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TAXES AND WEALTH**TRUMP TAX BILL****AUDIO**

Johnson Conceded That He Personally Benefited From The Tax Provision He Added Into The Republican Tax Plan, As Did Several Of His Top Donors. “For months, Democrats and their allies have claimed that Republican U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson and some of his top donors benefited from a key provision he pushed for in President Donald Trump’s signature 2017 tax bill. During a meeting with GOP supporters Friday in Medford, Johnson was asked by an audience member how they should respond to an ad attacking the senator for his wealth and support for the measure. Johnson acknowledged the Oshkosh-based plastics business he owned, Pacur LLC, benefited from the small-business tax provision, as did some of his prominent donors. [...] ‘Now, did my business benefit? Sure. Did some of my donor businesses? Sure. When you give tax relief to everybody, everybody benefits,’ Johnson said.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [4/11/22](#)]

- **Johnson: “Now, Did My Business Benefit? Sure. Did Some Of My Donor Businesses? Sure.”** “During a meeting with GOP supporters Friday in Medford, Johnson was asked by an audience member how they should respond to an ad attacking the senator for his wealth and support for the measure. Johnson acknowledged the Oshkosh-based plastics business he owned, Pacur LLC, benefited from the small-business tax provision, as did some of his prominent donors. [...] ‘Now, did my business benefit? Sure. Did some of my donor businesses? Sure. When you give tax relief to everybody, everybody benefits,’ Johnson said.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [4/11/22](#)] ([AUDIO](#))

PERSONAL WEALTH**AUDIO**

Johnson Said His Wealth Went Up Since He Entered Office “By Two.” [Feedback, WSAU, [2/11/22](#)] (AUDIO)

Johnson Said He “Only Increased His Net Worth Double...A High Integrity Thing.” [Feedback, WSAU, [4/05/22](#)] (AUDIO)

OTHER TAX**AUDIO**

Johnson: “When You Have The Top One Percent Of Taxpayers Paying 40 Percent Of The Income Tax, I Mean, At Some Point In Time, You Got To Go, Well That’s Got To Be Pretty Close To Their

Fair Share, Huh?" JOHNSON: "No, they were, they were gonna get hosed. Now, it did, it did occur in stages. The first thing, because of my advocacy, the smaller pass throughs are being protected. But again, that still left some of the larger, some of the most productive, some of the most important businesses in our economy totally exposed in a complete competitive disadvantage. And again, I was just looking for overall tax fairness, which is what every American should be looking for is. Yeah, people should be paying their fair share. But Brian, when, when you have the top one percent of taxpayers paying 40 percent of the income tax, I mean, at some point in time, you got to go, well that's got to be pretty close to their fair share, huh?" [The Vicki McKenna Show, WIBA, [8/16/21](#)] (AUDIO)

Johnson Said "I Certainly Support Senator Scott. He's A Real Ally...Do I Agree With Everything On It? Most Of It." [Breitbart News Daily, [3/07/22](#)] (AUDIO)

WAGES AND JOBS

JOBS AND OUTSOURCING

VIDEO

Johnson Defended The Johnson Controls' Move, Saying "It's Just Math. America Needs To Get Its Math Right By Scrapping Our Current Tax Code." "Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) responded to the news of the merger, saying he's disappointed, but not surprised, by the headquarters move. He called for changes to the U.S. tax code. 'I appreciate the fact that Johnson Controls will maintain its operational headquarters in Wisconsin after it (merges with) Tyco,' he said. 'As one of my Democratic colleagues said during a hearing on exactly this topic, 'It's just math.' America needs to get its math right by scrapping our current tax code and replacing it with a very simple and globally competitive one.'" [Milwaukee Business Journal, [1/25/16](#)] ([VIDEO](#))

Johnson: "It's Not Like We Don't Have Enough Jobs Here In Wisconsin." "Republican U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson said Saturday he won't try to persuade a Wisconsin manufacturer to place more than 1,000 new jobs in his hometown. 'It's not like we don't have enough jobs here in Wisconsin. The biggest problem we have in Wisconsin right now is employers not being able to find enough workers,' Johnson said about Oshkosh Corp.'s plans to locate the jobs in South Carolina. Johnson, who is seeking a third term this fall, said he supports having more manufacturing jobs in the state but indicated the company is best suited to make the call on where to build vehicles for the U.S. Postal Service." [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [2/6/22](#)]

- **Ron Johnson: "It's Not Like We Don't Have Enough Jobs Here In Wisconsin."** [WISN, [3/16/22](#)] (VIDEO)

