults With Higher Costs And Less Health Care. "The House Republicans' budget reconciliation legislation would reduce assistance that helps seniors and older adults get needed health coverage and afford sufficient food. The so-called 'Big Beautiful Bill' is anything but beautiful; it would cause widespread harm by making massive cuts to Medicaid and SNAP, which would raise costs and make it much harder for people to afford the high cost of groceries and health care. More than 7 million seniors with low incomes receive health coverage and care through Medicaid, with over 3 in 5 nursing home residents having their care paid for by Medicaid. Medicaid also covers other long-term services and supports, including home-based services, and helps cover premiums, deductibles, and cost sharing for some Medicare beneficiaries. By cutting Medicaid and Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces by about \$1 trillion, the largest cuts in the programs' history, the House Republican bill would lead states to make large cuts in eligibility or benefits that could leave many older adults with higher costs and less health care." [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

- **Center On Budget And Policy Priorities Headline: "2025 Budget Impacts: House Bill Would Cut Assistance And Raise Costs For Seniors."** [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/6/25](#)]

And Increase Prices On Everyday Items Like Groceries, Gas, And Farm Supplies For Alabamians.

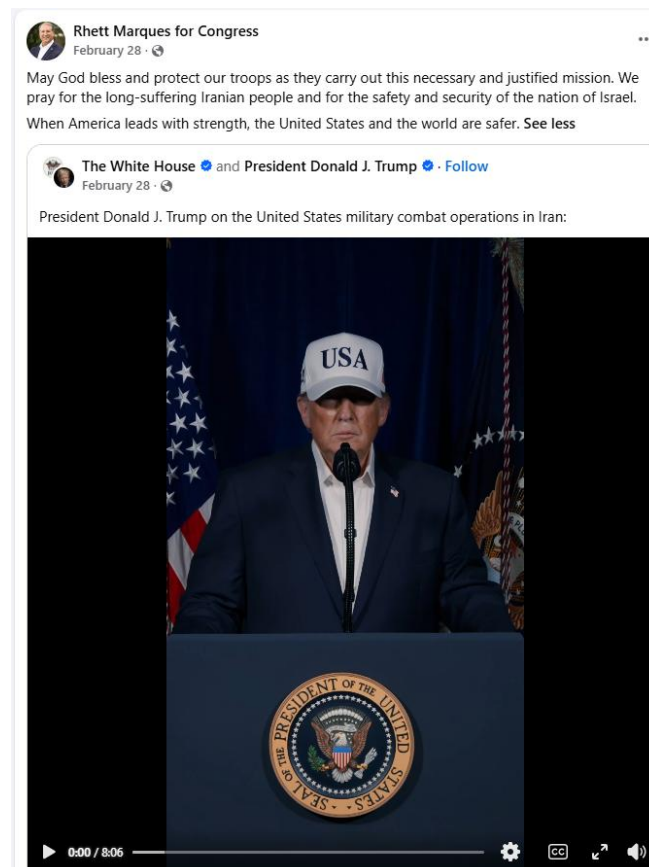
2026: Marques Supported The Iran War, Which Raised Prices For Gas And Groceries

2026: Marques Applauded Trump For "Taking The Initiative" In The Iran War And Said U.S. Military Operations In Iran Were A "Necessary And Justified Mission"

April VIDEO: April 2026: Marques Said Of The Iran War, "I Applaud President Trump For Taking The Initiative [...] And Getting It Taken Care Of." "You know there is a clear path that President Trump has put us on, and that is to remove a evil regime that has been a disruptive force in that in the Middle East for 47 years, calling death to America, death to Israel, and we cannot allow them under any circumstance to have a nuclear weapon, much less ballistic missiles. We didn't even know they had ballistic missiles until they fired one 2,500 miles into the Indian Ocean at our base. So, we need to make sure that we remove this regime. It is on a path that it will be quickly, and I agree that I think it will be quickly come to fruition here shortly. But we cannot have a regime that allows giving money to Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Houthis and causing us and our allies damage. We have got to remove them, and we got to do it now. And it has taken eight presidents to do it. And I applaud President Trump for

taking the initiative and putting this to to to focus and getting it taken care of. Now, I think we all should be praying right now for the military men and women who are in harm's way, I think that is important. I think we need to make sure that we pray for them each day. That we, I pray that none, no more get hurt. But we have got to remove this evil regime. We've got to make sure that they do not have a nuclear missile.” [WSFA 12 News via YouTube, 1:11:19, [4/16/26](#)] (VIDEO)

February 2026: Marques Called U.S. Military Operations In Iran A “Necessary And Justified Mission.” “May God bless and protect our troops as they carry out this necessary and justified mission. We pray for the long-suffering Iranian people and for the safety and security of the nation of Israel. When America leads with strength, the United States and the world are safer.” [Rhett Marques for Congress, Facebook, [2/28/26](#)]

