

**To: Interested Parties**

**From: Maddy Mundy, DCCC Regional Press Secretary**

**Date: June 2022**

**Subject: [The Case Against Mike Garcia](#)**

Mike Garcia was elected to office touting his experience as a veteran. On January 6th, 2021, Mike Garcia betrayed his sacred oath to his country, voting to throw out Americans' votes and perpetuating the same conspiracy that led to a deadly attack on our Capitol. Since that day, Garcia has emboldened anti-democratic forces, lauded QAnon conspiracists, and even [called](#) the Capitol Police 'the Gestapo.'

Now, Mike Garcia finds himself as one of the most vulnerable Republicans in the country.

## **WHAT THEY'RE SAYING**

**Politico:** MIKE GARCIA goes full MAGA [Politico, May 10, [2021](#)]

"GOP Rep. Mike Garcia — who won his CA-25 swing seat in 2020 by a razor-thin 333 votes — was showered with cheers for his robust endorsement of Trump's agenda and hardcore appeal to MAGA values."

**Los Angeles Times:** Rep. Mike Garcia's voting record: Will it be an obstacle to reelection? [Los Angeles Times, [July 5, 2021](#)]

"The congressman, whose district includes northern Los Angeles County, omitted other parts of his record: Voting against the certification of electoral votes in Pennsylvania and Arizona that helped cement Joe Biden's presidential victory. Opposing the impeachment of President Trump for his role in the Jan. 6 insurrection. Standing against legalizing Dreamers and reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act. Cosponsoring legislation that would effectively ban all abortion and some forms of birth control.

"Garcia, who won his seat by 333 votes in November, is up for reelection next year in what is expected to be among the most contested congressional races in the nation."

**Politico:** Abortion counteroffensive could buoy California Dems [May 18, [2022](#)]

"Frontline Republican incumbents are already feeling the heat. After barely winning his Los Angeles district in 2022, Republican Rep. Mike Garcia is getting hammered over his abortion stance."

**American Independent:** House Republican allegedly failed to properly disclose finances and stock trades [July 14, [2021](#)]

“California Rep. Mike Garcia (R) appears to have allegedly violated federal laws requiring transparency for lawmakers who own and trade stocks.”

## **MAGA REPUBLICAN MIKE GARCIA COMPLICIT IN INSURRECTION**

Mike Garcia campaigned on his record of service to our country, but Garcia betrayed his oath when he attempted to void Americans’ sacred votes and [overturn](#) the results of the 2020 election.

Following the insurrection, Garcia has only continued his assault against our democracy: He [voted against](#) an independent commission to hold those responsible for the January 6th insurrection accountable. He even called the Capitol Police, some of whom made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country, [‘the Gestapo.’](#)

## **PUSHING A DANGEROUS MAGA AGENDA IN CONGRESS**

Garcia showed his contempt for voters long before choosing to throw out their votes in 2021. In Congress, he has consistently voted against the interests of his district.

Garcia has [campaigning](#) on fully repealing the Affordable Care Act, despite the fact that some 1.6 million Californians annually [rely](#) on the ACA since its creation; with study after study showing the ACA has improved quality and access to health care. Still, Garcia insisted we need to get the ACA [“off the books”](#) and that he only supports Medicare [“at certain levels.”](#) Garcia has also rejected legislation to [cap costs](#) on skyrocketing prescription drug costs, standing in the way of lifesaving measures as working families struggle to keep up with inflation.

Garcia’s record is gravely concerning considering Republicans’ announced agenda if they retake majorities in Congress. Republicans are campaigning on a plan to [raise taxes](#) on millions of Social Security recipients and low-income Americans, while sunseting programs like Social Security and Medicare. Garcia’s extreme comments on Medicare show he would only be a rubber stamp on Republicans’ anti-middle class policies.

But taxes and health care are not the only issues where Garcia has pushed a dangerous MAGA agenda. He cruelly [stood in the way](#) of a path to citizenship for DREAMERS and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Garcia’s record on women’s health and safety issues are especially disturbing with the Supreme Court’s anticipated reversal of Roe v. Wade looming. Garcia has pursued draconian curbs to women’s reproductive health and freedoms. Garcia [signed](#) an amicus brief asking the Supreme Court to overturn Roe and Casey, voted [against](#) the Women’s Health Protection Act, and [co-sponsored](#) the Life at Conception Act, the federal personhood bill that would ban all abortions and certain types of birth control such as IUDs.

