Overview Backup

Mike Carey is a DC swamp creature. As both a corporate lobbyist and DC politician, Mike Carey has spent his career selling out the working people of Ohio to powerful corporate interests.

Mike Carey Is A DC Swamp Creature. As Both A Corporate Lobbyist And DC Politician, Mike Carey Has Spent His Career Selling Out The Working People Of Ohio To Powerful Corporate Interests.

Backup Below

Carey Message #1 Backup

Mike Carey spent more than twenty years as a registered corporate lobbyist - putting corporate interests ahead of working Ohioans. He was the top lobbyist for a company involved in the $61 million bribery scheme that forced Ohioans to pay for a billion-dollar bailout and raised their utility costs. In Congress, Carey still rakes in energy industry cash and sides with corporate interests by voting for tax breaks for data center developers, raising energy bills for Ohio families. Even a fellow Ohio Republican called Mike Carey "literally […] the swampiest swamp creature around."

Mike Carey Spent More Than Twenty Years As A Registered Corporate Lobbyist - Putting Corporate Interests Ahead Of Working Ohioans.

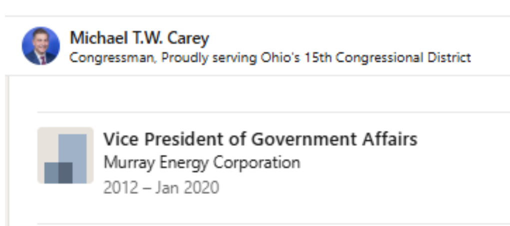
Carey Was A Registered Lobbyist For Over 20 Years

1999- 2021: Carey Was A Registered Lobbyist In Ohio Between. [Ohio Lobbying Activity Center, Forms Filed 1991-2008, Accessed 8/24/26; Ohio Lobbying Activity Center, Forms Filed 2009-Present, 8/24/26]

He Was The Top Lobbyist For A Company Involved In The 61-Million-Dollar Bribery Scheme That Forced Ohioans To Pay For A Billion-Dollar Bailout And Raised Their Utility Costs

Carey Was The VP Of Government Affairs And A Registered Lobbyist For Murray Energy

2012- 2020: Carey Was The VP Of Government Affairs For Murray Energy. [Michael Carey, LinkedIn, accessed 8/24/26]



[Michael Carey, LinkedIn, accessed 8/24/26]

2012-2020: According To The Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee, Carey Served As A Registered Lobbyist For American Consolidated Natural Resources. [Ohio Lobbying Activity Center, Forms Filed 2009-Present, 8/24/26]

- **Headline: "Murray Energy Emerges From Bankruptcy Under New Name."** [Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration, 9/17/20]

- **September 2020: Murray Energy Emerged From Bankruptcy Under The Name American Consolidated Natural Resources.** "Murray Energy Holdings, has emerged from bankruptcy under the new name of American Consolidated Natural Resources Inc. The Chapter 11 bankruptcy plan filed by Murray Energy was approved in August in U.S. bankruptcy court in Ohio and became effective Sept. 16. The company said in a statement that it has completed the sale of its assets to an entity formed by former creditors. American Consolidated Natural Resources Inc. (ACNR) is now the largest privately owned U.S. coal operator with active mines in Alabama, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia and Utah, the statement said." [Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration, 9/17/20]

Murray Energy Was Involved In The H.B. 6 Bribery Scandal

Columbus Dispatch Headline: "Murray Energy Accused Of Not Disclosing Role In HB 6 Bribery Scandal." [Columbus Dispatch, 8/6/20]

Murray Energy Contributed $100,000 To Hard Working Ohioans, A Dark Money Group Implicated In The H.B. 6 Scandal. "Now-bankrupt Ohio coal giant and House Bill 6 supporter Murray Energy Corp. provided $100,000 in 'dark money' involved in the alleged racketeering and bribery scheme that ensnared former House Speaker Larry Householder and four others. The criminal complaint states 'Dark Money Group 1,' previously identified by The Dispatch and The Cincinnati Enquirer as the for-profit company Hardworking Ohioans Inc., spent nearly $1.5 million to support Householder's Republican candidates in the 2018 general election. […] A bankruptcy filing by Murray Energy Corp. shows the coal company gave $100,000 to Hardworking Ohioans on Oct. 26, 2018 amid its flurry of media buys backing Householder-blessed candidates as he angled to be elected speaker. The complaint states 'Company B' wired the same amount on the same day to the group, with a footnote stating: 'Company B is an energy company with interests aligned with Company A,' a reference to FirstEnergy." [Columbus Dispatch, 7/31/20]