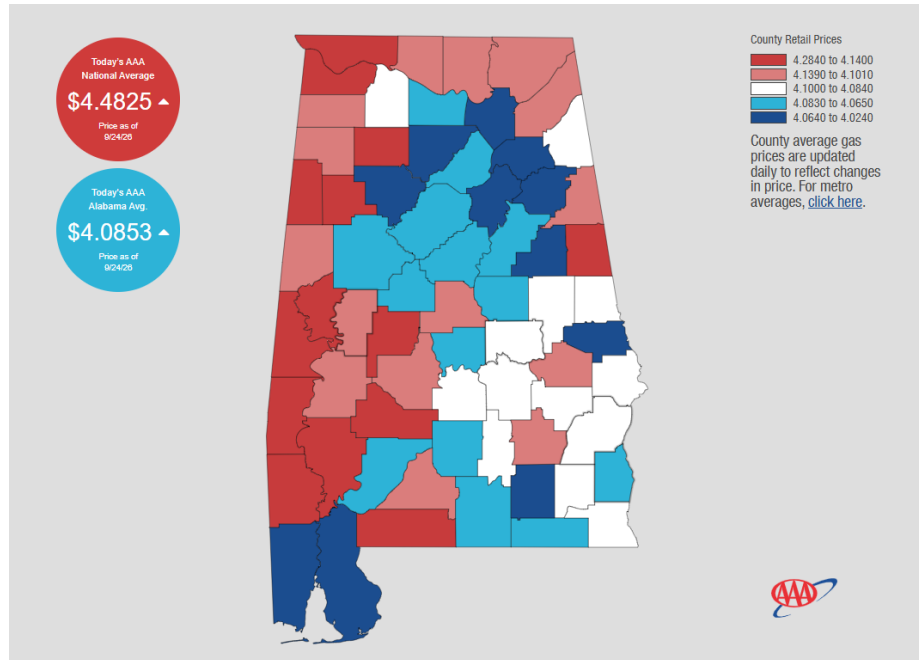


[Rhett Marques for Congress, Facebook, [2/28/26](#)]

The Iran War Raised Gas Prices On American Consumers And Caused “Out Of Control” Inflation, Pushing Average Gas Prices In Alabama To More Than \$4 A Gallon In September 2026 And Raising The Prices Of Goods Like Groceries

September 2026: AAA Average: Average Gas Price In Alabama Reached More Than \$4 A Gallon In Alabama

September 24, 2026: AAA Average: Average Gas Price In Alabama Rose To \$4.08 A Gallon. [AAA Fuel Prices, Alabama, accessed [9/24/26](#)]



[AAA Fuel Prices, Alabama, accessed [9/24/26](#)]

- **September 24, 2026: AAA Average: Average Gas Price In Montgomery Metro Area Rose To \$4.09 A Gallon For Regular And \$6.12 For Diesel.** [AAA Fuel Prices, Alabama, accessed [9/24/26](#)]

Montgomery				
	Regular	Mid	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$4.0922	\$4.5519	\$5.0157	\$6.1234

[AAA Fuel Prices, Alabama, accessed [9/24/26](#)]

- **July 2026: 1819 News Headline: “Alabama Gas Prices Increase Again As Iran Conflict Continues.”** [1819 News, [7/15/26](#)]

July 2026: President Of The Petroleum And Convenience Marketers Of Alabama Acknowledged The Iran War Rose Gas Prices Saying, “Unfortunately, Any Time There’s A Little Blip In What’s Going On Over In The Middle East That’s Going To Have An Impact On The Retail Prices On The Street”

July 2026: President Of The Petroleum And Convenience Marketers Of Alabama Said Of Rising Gas Prices, “Unfortunately, Any Time There’s A Little Blip In What’s Going On Over In The Middle East That’s Going To Have An Impact On The Retail Prices On The Street.” “Alabama drivers are starting to see price increases at the pump again as tensions between the United States and Iran intensify. According to AAA, the average price of unleaded gasoline was \$3.54 per gallon in Alabama on Wednesday. The average price of unleaded in Alabama was \$3.46 one week ago, according to AAA. One month ago, the average price was \$3.68. The average price was \$2.77 one year ago. ‘We’ve seen an increase at the wholesale level following the renewal of fighting over in the Middle East. Oil markets are worldwide and very volatile and very sensitive to things like that,’ Bart Fletcher, president of the Petroleum and Convenience Marketers of Alabama, told 1819 News recently. ‘Unfortunately, any time

there's a little blip in what's going on over in the Middle East that's going to have an impact on the retail prices on the street. We hope that it kind of smooths out again but at this point it has ticked up just a little bit.' The average price of diesel in Alabama was \$4.66 per gallon, up from \$4.49 a month ago. The national average of unleaded gasoline on Wednesday was \$3.89." [1819 News, [7/15/26](#)]

July 2026: President Of The Petroleum And Convenience Marketers Of Alabama Said Of Rising Gas Prices, "We've Seen An Increase At The Wholesale Level Following The Renewal Of Fighting Over In The Middle East. Oil Markets Are Worldwide And Very Volatile And Very Sensitive To Things Like That." "Alabama drivers are starting to see price increases at the pump again as tensions between the United States and Iran intensify. According to AAA, the average price of unleaded gasoline was \$3.54 per gallon in Alabama on Wednesday. The average price of unleaded in Alabama was \$3.46 one week ago, according to AAA. One month ago, the average price was \$3.68. The average price was \$2.77 one year ago. 'We've seen an increase at the wholesale level following the renewal of fighting over in the Middle East. Oil markets are worldwide and very volatile and very sensitive to things like that,' Bart Fletcher, president of the Petroleum and Convenience Marketers of Alabama, told 1819 News recently. 'Unfortunately, any time there's a little blip in what's going on over in the Middle East that's going to have an impact on the retail prices on the street. We hope that it kind of smooths out again but at this point it has ticked up just a little bit.' The average price of diesel in Alabama was \$4.66 per gallon, up from \$4.49 a month ago. The national average of unleaded gasoline on Wednesday was \$3.89." [1819 News, [7/15/26](#)]

April 2026: "Out Of Control" Inflation Climbed Faster Than Any Point Since May 2023, With The Iran War Spiking Prices For Food And Fuel

Politico Headline: "Out Of Control": Inflation Surges To Highest Point In 3 Years, Driven By Energy." [Politico, [5/12/26](#)]

April 2026: Inflation Climbed Faster Than Any Point Since May 2023, With The Iran War Spiking Prices For Food And Fuel. "Inflation climbed faster than at any point in the last three years in April as fuel and food prices surged due to the war in Iran. The Labor Department on Tuesday reported that the consumer price index increased at an annual rate of 3.8 percent — the highest since May 2023 — with rising energy costs accounting for more than 40 percent of the spike. Food prices at grocery stores and restaurants also rose, and shelter prices shot up. Core inflation, which excludes food and energy costs, ticked higher at a rate of 2.8 percent." [Politico, [5/12/26](#)]