Republicans have made clear that in their crusade to dictate women's personal health care choices, they will not stop at the overturn of fifty years of legal precedent encapsulated in Roe. With reports that Republicans will soon push for a [nationwide abortion ban](#), the need to elect a representative who will fight for reproductive freedom has never been greater. A recent California statewide poll reveals Roe v. Wade is [supported](#) by Democrats, independents and Republicans; while experts [predict](#) reproductive rights will be a mobilizing factor among California swing voters this November.

Garcia has also faltered in the face of the gun violence epidemic gripping our country. In the wake of the Uvalde shooting and a mass shooting some sixty miles away in Orange County last month, Garcia's opposition to common-sense gun violence reform is unconscionable. Days after the Uvalde massacre, Garcia [accepted](#) a \$1,000 campaign contribution from a pro-gun group opposed to background checks. In 2021, Garcia [voted against](#) enhanced background checks. Garcia's extreme MAGA votes are a slap in the face to his constituents who demand common sense measures to keep their communities safe.

### **Garcia Puts Working Families Last**

**Garcia supported tax cuts for special interests and corporations but opposed tax cuts for the middle class.** Garcia supported the 2017 Republican tax scam that gave a massive tax cut to corporations, special interests, and the ultra-wealthy, while raising taxes on the middle class, encouraging companies to ship jobs overseas, and threatening cuts to Medicare and Social Security. Garcia voted against the American Rescue Plan, which cut taxes for middle class families by expanding the Child Tax Credit, which benefitted over 7 million children in California, and the Earned Income Tax Credit. Garcia voted against another plan to continue the tax cuts for working families and stop rewarding corporations for shipping jobs overseas, while requiring corporations and the ultra-wealthy to pay their fair share.

**Garcia wanted to rip away current health care protections and opposed policies to make health care more affordable.** Garcia repeatedly supported repealing the Affordable Care Act and one of his first action sin Congress was to support a taxpayer-funded lawsuit to gut the law—even though this would have ripped away protections for the more than 6 million Californians with pre-existing conditions and could have cause more than 4.2 million Californians to lose their health insurance. Garcia voted against multiple plans to improve health care access through the Affordable Care Act and to make health insurance more affordable. Garcia supported tax giveaways to the pharmaceutical companies and voted against lowering prescription drug prices. Meanwhile, he has taken \$44,000 in campaign cash from the pharmaceutical industry during his political career. Garcia has said he was "not a big fan of" Medicaid, even though roughly 15% of adults in his district benefitted from the program. He also said he was open to block granting Medicaid, which would effectively cut Medicaid funding and threaten coverage and benefits.

**Garcia opposed efforts to lower costs and address supply shortages.** Garcia voted against a plan that would help reduce energy costs by \$5600 per year for the average household. He opposed food stamps—which make food more affordable for working families, including the 7.5% of households in Garcia’s district that used them—because he thought “everyone should have to figure out how to fend for themselves.” Garcia voted against a plan to help lower the price of gas by cracking down on greedy oil companies. Garcia voted against an emergency funding plan to address the national shortage of baby formula. Garcia also voted against a plan to decrease inflation and make the U.S. less dependent on Chinese goods by boosting American manufacturing and strengthening supply chains.

**Garcia repeatedly supported fiscally irresponsible budget practices that risked economic crisis.** Garcia repeatedly voted against the necessary budget practice of raising the debt limit, risking a “cataclysmic” economic crisis that could destroy up to 6 million jobs and \$15 trillion in household wealth.

**Garcia opposed workers’ rights.** Garcia paid lip service to workers by stating that “all union members deserve leadership and protection,” but attacked a plan to make it easier for workers to organize and collectively bargain. Garcia has voted against providing whistleblower protections to employees who report labor law violations, against prohibiting employers from hiring permanent replacements for strikers, and against a plan to fine employers who engage in unfair labor practices. Garcia opposed California’s Assembly Bill 5, which would help give benefits like health insurance to gig workers by making business reclassify them as employees. Garcia has voted against prevailing wage requirements for public transportation projects.