Johnson "Argued For Shipping More Manufacturing Jobs Overseas" And Said, "It Made No Sense For American Workers" To Manufacture Labor-Intensive Products That Could Be Made "Dirt Cheap" Abroad, It's "Economically Efficient" TO Outsource. "U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson argued for shipping more manufacturing jobs overseas this week in a presentation to commercial real estate agents. The Republican from Oshkosh described the ability to outsource manufacturing jobs as one of the benefits of the global economy. 'From my standpoint, when we don't have enough workers in this country right now, that's a real limitation to our economic growth,' he said, according to a video of the event. 'To me, it makes no sense for American workers to produce high-labor-content products. Let the billions of people around the world do that and provide us these goods — high quality, dirt cheap. 'That to me is

economically efficient. Unfortunately, we're probably going to retrench from that, that type of policy, and I don't see how it's going to particularly work." [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [9/24/20](#)] (VIDEO)

WAGES

AUDIO

Johnson Said, "Let Single Moms Actually Work In Day Care To Support Each Other." "Johnson made the remarks on day care centers in a Wisconsin radio interview on Monday. He didn't clarify his comments, putting his handlers in the position of scrambling to understand, and then explain, what their boss meant. [...] Johnson made the remarks on day care centers in a Wisconsin radio interview on Monday. He didn't clarify his comments, putting his handlers in the position of scrambling to understand, and then explain, what their boss meant. [...] 'Let single moms actually work in day care to support each other,' Johnson said. 'We have prohibitions against that, providing day care for a facility that has your own children in it. I think we need to review some of these policies.' [...] Day care centers that accept state subsidies face different state rules than those that do not. The law for those accepting state payments was tightened in 2009 after an investigation by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel revealed that some day care providers were collecting subsidies while watching each other's kids. Wisconsin law now prohibits subsidy payments to a certified child care provider where an employee's child is getting services. Caregivers watching up to three children in their own home are not regulated." [Associated Press, [8/30/16](#)] ([AUDIO](#))

VIDEO

When Asked If Raising The Minimum Wage Would Help Solve His Problem With People Making More Money By Not Working, Johnson Said "No," Arguing That The Minimum Wage Was A "Moot Point." INTERVIEWER: "You are asking Governor Evers to end the supplemental unemployment insurance. Why are you making that suggestion?" JOHNSON: "Well first of all, the unemployment rate in Wisconsin is 3.8%." [...] INTERVIEWER: "You talk about people making more money by staying at home. Where are you on raising the minimum wage? Does that help that situation?" JOHNSON: "No...The minimum wage is pretty much a moot point." [WFRV Local 5 Newsmaker Sunday, [5/30/21](#)] (VIDEO)

SENIORS

MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY CUTS

AUDIO

Johnson: "What's Mandatory Are Things Like Social Security And Medicare. If You Qualify For The Entitlement You Just Get It No Matter What The Cost. And Our Problem In This Country Is That More Than 77 Percent Of Our Federal Budget, Our Federal Spending Is All Mandatory Spending. Its On Automatic Pilot." [Regular Joe Show, WTAQ, [8/02/22](#)] (AUDIO)

SOCIAL SECURITY CRITICISM/PRIVATIZATION

VIDEO

2015: Johnson Called Social Security A “Legal Ponzi Scheme” At A WisPolitics Luncheon.

[WisPolitics Luncheon, [10/9/2015](#)] (VIDEO)

Johnson Called It A “Shame” That Social Security Was Not Privatized Under President Bush.

JOHNSON: “You were talking about private accounts, remember? Well George Bush tried to do that and remember I said he got slaughtered politically. It went nowhere, which I thought was a shame. You know, so President Bush tried to lead on this, tried to bring up the conversation and it didn’t work out too well. And again, my point being is the reason it didn’t work is the American public did not fully understand the depth of their problem and why we had to start thinking outside the box and start working towards solutions in a bipartisan fashion.” [Prentice Town Hall, 00:46:09, [8/31/15](#)] (VIDEO)

Johnson On Social Security: “It Really Is A Pay-As-You-Go System, Which Is Pretty Close To What A Ponzi Scheme Is” And “If A Private Investment Adviser Would Be Doing It, It Would Be Illegal And It Would Be Called The Ponzi Scheme.”