The H.B. 6 Bribery Scandal Involved A $1.3 Billion Bailout Of Utility Companies That Was Secured Through A $61 Million Bribe To Former Speaker Larry Householder

H.B. 6 Was The Legislation Which Funded A $1.3 Billion Of Companies Like FirstEnergy. "Ohioans are starting to receive notices that they are eligible to receive money from the FirstEnergy House Bill 6 scandal, but it is long from over. […] Federal prosecutors say the $1.3 billion bailout to companies like FirstEnergy raised electricity rates and had Ohioans paying for fossil fuel power plants." [Ohio Capital Journal, 8/23/22]

The $1.3 Billion Bailout Was A Result Of FirstEnergy Paying Former Speaker Householder $61 Million In Bribes And Led To Householder Being Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison. "In 2023, former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder, R-Glenford, was sentenced to 20 years in federal prison for his role in a conspiracy in which FirstEnergy paid $61 million in bribes to get a $1.3 billion ratepayer bailout. Former FirstEnergy CEO Chuck Jones and Vice President Michael Dowling face felony charges in the same scandal." [Ohio Capital Journal, 11/14/25]

H.B. 6 Made Ratepayers "Pay Millions Of Dollars More In Subsidies To Bail Out Two Coal-Fired Power Plants Operated By The Ohio Valley Electric Corporation"

H.B. 6 Authorized Surcharges On Ohio Customers To Support Ohio Valley Electric Cooperative's Coal Plants In Ohio And Indiana From 2020 To 2030. "From 2020 to 2030, the bill also authorizes an additional surcharge on Ohio customers to support coal plants in the Ohio Valley Electric Cooperative (OVEC) located in Ohio and Indiana." [Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, 4/7/21]

H.B. 6 Made Ratepayers "Pay Millions Of Dollars More In Subsidies To Bail Out Two Coal-Fired Power Plants Operated By The Ohio Valley Electric Corporation." "Under HB 6, Ohio ratepayers will pay millions of dollars more in subsidies to bail out two coal-fired power plants operated by the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation, which counts AEP as its largest shareholder." [Energy and Policy Institute, 6/10/21]

In Congress, Carey Still Rakes In Energy Industry Cash And Sides With Corporate Interests By Voting For Tax Breaks For Data Center Developers, Raising Energy Bills For Ohio Families.

Carey Received Over $1 Million From The Energy And Natural Resources Industry

Carey Received Over $1 Million From The Energy And Natural Resources Industry. [OpenSecrets, accessed 8/24/26]

Carey For Congress- Receipts From The Energy And Natural Resources Industry	
Cycle	**Amount**
2026	$503,043
2024	$305,900
2022	$271,574
Total:	**$1,080,517**

[OpenSecrets, accessed 8/24/26]

Carey Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill

July 2025: Carey Voted For H.R. 1, The One Big Beautiful Bill Act. In July 2025, Lawler voted for: "Motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill that would permanently extend nearly $4 trillion in expiring individual and business tax cuts, create several new tax breaks and fund border and immigration enforcement and air traffic control upgrades. It would cut Medicaid and other safety net programs to partly offset the cost. Among other provisions, it would raise the statutory debt ceiling by $5 trillion and appropriate more than $448 billion in mandatory funding for Trump administration priorities and other needs, including $153 billion for defense, $89 billion for immigration enforcement, and $89.5 billion for border control and security. It also would increase the state and local tax deduction cap to $40,000 annually for five years for households making up to $500,000 a year until 2030, when it would permanently revert to $10,000." The motion was agreed to by a vote of 218-214. [HR 1, Vote #190, 7/3/25; CQ, 7/3/25]

Major Data Center Companies Received $83 Billion In Federal Income Tax Breaks In 2025 Under The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Allowed Them More Capital To Expand Data Center Development