**Garcia opposed making childcare more affordable and accessible.** Garcia repeatedly voted against making child care more accessible and affordable, including opposing a plan to help essential workers with child care during the pandemic and a plan to provide pre-kindergarten to every three- and four-year-old in America.

**Garcia opposed efforts to make housing more affordable.** Garcia voted against multiple plans to invest in affordable housing and reduce homelessness. In one case, Garcia said additional funding for homelessness was not necessary and in another case, he said that “free market capitalism” and private charities should solve the problem of homelessness.

**Garcia opposed investments in California’s infrastructure to create jobs and make transportation more accessible.** Garcia voted against the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal that was projected to create 2 million jobs per year, and which gave California billions in funding to make much-needed repairs and improvements to roads, bridges, power grids, water pipes, and broadband internet. Garcia also voted against a similar plan to improve roads, transit, water, broadband, schools, hospitals, and pollution. Garcia has repeatedly tried to end federal funding for California’s high-speed rail project, which as of early 2021, had already created over 5,000 jobs and generated more than \$10 billion in economic activity.

**Garcia was bad for California seniors.** Garcia signaled that he was willing to cut Social Security and Medicare, saying he would reduce spending on “entitlement programs” to balance the budget and that he didn’t want the federal government to be a safety net. Garcia repeatedly opposed plans to lower the cost of prescription drugs. Garcia said he only supported Medicare “at some levels,” voted against preventing automatic cuts to Medicare, and voted against a plan to expand Medicare coverage to include hearing benefits. Garcia voted against funding for the U.S. Postal Service that would help older American get their Social Security checks on time. Garcia voted against combatting age discrimination in the workplace.

**Garcia was bad for California students and teachers.** Garcia said he would “download funding” from the federal Department of Education to local authorities. He voted against measures to keep students safe at school during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the American Rescue Plan, which gave California more than \$15 billion to help safely reopen schools. Garcia opposed funding for high-poverty schools and efforts to reduce education disparities. Garcia voted against making Pell Grants more accessible, even though students in Garcia’s district received over \$25 million in Pell Grants from 2019 to 2020. Garcia voted repeatedly against increasing student debt relief, including voting to keep a Betsy DeVos Education Department rule that made it more difficult to receive student loan forgiveness.

**Garcia voted against measures to help veterans.** Garcia voted against strengthening consumer protections related to medical debt and credit reporting for servicemembers. Garcia voted twice against funding for Veterans’ Administration construction.

## **Garcia Was An Ethically Challenged D.C. Swamp Creature**

**Garcia has repeatedly failed to pay his taxes on time and even tried to take the homestead exemption in Washington, D.C.** In December 2020, Garcia disclosed that he had purchased a condominium in Washington, D.C. According to D.C. tax records, Garcia was nearly five months overdue on property taxes before eventually paying them. Records also revealed that he had received the homestead tax deduction in Washington, D.C. for a few months before it was revoked in August 2021. Garcia also repeatedly failed to pay his company’s taxes, owing at least \$1,324.65 in liens in total between 2017 and 2020, and had another \$250 debt to the California Franchise Tax board in January 2020.

**Garcia has improperly failed to disclose financial assets while funneling personal wealth into his own congressional campaign.** Between June and July 2019, Garcia gave his congressional campaign over \$125,000 dollars. However, in a July 2019 financial disclosure report for congressional candidates, Garcia did not disclose the full extent of his financial investments; he disclosed that he held a brokerage account worth between \$100,000 and \$250,000, but did not disclose the individual stocks in the account, as he was required to do.

**As a member of congress, Garcia has continued the pattern of failing to properly disclose his assets as required by law and other shady investment behavior.** As a member of Congress, Garcia reported selling between \$96,000 and

\$390,000 stocks that he had previously failed to disclose holding, including volatile stocks like airlines. For example, between June 3, 2020 and Nov. 13, 2020, Garcia sold Boeing stock that he previously failed to disclose while Congress debated COVID-19 relief aid for the airlines and aircraft producers. During the pandemic, Garcia also failed to disclose many of his stock trades within the time frame required by law, including airline stock. In June 2021, Garcia purchased GameStop stock in June 2021, several months after investigations began into market manipulation surrounding the stock.