NAPOLITANO: “We only have a few seconds left, though, I want your opinion on this. Is Social Security a Ponzi scheme?” JOHNSON: “Well, you know, I refer to it as well as a lot of liberals including Paul Krugman had referred to it. The bottom line is let’s look at the facts. Social Security has a \$17.9 unfunded liability. It’s trust fund is made up of IOUs. We brought the money in, we spent it, it’s gone. It really is a pay-as-you-go system, which is pretty close to what a Ponzi scheme is as well. I know it’s not illegal because the government is doing it, but if a private investment adviser would be doing it, it would be illegal and it would be called the Ponzi scheme.” [Freedom Watch, [9/14/11](#)] (VIDEO)

ABORTION

ROE V WADE

AUDIO

Johnson Said There Was “Beauty” In Roe V. Wade Being Overturned. [Sandy Rios In The Morning, [7/21/22](#)] (AUDIO)

Johnson Said “I’m Fully Supportive Of What The Supreme Court Did, I Obviously Confirmed The Justices That Handed Down That Correct Decision.” [Brian Kilmeade Show, [7/13/22](#)] (AUDIO)

Johnson Said Roe Was “Poorly Decided.” “Roe and Casey were so poorly decided. This is a really good decision, this is what should have happened 50 years ago.” [Clay & Buck Show, [5/05/22](#)] (AUDIO)

VIDEO

May 2022: Johnson Said Overturning Roe V Wade Would Be “The Correct Decision.” LYNDSEY KEITH: “They’re very unified around abortion, this is their rallying cry. I mean, did we throw them a lifeline in that? Because they have one unified message in this, that this, I feel like, what I have seen today, is

going to be their number one for November." RON JOHNSON [00:01:46]: "Well first of all, it is a draft opinion. We don't know what the final opinion is going to be for sure, but if, even if this is the final decision, you know, from my standpoint, this is the correct decision. This will take this very divisive issue, this profound social issue out of the hands of just nine unelected officials and put it back in the court of public opinion, in our democracy, where each individual state will decide this for themselves." [Newsmax, Spicer & Co., [5/3/22](#)] (VIDEO)

Johnson Said Roe Getting Overturned Wasn't "Such A Huge Threat To Women's Health... Things Would Be Just Fine." "I don't view [overturning Roe] such a huge threat to women's health. I think – I think things would be just fine." [Johnson visits Beloit Health System, [7/27/18](#)] (VIDEO)

ABORTION GENERALLY

VIDEO

Johnson Claimed Abortion Was "Not Even An Issue" In Wisconsin And "It Doesn't Even Move The Radar At All." WALLACE: "Senator Johnson, Mitt Romney disavowed Richard Mourdock's comments and, Richard Mourdock has tried to walk them back. But it does bring up the bigger question. Why should a woman who believes of freedom of choice when it comes to abortion, why should she vote for Mitt Romney, who said he'd like to see Roe vs. Wade overturned and who favors cutting off all federal funding for Planned Parenthood?" JOHNSON: "Well, Chris, first of all, I have heard one person talk about the abortion issue during the entire campaign. What people in Wisconsin, what is moving the needle here is they recognize Mitt Romney is an individual, who when faced with the legislature that's controlled 85 percent by Democrats who is actually able to work with the Democrats, you take a look at his record versus President Obama, who has been totally unable to work with divided government in Washington -" WALLACE: "Sir, if I may, on the question of abortion, though -" JOHNSON: "It's just -" WALLACE: "Go ahead." JOHNSON: "I mean, Chris, it's not even an issue. It's not an issue here in Wisconsin. It doesn't even -- it doesn't even move the radar at all." [Fox News Network, Fox News Sunday, [10/28/12](#)] (VIDEO)

AUDIO

Johnson Suggested That If Wisconsin Outlawed Abortion, People Could Go To Illinois If They Wanted To Receive An Abortion. "Speaking to The Wall Street Journal, the Wisconsin lawmaker, who is up for reelection this year, said he doesn't expect abortion to come up on the campaign trail because it's basically a nonissue. 'It might be a little messy for some people, but abortion is not going away,' Johnson said, an absolutely bizarre choice of words—not to mention, sentiment—given the history of women bleeding out and dying after unsafe abortions. He blithely added that though he doesn't expect a 19th-century Wisconsin law banning abortions except to save the mother will go into effect if Roe is reversed, pregnant people can always go to neighboring Illinois if they want to obtain the medical procedure." [Vanity Fair, [5/11/22](#)]

- **Johnson Said "Abortions Are Still Legal In Illinois...I Don't Think From The Election Standpoint It's Going To Be That Big An Issue."** [Sandy Rios in the Morning, [7/21/22](#)] (AUDIO)

PARTISANSHIP

VIDEO

Johnson Said The Gridlock Happening Between Progressive And Moderate Democrats Was The “Best Outcome” Because It Slowed Down Spending Bills. “Johnson said that former President Donald Trump showed that reducing taxes means improving the economy, and the United States had a ‘record economy’ before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Meanwhile, the gridlock that is taking place between the moderate and progressive Democrats on the spending bills is the ‘best outcome’ in Washington, D.C., because it slows down the month that is ‘sloshing around,’ at this time, Johnson said. ‘We have spent trillions during COVID and increased our debt by trillions,’ said Johnson. ‘We have too many dollars chasing too few goods, which is why we’re seeing inflation becoming more and more endemic ... from my standpoint, I think gridlock was the best outcome here.’” [Newsmax, [10/5/21](#)] (VIDEO)