American Prospect: The Tax Benefits In The One Big Beautiful Bill "Have Trickled Up The Most To Just Six Companies, Primarily Silicon Valley Titans That Are Dominating The AI Boom And Spending Lavishly On Data Centers." "Last year, corporations ran away with one of the biggest federal income tax breaks in history, thanks to rule changes, write-offs, and credits made permanent in President Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). According to a recent analysis by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP), companies avoided paying more than $200 billion in federal income tax in 2025. The latest cuts have helped dozens of corporations, like Tesla, CVS, and liquefied natural gas behemoth Cheniere, pay zero in federal income tax while raking in more than $100 billion, but the benefits have trickled up the most to just six companies, primarily Silicon Valley titans that are dominating the AI boom and spending lavishly on data centers." [The American Prospect, 8/17/26]

- **Microsoft, Google-Parent Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, JPMorgan Chase, And Nvidia, Which Were Invested In Hyperscale Data Centers, Received An Estimated Together Received $83 Billion In Federal Income Tax Breaks In 2025.** "Matthew Gardner, a senior fellow at ITEP and author of the institute's latest report, estimates that Microsoft, Google-parent Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, JPMorgan Chase, and Nvidia, despite holding close to half a trillion dollars in cash reserves, together received $83 billion in federal income tax breaks last year, about 40 percent of the total granted to all corporations. What these hyperscalers and Jamie Dimon's bank (which is deeply involved in financing data centers) saved in federal income taxes is equivalent to roughly one-fifth of what hundreds of thousands of other entities paid in federal corporate taxes in 2025." [The American Prospect, 8/17/26]

- **American Prospect: Under The One Big Beautiful Bill, Data Center Companies Were Able To Claim 100% Bonus Depreciation On Infrastructure Investments, Which Lowered Their Federal Tax Burden And Left Them "Flush With Tons Of Extra Cash To Continue Building Out More Infrastructure, Like Data Centers."** "Clever accounting, greenlit by Congress, has helped the Big Tech giants secure those massive gains. They've claimed billions in tax credits for research and development and selling products built using their intellectual property abroad. They've leaned on stock options to compensate their employees, in order to deflate how the IRS calculates their profits. And the hyperscalers have been able to write off billions in capital expenditures on AI infrastructure like data centers essentially overnight, preemptively claiming the machines they've installed have undergone wear and tear, years before they actually have. That process, known as 'bonus depreciation,' had been used by the feds to jump-start the economy at various points in the last 25 years, first in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, then during the recovery after the Great Recession. They began appearing outside of economic emergencies during the first Trump administration as part of another sweeping tax cut. That most recent measure was set to be phased out last year until OBBBA expanded and codified it forever, allowing companies to write off up to 100 percent of infrastructure investments in the first year of spending on them. That's left a handful of highly profitable companies flush with tons of extra cash to continue building out more infrastructure, like data centers, power plants, and memory chips, reaping further tax credits down the line as they go." [The American Prospect, 8/17/26]

The Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Make It Easier To Build Data Centers And Give Them "Enormous" Tax Breaks

HEADLINE: "Factories, Data Centers Will Get A Boost From The 'One Big, Beautiful Bill'" [Investopedia, 7/22/25]

Investopedia: The Big Beautiful Bill Was "Likely To Spur New Waves Of Investment" In AI. "The manufacturing sector is set to get a big boost from President Donald Trump's 'One Big, Beautiful Bill,' which is likely to spur new waves of investment, especially in sectors like AI and biotechnology. The sprawling budget bill introduces a series of tax deductions and credits for businesses, especially those that invest in research and development (R&D), AI buildouts, and domestic factory construction." [Investopedia, 7/22/25]

The Big Beautiful Bill's Tax Changes "Could Provide A Boon For AI Production In The U.S., Especially Amid A Surge In Data Center Construction." "The bill offers immediate deductions for investments made into research and development, including retroactively from 2022. The bill also boosts the tax credit for semiconductor production to 35% from 25% previously. Together, these changes could provide a boon for AI production in the U.S., especially amid a surge in data center construction by companies like Microsoft (MSFT), Alphabet (GOOG), Amazon (AMZN), and Meta Platforms (META)." [Investopedia, 7/22/25]