**Garcia denounced the practice of ballot harvesting even though he used ballot harvesting to help him win election to Congress.** During the 2020 special election in which Garcia won a seat in Congress, he “successfully” used the controversial practice of “ballot harvesting,” whereby ballots could be picked up by third parties and dropped off at election sites on behalf of voters. After Garcia won the May special election and was gearing up for the November general election, Garcia ally Rep. Devin Nunes commented that Garcia would be in “good shape to hold onto” his seat “as long as we have a robust ballot harvest operation in November.” After winning himself a full term in the November election, Garcia criticized the practice of ballot harvesting and said it had eroded Californians’ trust in the election process.

**Garcia took campaign cash from political committees associated with high-profile figures who were accused of sexual misconduct.** Garcia accepted money from Steve Wynn via a joint fundraising committee after Wynn had been accused of a decades-long pattern of sexual misconduct. Garcia took \$2,000 from Matt Gaetz’s campaign committee and refused to donate it to charity after Gaetz was accused of breaking federal sex trafficking laws. Garcia said he would only donate the money if Gaetz was indicted or resigned.

## **Garcia Was A Right-Wing Extremist Out Of Touch With His District**

**Garcia ran for Congress as a moderate, then lurched to the right once he was elected.** During his campaign for Congress in 2020, Garcia said he was running because former Rep. Katie Hill “did not represent our moderate district.” He pledged that as a Congressman, he would represent all of his constituents and bring House members of both parties together. But after he was elected, Garcia moved to the right. The Mayor of Lancaster noted that Garcia took “positions that I think sometimes are not supported by his district” to become more powerful in Washington. One Santa Clarita media commentator noted that Garcia had run as someone above partisanship, but that he had “voted as a Trump acolyte continually” since entering Congress.

**Garcia marched in lockstep with his D.C. party bosses and was a rubber stamp for the MAGA agenda in Congress.** Garcia was an “enthusiastic” “Trump loyalist” who received Trump’s “complete and total endorsement.” In Congress, he voted in line with Trump’s positions 84% of the time. Garcia voted with his party about 95% of the time and voted to elect Rep. Kevin McCarthy as Speaker of the House in January 2021. Garcia repeatedly voted

against President Biden's agenda in Congress and accused him of being not mentally fit enough and even "dangerous," saying Biden and his staff were the "biggest threats" to U.S. security. Garcia voted against penalizing Marjorie Taylor Greene and Paul Gosar for endorsing violence against Democrats and claimed he was discriminated against under the "Pelosi Regime" in D.C.

**Garcia was an anti-woman extremist.** Garcia opposed abortion rights in all cases except if the mother's life was in danger—meaning he did not support exceptions even for rape or incest. Garcia asked the Supreme Court to uphold Mississippi's restrictive abortion law, which could overturn Roe v. Wade and voted against a plan to protect abortion rights in the event Roe v. Wade was overturned. He repeatedly co-introduced a bill that would ban all abortions, IUDs, IVF, and some cancer treatments for women nationwide. Garcia supported defunding Planned Parenthood and wanted to permanently ban federal funding for health plans that covered abortions. Garcia also opposed multiple plans to crack down on domestic violence, including opposing full reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Garcia said the bill was "bad" and "encroach[ed]" on the Second Amendment.

Coincidentally, The NRA, which has endorsed Garcia, also opposed the bill because it closed the "boyfriend loophole" that allowed convicted domestic abusers to purchase guns. Garcia also opposed plans to close the gender pay gap, expand accommodations for pregnant workers, and officially give women equal rights under the Constitution.

**Garcia opposed common sense gun safety measures to crack down on gun violence.** The NRA endorsed Garcia and gave him an "A" rating. Garcia has voted against expanded background checks for gun purchases and said he opposed "new" restrictions on guns. Garcia said that no "law in the world" could have prevented a 2019 shooting at a Santa Clarita high school—even though the shooter obtained the weapon without a background check. His response to the Uvalde school shooting was to say he was "praying for the victims and their families," adding "prayer does matter."