- **Politico: "Core Inflation, Which Excludes Food And Energy Costs, Ticked Higher At A Rate Of 2.8 Percent."** "Inflation climbed faster than at any point in the last three years in April as fuel and food prices surged due to the war in Iran. The Labor Department on Tuesday reported that the consumer price index increased at an annual rate of 3.8 percent — the highest since May 2023 — with rising energy costs accounting for more than 40 percent of the spike. Food prices at grocery stores and restaurants also rose, and shelter prices shot up. Core inflation, which excludes food and energy costs, ticked higher at a rate of 2.8 percent." [Politico, [5/12/26](#)]

Marques Praised Trump's Agenda Including His Trade Policy, Which Included Broad Tariffs Which Raised Prices On Farm Equipment For Americans

Marques Praised Trump's Agenda Including His Trade Policy

Marques Praised Trump For Having "Shrunk Our Trade Deficit." "One year ago, the Golden Age of America began. President Trump has secured our border, passed historic tax cuts, ended multiple wars,

shrunk our trade deficit, lowered gas prices, and put Americans first. America is winning again. The best is yet to come.” [Rhett Marques for Alabama, Twitter, [1/20/26](#)]



Rhett Marques for Alabama
@RhettforAlabama



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America is winning again. The best is yet to come.

9:59 AM · Jan 20, 2026 · 67 Views

[Rhett Marques for Alabama, Twitter, [1/20/26](#)]

Marques’s Website: “Alongside President Trump, I Will Fight To Onshore Critical Supply Chains, Drive Up Real Wages For Alabama Families, And Usher In A New Era Of Made In America Excellence.” “For too long, Washington politicians have drowned businesses in overly burdensome regulations. As a small business owner, I understand what it means to sign both sides of a paycheck. Just like I’ve done in the Alabama Legislature, I will slash job-strangling red tape as your Congressman so Alabama Main Streets and the hardworking families that fuel them can thrive. Alongside President Trump, I will fight to onshore critical supply chains, drive up real wages for Alabama families, and usher in a new era of Made in America excellence.” [Rhett For Alabama, accessed [9/24/26](#)]

Marques’ Campaign Website: Marques Said He Would Work Alongside Trump In “Restoring Balance And Giving U.S. Producers The Opportunities They’ve Earned.” ““STRENGTHENING RURAL AMERICA Alabama’s First Congressional District represents the agricultural strength of our state and the coastal communities along the Gulf Coast that export American goods around the world. President Trump means business when it comes to restoring balance and giving U.S. producers the opportunities they’ve earned. I’ll work to keep delivering the fair markets and strong leadership our producers depend on, and invest in broadband and infrastructure to support healthcare, education, and economic opportunity in rural America.” [Rhett For Alabama, accessed [9/24/26](#)]

New York Times: Trump’s Signature Trade Policy Has Been The Application Of Tariffs At A Level “Not Seen In A Century”

New York Times: Trump’s Signature Trade Policy Has Been The Application Of Tariffs At A Level “Not Seen In A Century.” “Over the past year, President Trump carried out what was essentially a grand experiment with the U.S. economy, by raising tariffs to levels not seen in a century. It was an exercise that pitted Mr. Trump, a longtime proponent of tariffs, against business owners who paid the levies and mainstream economists who criticized the plan. America imports trillions of dollars of foreign goods each year, and tariffs are a tax on those purchases. Over the past year, Mr. Trump raised average U.S. tariffs to about 17 percent, the highest level since 1932, in the wake of the 1930 Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act. Mr. Trump’s stated aim was to reinvigorate American industry and bring jobs back to the United States. These new surcharges have had a significant impact. They have caused businesses to speed up, delay and cancel purchases, or find new countries to source products from. [...] One of the most tangible effects of Mr. Trump’s trade policy has been a drastic increase in the revenue the government takes in from tariffs. The United States collected an estimated \$287 billion in customs duties, taxes and fees last year, nearly triple the amount in 2024.” [New York Times, [2/2/26](#)]

U.S. Tariffs On Canada Raised Prices On Farm Equipment For Americans

Farm Progress Headline: “U.S.-Canada Trade Collapse Means Higher Equipment Costs For American Farmers” [Farm Progress, [8/31/26](#)]

Canada Issued Retaliatory Tariffs On U.S. Farm Machinery Components And Agricultural Equipment. “Trade tensions with Canada have boiled over, and farm machinery is getting scalded once again. Negotiations between Washington and Ottawa broke down Aug. 21 before U.S. duties took effect the following day, in part due to last-minute structural demands by U.S. representatives, including restrictions on French language usage and carte blanche veto power to negate Canadian trade agreements with other countries. ‘While we believed, earlier this week, that we were moving toward a mutually beneficial agreement, in recent days, the U.S. proposed new terms that were uneconomic, unfair, and undermined the net benefits to Canada, calling into question the reliability of any deal. In short, they asked too much and offered too little,’ said Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney in a statement. Following the collapse, Canada leveled a roughly \$20 billion retaliatory tariff on strategic American sectors effective Sept. 8, including targeted U.S. farm machinery components and agricultural equipment.” [Farm Progress, [8/31/26](#)]

Rhett Marques Message #1 Backup

Rhett Marques voted to raise taxes 22 times, including raising taxes on diesel and gas by 67%, car registration fees, and sales taxes. But Marques supported a federal law that cut taxes for billionaires, all while supporting cost-raising tariffs and the war in Iran that are increasing the cost of groceries, gas, and farm supplies.

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See backup above.

