

I read with wry amusement the rant which appeared in your August 9th edition, asserting that the Democratic Party had lost touch with the people. One would need to have his head in the sand to believe such a statement. It is instructive to note the accomplishments of the Biden administration and compare them to the activities of the Republican Party during that period.

1. Lowering healthcare and drug costs- The Biden Administration passed the Inflation Reduction Act, which, among other things, extended the subsidies that make the Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance plans more affordable. This extension will affect some 10-11 million Americans.

The Act also limits insulin costs for Medicare recipients to a maximum of \$35.00 per month, provides free vaccines, and requires Medicare to negotiate the cost of 10 high-cost prescription drugs beginning in 2026. It will lower the maximum drug costs for seniors to \$2000.00.

The Act also represents the largest national investment in fighting climate change, and will accelerate private companies' transition to clean energy technologies. These advances will produce thousands of high paying jobs.

One hundred percent (100%) of Republicans voted against this vital legislation, voted against cheaper gas, child tax credits, student debt relief, voting rights ending gerrymandering, prosecuting wealthy tax cheats, women's health, veterans health care, but supported serial liar George Santos.

2. The Democrats enacted the most consequential gun safety bill in decades, despite 99% of Republicans voting against it. 96% of Republicans voted against background checks, but pursued their quest for Hunter Biden's laptop.
3. Democrats enacted a bill providing for the largest-ever national investment in mental health, this time with bipartisan support. (Many Republicans secretly recognized the benefits this bill might provide to Marjorie Taylor Greene, and

therefore voted for it).

4. Canceled up to \$20,000 in Federal Student Loans for tens of millions of Americans. This bill is still in litigation in the courts, challenged by Republican lawsuits. On the other hand, the Republicans in the House reiterated that they were closing in on Hunter Biden's laptop, and produced nude pictures of him in a hearing.
5. Passed the CHIPS and Science Act, which will dramatically increase our production of chips, lower their cost, and strengthen supply chains. Republicans, reversing their previous position, acknowledged that Hunter Biden's laptop might contain such chips.
6. Passed the American Rescue Plan, which, among other benefits, provided \$40 billion in funds to invest in and create opportunities for American workers.
7. Passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which 99% of Republicans opposed. Their opposition to this bill did not stop them from returning to their respective districts to tout its benefits, as if they had supported it.
8. Over 90% of Republicans also opposed veterans' health care, fighting domestic terrorism, fighting domestic violence, and granting cancer care for veterans.
9. There is much more; meanwhile, exploiting the non-existent issue of Hunter Biden's laptop is still one party's prime goal. It has time for nothing else.

So who's out of touch?

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