Johnson On The Infrastructure Bill: “What’s Going On In Washington, D.C., Unfortunately, Is Bipartisanship.” JOHNSON: “What’s going on in Washington, DC, unfortunately, is bipartisanship. Now, I always warn people ‘beware of bipartisanship.’” [Fox News, [7/19/21](#)] (VIDEO)

HEALTH CARE

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

AUDIO

Johnson Said That If Republicans Regained Control Of Congress And The Presidency, They Should Try To Repeal The Affordable Care Act. “U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson signaled Monday that if Republicans regain control of Congress this year — and the presidency in 2024 — they should again try to repeal the Affordable Care Act. [...] If the party completes an electoral sweep in 2024, Johnson said, ‘we can actually make good on what we established as our priorities.’ In other words, if we’re for example, if we were going to repeal and replace Obamacare — I still think we need to fix our health-care system — we need to have the plan ahead of time so that once we get in office, we can implement it immediately, not knock around like we did last time and fail.” [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, [3/7/22](#)] (AUDIO)

VIDEO

When Asked If Healthcare Was A Right Or A Privilege, Johnson Said, “I Think It’s Probably More Of A Privilege.” “Wisconsin Sen. Ron Johnson on Friday morning told a group of high school students that they don’t have a right to health care, food and shelter. The Republican’s statement in the auditorium at New Berlin West High School was in response to a question posed during a forum with students interested in politics, journalism and government. ‘Do you personally consider healthcare as a privilege or a right?’ one student inquired. Wisconsin’s senior senator did not hesitate: ‘I think it’s probably more of a privilege.’ He continued: ‘Do you consider food a right? Do you consider clothing a right? Do you consider shelter a right? What we have as rights is life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Past that point, we have the right to freedom. Past that point is a limited resource that we have to use our opportunities given to us to afford those things.’” [WISN, [9/29/17](#)] (VIDEO)

Johnson Said Nothing Good Had Come From Obamacare. MIKE: “You don’t think anything good has come from it?” JOHNSON: “No. If you get the subsidies, you are benefiting from it, no doubt about it. I think republicans will have our own replacement plans that will certainly take care of those individuals. We are a compassionate society and want to make sure every gets good, quality health care. This is not the way to do it.” [WISN, [4/18/15](#)] (VIDEO)

Johnson Said Individuals Who Have Benefited From Obamacare Did So “On The Backs Of The American Taxpayer.” JOHNSON: “Unfortunately, President Obama’s response to an adverse decision-in other words one that actually follows the law-would be really simple. Just a one-sentence bill allowing people’s subsidies to flow to federal exchanges and/or offer the governors, ‘Hey, we know you got those federal exchanges. Just sign the dotted line. We’ll make those established by the state.’ And of course, he’ll have the ads all racked up with the individuals that have benefited from Obamacare on the backs of the American taxpayer.” [YouTube, Jay Weber Show, [4/14/15](#)] VIDEO

- **Johnson Agreed With Jay Weber’s Comment That They All Have “Sad Sack Stories About Who’s Dying From What And Why They Can’t Get Coverage.”** JOHNSON: “Unfortunately, President Obama’s response to an adverse decision-in other words one that actually follows the law-would be really simple. Just a one-sentence bill allowing people’s subsidies to flow to federal exchanges and/or offer the governors, ‘Hey, we know you got those federal exchanges. Just sign the dotted line. We’ll make those established by the state.’ And of course, he’ll have the ads all racked up with the individuals that have benefited from Obamacare on the backs of the American taxpayer. He’ll have all those examples as well so. ... WEBER: And the sad sack stories about who’s dying from what and why they can’t get their coverage. JOHNSON: Right. WEBER: Oh yeah.” [YouTube, Jay Weber Show, [4/14/15](#)] (VIDEO)

PHARMA

AUDIO

Johnson: “I Have No Bone To Pick With Big Pharma.” [Jim Bohannon Show, [5/17/22](#)] (AUDIO)

Johnson: “I’ve Never Been Critical Of Big Pharma.” [Conservative Review Podcast, [7/21/22](#)] (AUDIO)

Johnson: “I’ve Always Been Supportive Of Big Pharma.” [2nd Congressional District GOP Caucus, [4/02/22](#)]

Johnson: “I’m A Defender Of Big Pharma.” [Mark Belling Show, WISN, [3/07/22](#)]

Johnson: “I’ve Always Been A Big Supporter Of Big Pharma.” [Vicki McKenna Show, WIBA, [10/22/21](#)]

Johnson: “I’ve Always Defended Big Pharma.” [Feedback, WSAU, [10/08/21](#)]