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March 2019: Marques Voted For H.B. 2, “Motor Vehicles And Motor Fuels, Rebuild Alabama Act, Additional Tax On Gasoline And Diesel Fuel Of Ten Cents In Increments, Additional Licensing Tax On Electric And Hybrid Electric Automobiles, Distribution Of Proceeds.” In March 2019, Marques voted for H.B. 2, “Motor vehicles and motor fuels, rebuild Alabama act, additional tax on gasoline and diesel fuel of ten cents in increments, additional licensing tax on electric and hybrid electric automobiles, distribution of proceeds.” The motion passed by a vote of 83-20-0. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 2](#), Roll Call 18, [3/8/19](#)]

- **H.B. 2 Increased Alabama’s Gas And Diesel Tax By A Total 10 Cents Per Gallon Over Three Years.** “Section 6. (a) Effective for tax periods beginning after August 31, 2019, an additional excise tax of six cents (\$0.06) is imposed on each net gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel. (b) Effective October 1, 2020, this additional excise tax is increased by two cents (\$.02) to eight cents (\$0.08) on each net gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel. (c) Effective October 1, 2021, this additional excise tax is increased by two cents (\$.02) to ten cents (\$0.10) on each net gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel.” [Alabama State Legislature, H.B. 2, [3/6/19](#)]
- **2019: Alabama’s State Gas Tax Was 18 Cents Per Gallon And 19 Cents Per Gallon For Diesel.** “Alabama’s infrastructure is in need of repair. To cover the cost, Gov. Kay Ivey has proposed a 10-cent-a-gallon gas tax. Here’s what you need to know: First, what is the current state tax on gasoline? Alabama’s current state gas tax is 18 cents per gallon. It increases to 19 cents per gallon for diesel fuel. What other gas taxes do we currently pay? There’s a federal excise tax of 18.4 cents per gallon of gasoline and 24.4 cents per gallon on diesel. Cities and counties in Alabama can also levy a gas tax, ranging from the most common – 1 cent – up to 6 cents in places like Flomaton and Chickasaw.” [AL.com, [2/28/19](#)]
- **2019: Alabama’s 18 Cents Per Gallon Gas Tax Had Not Changed Since 1992.** “When was the last time Alabama’s gas tax was increased? Alabama’s 18 cents-per-gallon tax hasn’t changed since 1992.” [AL.com, [2/28/19](#)]

Marques’ Vote Raised The Alabama Gas Tax By 67%

AL Politics.com Headline: “Harris Hits Marques Over 67% Rise In Alabama Gas Tax” [AL Politics.com, [8/7/26](#)]

AL Politics.Com: “State Records Support The Basic Math Behind Harris’ Claim” That Marques Voted To Raise Alabama’s Gas Tax By 67%. “Hampton Harris says Rhett Marques challenged his campaign's math, but State records show Alabama's gas tax has climbed from 18 to 30 cents Republican congressional candidate Hampton Harris is defending a campaign mailer attacking State Representative Rhett Marques (R-Enterprise) over Alabama's gas tax, saying State records back his claim that the tax has risen 67% since Marques voted for the Rebuild Alabama Act in 2019. The dispute comes just days before Tuesday's Republican special primary for Alabama's 2nd Congressional District, where Harris and Marques are among six GOP candidates seeking the nomination. There will be no runoff, meaning the candidate with the most votes on Aug. 11 will win the Republican nomination. [...]’He told me the 67% figure was wrong and that my campaign was lying. ‘I told him I'd double-check it. So I did. ‘Alabama's gas tax was 18 cents a gallon before that vote. Today it's 30 cents. That's 12 cents more. ‘12/18 = 67%. ‘A percentage increase is measured against where something started. ‘Simple math.’ State records support the basic math behind Harris' claim.” [AL Politics.com, [8/7/26](#)]

Car Registration Fees, And Sales Taxes.

April 2024: Marques Sponsored And Voted For A Bill To Increase Motor Vehicle License Tag Fees By \$8 In Coffee County

April 2024: Marques Sponsored H.B. 416, “Coffee County, Motor Vehicle License Tags, Additional \$8 Fee, Distributed To Sheriff And District Attorney.” In April 2024, Marques sponsored “Coffee County, motor vehicle license tags, additional \$8 fee, distributed to sheriff and district attorney.” [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 416](#), [4/4/24](#)]

April 2024: Marques Voted For H.B. 416, “Coffee County, Motor Vehicle License Tags, Additional \$8 Fee, Distributed To Sheriff And District Attorney.” In April 2024, Marques voted for: “Coffee County, motor vehicle license tags, additional \$8 fee, distributed to sheriff and district attorney.” The motion passed by a vote of 15-0-83. [Alabama State Legislature, [H.B. 416](#), Roll Call 510, [4/11/24](#)]

- **2024: H.B. 416 Increased Motor Vehicle License Tag Fees In Coffee County By \$8.** “An \$8 tag fee increase in Coffee County to benefit law enforcement is being considered by the Alabama legislature and the Coffee County Commission Monday unanimously agreed to support that bill. House Bill 416, introduced by State Rep. Rhett Marques, will add \$8 to each motor vehicle license tag issued in Coffee County, with the funds generated split between the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and the 12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney's office. [...] Under the bill, the fee will be ‘on each motor vehicle license and registration, transfer, or renewal of any vehicle in the county; and to provide for distribution of the proceeds from the fees to the general fund to be used by the sheriff's office and the office of the district attorney. The fee shall be in addition to all other fees, taxes, and other charges provided by law.’ According to the bill, \$3 of the tag fee increased will be distributed to the district attorney's office and \$5 to the sheriff's office. If passed by the legislature, the fee increase becomes effective Oct. 1 of this year. The Coffee County Commission meets at 9 a.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month in the community room in the government complex in New Brockton. The meetings are open to the public.” [Dothan Eagle, [4/9/24](#)]
- **Under H.B. 416, \$3 Of The Motor Vehicle License Tag Fee Would Be Distributed To The District Attorney’s Office And \$5 Would Be Distributed To The Sheriff’s Office.** “An \$8 tag fee increase in Coffee County to benefit law enforcement is being considered by the Alabama legislature and the Coffee County Commission Monday unanimously agreed to support that bill. House Bill 416, introduced by State Rep. Rhett Marques, will add \$8 to each motor vehicle license tag issued in Coffee County, with the funds generated split between the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and the 12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney's office. [...] Under the bill, the fee will be ‘on each motor vehicle license and registration, transfer, or renewal of any vehicle in the county; and to provide for distribution of the proceeds from the fees to the general fund to be used by the sheriff's office and the office of the district attorney. The fee shall be in addition to all other fees, taxes, and other charges provided by law.’ According to the bill, \$3 of the tag fee increased will be distributed to the district attorney's office and \$5 to the sheriff's office. If passed by the legislature, the fee increase becomes effective Oct. 1 of this year. The Coffee County Commission meets at 9 a.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month in the community room in the government complex in New Brockton. The meetings are open to the public.” [Dothan Eagle, [4/9/24](#)]