**Garcia supported harsh and uncompromising immigration policies and demonized immigrants.** Garcia voted against providing DREAMers with a pathway to citizenship and falsely claimed that DACA recipients were not subject to thorough vetting such as a criminal background check. Garcia repeatedly voted to spend taxpayer money to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and voted to block payments to immigrant families who were cruelly separated under the Trump Administration. He "abhor[ed]" sanctuary cities because he said undocumented immigrants were "sucking up our tax dollars" and "degrading our quality of life." After a group of women said they were forced to have gynecological procedures against their will while in ICE custody, Garcia voted against condemning such procedures. Garcia voted against ending Trump's Muslim ban.

**Garcia supported policies that disproportionately harmed Californians of color.** Garcia voted repeatedly against a plan to improve policing by holding law enforcement more accountable and banning policing practices like choke holds and no-knock warrants and voted against a plan to prevent local police from using certain military equipment. Garcia opposed decriminalizing marijuana and expunging all non-violent marijuana related convictions. Garcia voted against ending the unfair sentencing disparity between crack and

powder cocaine, which disproportionately penalized Americans of color. Garcia supported the death penalty and supported plans to try to make executions happen faster. Garcia repeatedly voted against condemning racism and hate crimes directed at Asian-Americans.

**Garcia opposed critical COVID-19 relief for Californians and opposed efforts that would help end the pandemic more quickly.** Garcia said that the government's COVID-19 relief plans were a "two month trial subscription to socialism" and he voted against the American Rescue Plan, which provided \$1,400 direct payments, aid to state and local governments, schools, and small businesses, an expanded Child Tax Credit, and vaccine distribution funds. Garcia also opposed a plan to provide more direct payments to individual families and hazard pay for essential workers. Garcia voted against a bipartisan plan to increase accountability and transparency around how COVID-19 relief funds were being spent. He spread disinformation about COVID-19, was criticized for "raising unfounded fears about vaccine outreach programs," and opposed efforts to get more Californians vaccinated.

**Garcia was a right-wing extremist on energy and the environment.** Garcia claimed that California's wildfires were caused by "bad leadership" rather than climate change and that more deforestation was the solution. Garcia promised to propose a plan that would increase funding to fight wildfires in California but voted to cut funding for the government agency that oversees wildfire suppression operations, fire facilities, and provides rural fire assistance. Garcia downplayed human activity's impact on climate change and voted against efforts to fight it. Garcia voted in favor of a Trump Administration rule that weakened air pollution standards and voted against reinstating an Obama-era rule that required oil and gas companies to check for and repair dangerous leaks. Garcia repeatedly voted against funding for clean and renewable energy.

**Garcia sided with foreign adversaries and murderous regimes and supported keeping American troops stuck in failed forever-wars.** Garcia claimed that Putin invaded Ukraine because Biden showed weakness and gave Putin the "Green light." Garcia voted against a plan to hold China accountable for their unfair trade practices and make the U.S. more competitive against them. Garcia claimed that the Biden Administration—not our foreign adversaries—was the "greatest threat to our nation's security" and accused top military leaders of pushing a "woke" liberal agenda rather than focusing on defeating enemies. Garcia voted against bringing home American troops from Afghanistan and defended the Iraq War as recently as 2019, saying that he would still support it today knowing what he knows now.

**Garcia opposed equal rights for LGBTQ Californians.** Garcia voted against the Equality Act, which would prohibit discrimination or segregation based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity, saying it was "contrary to American ideals."



## **Garcia Was A Threat To Democracy**

**Garcia voted to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election.** Garcia voted to object to the certification of Arizona and Pennsylvania's 2020 electoral votes, citing debunked and unsubstantiated claims about "constitutional errors," "irregularities," and "voter fraud." Garcia still voted to overturn the results of the election even after the Jan. 6 Insurrection, claiming a need to resolve "any uncertainty" about the 2020 election. Garcia further claimed that he wanted a debate about election integrity and was not trying to overturn the election. The San Francisco Chronicle wrote that Garcia's actions showed he was "unfit" to hold office and the Monterey County Herald wrote that Garcia had sacrificed his "conservative principles" and "credibility."