A Senior Research Analyst Said The Big Beautiful Bill Would Result In "Enormous" Short-Term Tax Savings For Data Center Builders. "Because both the factory itself and the machinery inside can be deducted immediately, some analysts said this could incentivize companies to build more of their supply chains in the U.S. 'This 'reshoring super-deduction' dramatically lowers the after-tax cost of domestic investment. This should encourage the onshoring of supply chains and manufacturing capacity and create more jobs for Americans,' wrote Brownstone Research Senior Analyst Nick Rokke. […] The bill offers immediate deductions for investments made into research and development, including retroactively from 2022. The bill also boosts the tax credit for semiconductor production to 35% from 25% previously. Together, these changes could provide a boon for AI production in the U.S., especially amid a surge in data center construction by companies like Microsoft (MSFT), Alphabet (GOOG), Amazon (AMZN), and Meta Platforms (META). 'With new data center costs reaching into the tens of billions of dollars, the short-term tax savings are enormous,' Rokke wrote. 'This change alone frees up billions in cash flow for the hyperscalers. And that cash will almost certainly be reinvested into even more compute infrastructure.'" [Investopedia, 7/22/25]

- **The Bill's Provisions Benefiting Data Centers Included "Immediate Deductions For Investments Made Into Research And Development."** "The bill offers immediate deductions for investments made into research and development, including retroactively from 2022. The bill also boosts the tax credit for semiconductor production to 35% from 25% previously. Together, these changes could provide a boon for AI production in the U.S., especially amid a surge in data center construction by companies like Microsoft (MSFT), Alphabet (GOOG), Amazon (AMZN), and Meta Platforms (META). 'With new data center costs reaching into the tens of billions of dollars, the short-term tax savings are enormous,' Rokke wrote. 'This change alone frees up billions in cash flow for the hyperscalers. And that cash will almost certainly be reinvested into even more compute infrastructure.'" [Investopedia, 7/22/25]

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Data Centers Were Raising Energy Rates

2025: A Report From The Union Of Concerned Scientists Found That Millions Of People Across States Were "Footing The Bill For An Additional $4.3 Billion In Electricity Infrastructure Projects Approved In 2024 Solely To Connect Wealthy Private Companies' Data Centers." "CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (September 15, 2025)—A new analysis by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) reveals how millions of people across Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia are footing the bill for an additional $4.3 billion in electricity infrastructure projects approved in 2024 solely to connect wealthy private companies' data centers." [Union of Concerned Scientists, 9/29/25]

The Analysis Found That Household Electricity Bills Across 7 States Were Subsidizing Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars In Data Center Transmission Costs. "Jacobs' seven state analysis found household electricity bills subsidizing the following in direct data center transmission costs approved in 2024: Illinois: $239 million Maryland: $107.5 million New Jersey: $14.5 million Ohio: $1.3 billion Pennsylvania: $491.7 million Virginia: $1.9 billion West Virginia: $215.8 million" [Union of Concerned Scientists, 9/29/25]

Consumer Reports: Residential Electricity Prices Were Rising Due To Hyperscale Data Centers Which Demanded "A Nearly Unimaginable Amount Of Energy." "It's no secret that electricity costs across the U.S. are skyrocketing. Residential prices jumped 7.1 percent in 2025—more than double the inflation rate—and topped 20 percent in some states, according to federal data. The AI data center rush isn't the only factor driving up prices—others include inflation and an aging power grid—but it's a significant one. That's because hyperscale data centers demand a nearly unimaginable amount of energy. The International Energy Agency says a typical hyperscale data center might use 100 megawatts (MW), as much electricity as 100,000 households." [Consumer Reports, 3/20/26]

Even A Fellow Ohio Republican Called Mike Carey "Literally […] The Swampiest Swamp Creature Around."

Ohio Republican Mike Hartley On Mike Carey: "Literally He's The Swampiest Swamp Creature Around"

Ohio Republican Mike Hartley: "Somebody Like Mike Carey Is Absolutely The Last Person That Should Be A Member Of Congress—Literally He's The Swampiest Swamp Creature Around." "In 2016, Mike Hartley, a longtime Ohio Republican political operative, found himself on the wrong side of Carey after he worked to kill legislation Carey had been lobbying to pass. Right after the bill was vetoed, Carey asked him to meet with him at his office. 'It was basically a meeting to say 'stay out of my way or I will crush you,' ' Hartley said… 'I'm so sick of these corrupt, jack-booted thug assholes, who think they are above the law and think they can get away with threats,' Hartley said. 'Somebody like Mike Carey is absolutely the last person that should be a member of Congress—literally he's the swampiest swamp creature around.'" [Daily Beast, 7/8/21]