2014: Marques Voted To Increase Enterprise’s City Sales Tax From 8.5% To 9%

2014: As An Enterprise City Councilmember, Marques Voted For A Half-Cent Sales Tax Increase For Enterprise, Increasing The City’s Sales Tax From 8.5% To 9%. “The half-cent sales tax increase for the City of Enterprise was unanimously approved Tuesday night and actually was met with little resistance from the public as only two residents chose to address the city council before the matter went to a vote. The increase moves Enterprise from 8.5 percent to 9 percent and will go into effect on Sept. 1. Enterprise's last change in sales tax was six years ago when the city moved from 8 to 8.5. The tax is actually a derivative of three taxes - 4.0 from the state, 4.0 from the city and 1.0 from the county. The increase only matches that of neighboring Dothan and Troy and is still below Montgomery's 10.0 percent. The increase was necessary, said city officials, to help the Enterprise City Schools meet its \$26.6 million in capital plans. The school will pay \$10 million and the city will forgive a 12-year annual payment of \$550,000 to the city as agreed upon from a previous bond issue. The sales tax will help raise the \$16.5

million still needed to meet the capital plans. [...] Councilman Al Miller said that the council had indeed performed its due diligence, noting the multiple occasions the public had to voice their concerns previously at city council and school board meetings as well as the public hearing. ‘We wouldn’t be wanting a half-cent increase if it wasn’t necessary,’ Miller said. ‘Nobody wants it, but it’s something we’ve got to do. ‘This administration supports the children of the schools, it supports Fort Rucker. This is not unwarranted.’ Miller made the motion to adopt the sales tax increase. Councilman Bill Cooper made a second to the motion. Rhett Marques, Tommy Johnson, Jr., and Council President Kirk Donaldson joined them in making the vote unanimous.” [Enterprise Ledger, [7/17/14](#)]

- **2014: Enterprise Ledger: “The Half-Cent Sales Tax Increase For The City Of Enterprise Was Unanimously Approved Tuesday Night.”** “The half-cent sales tax increase for the City of Enterprise was unanimously approved Tuesday night and actually was met with little resistance from the public as only two residents chose to address the city council before the matter went to a vote. The increase moves Enterprise from 8.5 percent to 9 percent and will go into effect on Sept. 1. Enterprise’s last change in sales tax was six years ago when the city moved from 8 to 8.5. The tax is actually a derivative of three taxes - 4.0 from the state, 4.0 from the city and 1.0 from the county. The increase only matches that of neighboring Dothan and Troy and is still below Montgomery’s 10.0 percent. The increase was necessary, said city officials, to help the Enterprise City Schools meet its \$26.6 million in capital plans. The school will pay \$10 million and the city will forgive a 12-year annual payment of \$550,000 to the city as agreed upon from a previous bond issue. The sales tax will help raise the \$16.5 million still needed to meet the capital plans.” [Enterprise Ledger, [7/17/14](#)]

But Marques Supported A Federal Law That Cut Taxes For Billionaires,

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill, Applauded Its Passage, And Said He Was “Proud” Of It

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill And Said He Was “Proud” Of It. According to Rhett Marques at a candidate forum, “MARQUES: People are hurting right now. The country is, spent four years under the Biden administration with inflation rates going into historic highs. And that is, I am very proud to say that President Trump, with the Working Family Tax Cut, put more money in people’s pocket with tax cuts on overtime, tips, and other tax cuts.” [District 1 Candidate Forum, [4/1/26](#)] (VIDEO)

Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill And Applauded The President For Its Passage. According to Rhett Marques on Alabama AgCast, “MARQUES: Our food supply is national security. And we have got to protect our farmers. And becoming energy dominant will help drive down fuel prices. But also with the fertilizer costs right now that are out of control. There in Muscle Shoals is one of the largest facilities for fertilizer and we’re looking to expand that here in Alabama to put hopefully more facilities in, to where we can produce more fertilizer. And that will help drive down costs because it will be more local and we’re not buying foreign etc. So I’m excited about this opportunity. And I applaud the president and the working family tax cut for putting in there the billions to go back to the farmers, but also extending the death tax, which I don’t really believe in the death tax anyway, I’ve never understood, I think is a double tax.” [Alabama AgCast, [8/4/26](#)] (AUDIO)

Marques Said Trump Had Done A “Great Job” Passing The One Big Beautiful Bill. According to Rhett Marques on Rightside Media, “Marques: Well, it all comes down to putting more money in the pockets of the people of the state of Alabama. President Trump did a great job passing America’s first, excuse me the working families tax cut, the largest tax cut in American history. We did the same thing in Alabama as a state representative. We cut taxes by 1.5 million billion, rather not million, but billion dollars. And we had Alabama’s largest tax cut with cutting your grocery tax in half. And so, you know,

right now prices are high because of the Obama administration. Inflation was out of control for 40 year highs on inflation. And we are still trying to work down the prices. And, you know, you look at what Wal-Mart did the other day by cutting their retail costs by 15% across the board, it's starting to happen. But it's going to take time. The Biden administration, the four years under the Biden administration, put us well behind. And it's going to take some time to get it fixed. But President Trump is doing that, and I'm proud to go help him continue that and make sure that we continue working for the farmers in our district, our military and our veterans. And so I'm excited. The second congressional district is a great, great place. We have a lot to offer." [Rightside Media, [8/7/26](#)] (VIDEO)

One Big Beautiful Bill Was A "Massive Tax Break For Billionaires"

BlueGreen Alliance: OBBB Was "A Massive Tax Break For Billionaires." "The House budget bill, if enacted, puts at risk more than two million U.S. jobs from the provisions to repeal manufacturing tax credits alone. If the provisions in this bill become law, workers will be the ones to pay the price. It sells them out to foot the bill for a massive tax break for billionaires. Across the country, and in red states especially, this bill would spell the loss of massive job creation and economic stimulus." [BlueGreen Alliance Research Brief, pg. 3, accessed [10/22/25](#)]

The OBBB Extended Trump's 2017 Corporate And Individual Tax Cuts. "The 1,100-page bill would extend corporate and individual tax cuts passed in 2017 during Trump's first term in office, cancel many green-energy incentives passed by Democratic former President Joe Biden and tighten eligibility for health and food programs for the poor. It also would fund Trump's crackdown on immigration, adding tens of thousands of border guards and creating the capacity to deport up to 1 million people each year. Regulations on firearm silencers would be loosened." [Reuters, [5/22/25](#)]

- **2018: S&P 500 Companies Could See \$1.64 Trillion in Tax Cuts Under The Trump's Bill.** "In other words, you can thank tax cuts for nearly half the growth in big-company earnings in the first quarter. For many companies – including a favorite target of Trump's ire, Amazon.com Inc. – the boost was even more substantial, representing all, or nearly all, the quarter's growth. It gets better: At the rate they're going, S&P 500 companies could save \$1.64 trillion in taxes over the next decade, Steve estimates – \$300 billion more than lawmakers expected. Now we're talking real money." [Bloomberg News, [5/25/18](#)]

All While Supporting Cost-Raising Tariffs And The War In Iran That Are Increasing The Cost Of Groceries, Gas, And Farm Supplies.

See backup above.

Rhett Marques Message #2 Backup

Marques supports massive cuts that would make healthcare more expensive and leave thousands of Alabamians without coverage. Marques backed nearly \$1 trillion in cuts that stripped health insurance from almost 100,000 Alabamians, and raised premiums for everyone, even people covered by their employers. Several Alabama hospitals are already at risk of shutting their doors, and thanks to the plan Marques supports families will need to drive even farther for life-saving care.

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Backed up below.

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The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Almost \$1 Trillion From Medicaid While Almost 100,000 Alabamians Lost Their Health Insurance

The One Big Beautiful Bill Made \$1 Trillion In Cuts To Medicaid, The Largest In The Program's History

KFF: The One Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Nearly \$1 Trillion. “On July 4, President Trump signed into law a budget reconciliation package once called the ‘One Big, Beautiful Bill’ that made major reductions in federal health care spending to offset part of the costs of extending expiring tax cuts. The Congressional Budget Office’s (CBO) latest cost estimate shows that the reconciliation package would reduce federal Medicaid spending over a decade by an estimated \$911 billion (after accounting for interactions that produce overlapping reductions across different provisions of the law) and increase the number of uninsured people by 10 million.” [KFF, [7/23/25](#)]

The Hill: Republicans Passed “The Largest Cuts To Medicaid Since The Program Began In The 1960s.” “Senate Republicans on Tuesday passed the largest cuts to Medicaid since the program began in the 1960s, a move that would erode the social safety net and cause a spike in the number of uninsured Americans over the next decade. The tax and spending bill is projected to cost more than \$3 trillion during that time, but it would be partially paid for with about \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid. Almost 12 million lower-income Americans would lose their health insurance by 2034, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

- **The Hill: The Republicans’ Reconciliation Bill Made About \$1 Trillion In Cuts To Medicaid.** “Senate Republicans on Tuesday passed the largest cuts to Medicaid since the program began in the 1960s, a move that would erode the social safety net and cause a spike in the number of uninsured Americans over the next decade. The tax and spending bill is projected to cost more than \$3 trillion during that time, but it would be partially paid for with about \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid. Almost 12 million lower-income Americans would lose their health insurance by 2034, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).” [The Hill, [7/1/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Take Health Insurance Away From More Than 14 Million People, Including More Than 22,000 In AL-02

KFF: “CBO Estimates Show That The Number Of Uninsured People Will Increase By More Than 14 Million In 2034.” [KFF, [8/20/25](#)]

Rolling Stone Headline: “Congress Officially Passes Trump’s Bill To Kick Millions Off Medicaid.” [Rolling Stone, [7/3/25](#)]

September 2025: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Estimated More Than 22,233 People In Alabama’s 2nd Congressional District Would Lose Health Insurance By 2034 Due To Congressional Republicans’ Cuts To Medicaid And The ACA. “According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO)’s most recent analysis, President Trump and Congressional Republicans’ cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would result in 16 million people losing their health insurance by 2034. Using CBO’s analysis released June 4 and other research, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority calculated new estimates of the number of people who would lose health insurance.” [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Press Release, [September 2025](#)]

AL-02: Health Insurance Losses From Cuts To Medicaid And The Affordable Care Act Under The One Big Beautiful Bill		
Est. Number of People Losing Affordable Care Act Coverage	Est. Number of People Losing Medicaid Coverage	Est. Total Number of People Losing Insurance
19,400	2,833	22,233

August 2026: A Year After The One Big Beautiful Bill Passed, Nearly 100,000 Alabamians Had Dropped Their ACA Coverage

The One Big Beautiful Bill Did Not Extend Enhanced Premium Tax Credits For ACA Marketplace Plans. “The OBBBA did not extend enhanced premium tax credits for ACA marketplace plans. As a result, when open enrollment begins on November 1, 2025, 20 million marketplace enrollees will see their premium costs spike.” [Center for American Progress, [7/29/25](#)]

- **The Expiration Of Enhanced Tax Credits Would Lead To Out-Of-Pocket Premiums For ACA Marketplace Enrollees Increasing By An Average Of Over 75%.** “In addition to rising healthcare costs, the majority of insurers are also taking into account the potential expiration of enhanced premium tax credits in their premium rate increases for the next year. The expiration of enhanced tax credits will lead to out-of-pocket premiums for ACA marketplace enrollees increasing by an average of more than 75%, with insurers expecting healthier enrollees to drop coverage. That, in turn, increases underlying premiums. Other federal policy changes, like the implementation of tariffs and the ACA Marketplace Integrity and Affordability rule were also discussed, though to a lesser extent.” [KFF Health System Tracker, [8/6/25](#)]

95,000 Alabamians Dropped Out Of Their Affordable Care Act Coverage After Enhanced Premium Tax Credits Expired. “Affordable Care Act (ACA) enrollment in Alabama dropped by 95,000 — about 23% — after enhanced premium tax credits expired, leaving many uninsured or paying for private insurance.” [AL.com, [8/19/26](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Could Increase Insurance Premiums Even For People With Employer-Provided Insurance

Cuts To Medicaid In The One Big Beautiful Bill Were Expected To Create An Uninsured Population Whose Inability To Pay For Emergency Care Would Be Shifted Onto Everyone Else, Including People With Private Insurance

U.S. News & World Report: One Big Beautiful Bill’s Cuts To Medicaid Will Cause Uninsured People To Avoid Care Until They Need Care In An Emergency, And The Cost Of The Uncompensated Care Will Be Absorbed By Everyone Else, Raising Premiums For Everyone Including Those With Private Insurance. “What many Americans don’t realize about President Donald Trump’s signature ‘One Big Beautiful Bill Act’ is that it will raise the cost of health care not just for poor and working families, but for hospitals, insurance companies and, ultimately, for every American. The new law slashes federal funding for health care by about \$911 billion over the next 10 years by radically cutting access to Medicaid and health insurance under the Affordable Care Act. These are the largest cuts ever to health care in our nation’s history, and the price of these cuts will be passed on to consumers, care providers and insurance plans alike. For the last 60 years, Medicaid has covered low-income Americans at a fraction of the cost of commercial health insurance. The passage of the ACA 15 years ago allowed millions more income-eligible workers to buy subsidized health insurance. Draconian cuts to both under the new law will result in 16 million Americans losing health coverage and losing access to lifesaving care, according to estimates by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. When families lose health coverage, they stop using preventive care and end up in emergency rooms, incurring higher costs that they can’t afford to pay. Hospitals and community clinics are forced to shift the cost of that uncompensated care onto commercial insurers. That added burden will raise insurance premiums for everyone, and the economy suffers.”

AFL-CIO: “Working Families With Employment-Based Coverage May See Their Premiums Increase Significantly” According To Health Insurance Experts. “On May 22, the House of Representatives passed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1) on a close party-line vote of 215 -214. This Republican-led legislation is now before the Senate, and the AFL-CIO with its affiliated unions are advocating against the \$1.3 trillion reduction in medical services that is included in the Republicans’ budget reconciliation policy. Based on assessments from health insurance experts, unions are concerned that working families with employment-based coverage may see their premiums increase significantly as a result of the uncompensated care costs expected to stem from this legislation.” [AFL-CIO, [6/17/26](#)]

Several Alabama Hospitals Are Already At Risk Of Shutting Their Doors,

The Federal Spending Plan Cut Crucial Health And Nutrition Resources For Rural Americans, Risking The Closure Of Two Rural Hospitals In AL-02

The Reconciliation Bill’s Cuts To Medicaid Would Particularly Impact Rural Communities

NBC News Headline: “Rural Communities Brace For Medicaid Cuts In Republicans’ Big Bill.” [NBC News, [6/25/25](#)]

The Big Beautiful Bill Act Would Result In 1.8 Million Individuals In Rural Communities Losing Their Medicaid Coverage. “Medicaid, which covers over 16 million people in rural communities, helps address barriers to health care and sustain rural hospitals. But many in Congress are considering Medicaid cuts that would have a devastating impact on rural hospitals and patients. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1) would result in 1.8 million individuals in rural communities losing their Medicaid coverage by 2034. In addition, select Medicaid provisions in H.R. 1 would result in a \$50.4 billion reduction in federal Medicaid spending on rural hospitals over 10 years.” [American Hospital Association, [6/16/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Threatened The Closure Of Vital Rural Hospitals, Including Community Hospital Inc. And Bullock County Hospital

The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Cuts To Medicaid Would Result In A \$50.4 Billion Reduction In Funding For Rural Hospitals

Rural Hospitals Would Collectively Lose More Than \$1.8 Billion In Funding, Which Would Be Equivalent To 21,000 Full-Time Hospital Employees’ Salaries. “Hospitals in rural areas would collectively lose more than \$1.8 billion with a 15% cut to Medicaid. That loss in revenue is roughly equivalent to 21,000 full-time hospital employees’ salaries. Rural hospitals’ margins have been deteriorating for 10 to 15 years, said Michael Topchik, executive director for the Chartis Center for Rural Health, which analyzes and consults on rural hospital finances. Ten years ago, about one-third of rural hospitals were operating in the red. That’s closer to 50% now, he said.” [KFF, [6/12/25](#)]

- **KFF Headline: “‘One Big Beautiful Bill’ Would Batter Rural Hospital Finances, Researchers Say.”** [KFF, [6/12/25](#)]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Result In \$50.4 Billion Reduction In Spending For Rural Hospitals Over The Next Ten Years. “Medicaid, which covers over 16 million people in rural communities, helps address barriers to health care and sustain rural hospitals. But many in Congress are considering Medicaid cuts that would have a devastating impact on rural hospitals and patients. The One



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The One Big Beautiful Bill Threatened More Than 300 Rural Hospital Closures

The Cuts To Medicaid And Other Federal Health Programs In President Trump’s Budget Plan Would “Rapidly Push” More Than 300 Financially Struggling Rural Hospitals Toward A Fiscal Cliff. “Cuts to Medicaid and other federal health programs proposed in President Donald Trump’s budget plan would rapidly push more than 300 financially struggling rural hospitals toward a fiscal cliff, according to researchers who track the facilities’ finances. The hospitals would be at a disproportionate risk of closure, service reductions, or ending inpatient care, according to a report authored by experts from the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research following a request from Senate Democrats, who released the findings publicly Thursday. Many of those hospitals are in Kentucky, Louisiana, California, and Oklahoma, according to the analysis.” [KFF, [6/12/25](#)]

2025: AL-02 Had Two Rural Hospitals Listed As At-Risk Based On Financial Vulnerability. “In order to understand in greater detail how rural communities could be impacted by health care cuts contained in the reconciliation package, we requested the attached data from the Sheps Center on the financial vulnerability of rural hospitals and potential impacts on their viability. These hospitals have been identified as at-risk hospitals based on financial data, including: whether the hospital has been unprofitable for the last three years; whether the hospital is at risk of financial distress relative to peer hospitals; and whether the hospital serves a disproportionately high share of Medicaid patients. The findings demonstrate that hundreds of rural hospitals across the country would feel pain from the House-passed reconciliation bill.” [Office of Senator Edward J. Markey, Letter on Rural Hospitals, [6/12/25](#)]

At-Risk Rural Hospitals In AL-02, 2025			
Hospital	City	Top Medicaid Provider	Three Consecutive Years Of Negative Margins
Community Hospital Inc.	Tallassee	No	Yes
Bullock County Hospital	Union Springs	Yes	No

[Office of Senator Edward J. Markey, At-Risk Rural Hospitals List, [6/12/25](#)]

NOTE: District data refers to lines after redistricting in 2026.

Rural Hospital Closures Would Lead To Increased Unemployment. “Rural hospital closures often raise concerns about access to care and the local economy. When a rural hospital closes, patients may have to travel further to obtain services, which could lead some to forgo care altogether. Closures may be especially problematic for people who have difficulty traveling long distances and for people with time-sensitive conditions, such as heart attacks and childbirth. Research suggests that rural hospital closures lead to increased unemployment (including among non-healthcare industries), lower income levels, and slower economic growth.” [KFF, [4/16/25](#)]

And Thanks To The Plan Marques Supports Families Will Need To Drive Even Farther For Life-Saving Care.

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Marques Touted The One Big Beautiful Bill And Applauded The President For Its Passage.

According to Rhett Marques on Alabama AgCast, “MARQUES: Our food supply is national security. And we have got to protect our farmers. And becoming energy dominant will help drive down fuel prices. But also with the fertilizer costs right now that are out of control. There in Muscle Shoals is one of the largest facilities for fertilizer and we're looking to expand that here in Alabama to put hopefully more facilities in, to where we can produce more fertilizer. And that will help drive down costs because it will be more local and we're not buying foreign etc. So I'm excited about this opportunity. And I applaud the president and the working family tax cut for putting in there the billions to go back to the farmers, but also extending the death tax, which I don't really believe in the death tax anyway, I've never understood, I think is a double tax.” [Alabama AgCast, [8/4/26](#)] (AUDIO)

Marques Said Trump Had Done A “Great Job” Passing The One Big Beautiful Bill. According to Rhett Marques on Rightside Media, “Marques: Well, it all comes down to putting more money in the pockets of the people of the state of Alabama. President Trump did a great job passing America's first, excuse me the working families tax cut, the largest tax cut in American history. We did the same thing in Alabama as a state representative. We cut taxes by 1.5 million billion, rather not million, but billion dollars. And we had Alabama's largest tax cut with cutting your grocery tax in half. And so, you know, right now prices are high because of the Obama administration. Inflation was out of control for 40 year highs on inflation. And we are still trying to work down the prices. And, you know, you look at what Wal-Mart did the other day by cutting their retail costs by 15% across the board, it's starting to happen. But it's going to take time. The Biden administration, the four years under the Biden administration, put us well behind. And it's going to take some time to get it fixed. But President Trump is doing that, and I'm proud to go help him continue that and make sure that we continue working for the farmers in our district, our military and our veterans. And so I'm excited. The second congressional district is a great, great place. We have a lot to offer.” [Rightside Media, [8/7/26](#)] (VIDEO)

The One Big Beautiful Bill Caused Hospital Cuts, Making Rural Hospitals Less Available To Alabama Families When Alabama Already Ranked Second-Worst In The Country For “Ambulance Deserts”

CNN: “Hospitals Are Making Cuts After ‘Big Beautiful Bill,’ Fueling Democrats’ Midterm Attacks.” [CNN, [3/2/26](#)]

The Guardian: “More Than 300 Rural Hospitals Are At Risk Of Closure Or Cutting Services” Because Of The Big Beautiful Bill’s Medicaid Cuts. “Healthcare providers across the country have closed clinics and hospital wards in the four months since Donald Trump signed into law the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, the landmark tax-and-spending legislation that will lead an estimated 10 million people to lose their health insurance. The law is expected to slash federal funding by hundreds of billions of dollars over the coming years, as part of Trump’s campaign pledge to shrink government spending. But it will do so in part by paring back eligibility for Medicaid, the US government’s health insurance



program for low-income people; raising the cost of healthcare under the Affordable Care Act; and defunding some family planning providers who offer abortions.” [The Guardian, [11/20/25](#)]

Three Rural Hospitals In Alabama Were At Risk Of Closing Because Of The OBBB’s Medicaid Cuts. “A national report released this week names three of Alabama’s rural hospitals as being at-risk of closing due to last year’s Medicaid cuts. But officials in the state warn the information is “flawed” and could accelerate their closures.” [al.com, [4/2/26](#)]

Alabama Ranked Second-Worst In The Country For “Ambulance Deserts, Which Are Areas Outside A 25-Mile Travel Radius Of An Ambulance Service Location. “A 2023 report by the Maine Rural Health Research Center gets cited a lot in news stories about rural healthcare. In it, the researchers identify U.S. “ambulance deserts,” or areas outside a 25-minute travel radius of an ambulance service location. Alabama ranks second-worst in the country, behind North Carolina. Sixty-four of Alabama’s 67 counties have ambulance deserts.” [WaPo, [7/29/26](#)]