**Garcia opposed efforts to investigate the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection, hold Trump accountable for it, and upgrade Capitol security in response to it.** Garcia issued a statement condemning the violence at the Capitol on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, but "remained silent on Trump's role in the insurrection." In January 2021, Garcia voted for establishing a bipartisan, 9/11-style commission to investigate the January 6<sup>th</sup> attack as an alternative to impeaching President Trump, but five months later flip-flopped and voted against establishing the commission. Garcia voted against penalizing Trump allies such as Mark Meadows and Steve Bannon for not cooperating with the January 6<sup>th</sup> congressional investigation. Garcia voted against a bill funding and upgrading emergency services and Capitol security in response to the Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. Garcia voted against impeaching President Trump for inciting the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection. In February 2022, Garcia responded to a question about the Capitol Police surveilling Republican congressional offices by saying "Capitol Police leadership" was "effectively behaving as the Gestapo."

**After the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection, Garcia continued to promote The Big Lie by co-founding an "election integrity caucus," which collaborated with Trump allies who continued peddling 2020 election conspiracies.** A few months after the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection, Garcia co-founded and then co-chaired the "Election Integrity Caucus" with Rep. Claudia Tenney to "focus on addressing election security and restoring faith in the U.S. election system." The Election Integrity Caucus met with former Trump White House Communications Aide Hogan Gidley, "who continues to spread unsupported claims about the 2020 election" and also met with Texas State Rep. Briscoe Cain, who worked with Trump's legal team to overturn the 2020 election.

**Garcia refused to denounce lies and conspiracy theories about January 6<sup>th</sup> and the 2020 election spread by his brother.** Garcia's brother, Gus Garcia, was a QAnon supporter who sympathized with the January 6 Insurrectionists and posted the pictures and name of a man he said was the Capitol Police officer who shot an insurrectionist. Gus Garcia repeatedly promoted the Big Lie and said that Joe Biden lost and belonged in prison. Gus Garcia said on Facebook that everything "Q" said was "correct" and "spot" on, and he implied that since the leader of the Proud Boys "isn't even white," he was not a white supremacist. Garcia has not responded to requests for comment on his brother's views and has refused to denounce them.

**Garcia repeatedly opposed efforts to make elections fairer and more secure.**

Garcia voted against a plan to make elections fairer and more secure by strengthening fundraising transparency, expanding voting rights, and ending partisan gerrymandering. Garcia attacked partisan gerrymandering in blue states but voted against legislation that would outlaw it nationwide. Garcia voted against multiple plans to crack down on foreign interference in American elections. He opposed efforts to combat discriminatory voter suppression and supported efforts to make it harder to vote.

**Garcia, along with Trump and the RNC, falsely accused Democrats of trying to steal the California 25th**

**congressional district's special election in 2020, in which Garcia was elected to Congress.** In 2020, Trump and the RNC claimed that Governor Newsom and other Democrats were trying to steal the CA-25 special election by opening another in-person voting site—even though it was requested by a Republican Mayor. Lancaster's Republican Mayor, who supported Garcia, had requested the in-person voting site to make it easier for the city's Black population to vote and because another voting center in another city was closed. He denied that it was evidence of a rigged election. However, Garcia still echoed claims that opening the new poll site was evidence that Christy Smith and the Democrats were trying to steal the election.

**Significant Findings**

**Garcia Supported Tax Cuts For Special Interests And Corporations But Opposed Tax Cuts For The Middle Class**

- Garcia supported the 2017 Republican tax scam and repeatedly called for it to be made permanent.
  - Garcia supported the 2017 Republican tax bill and claimed it created "the lowest unemployment" and "highest GDP that we've seen in a long time."
  - Garcia called for making the 2017 Republican tax bill permanent.
  - The 2017 Republican tax scam gave a massive tax cut to corporations, special interests, and the ultra-wealthy, while raising them on the middle class, increasing incentives to offshore jobs, raising health insurance costs, and threatening cuts to Medicare and Social Security.
- Garcia voted against the American Rescue Plan, which cut taxes for middle class families by expanding the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit.
  - The American Rescue Plan expanded the Child Tax Credit "from \$2,000 per child to \$3,000 per child for children over the age of six and from \$2,000 to \$3,600 for children under the age of six."

- The American Rescue Plan expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit from \$543 to \$1,502.
- Approximately 4,611,000 families with 7,513,000 children in California benefitted from the American Rescue Plan's Child Tax Credit Payments.
  - CA-25 received at least \$38.4 million in Child Tax Credit payments under the American Rescue Plan.
- Approximately 1,840,000 more workers in California benefitted from the American Rescue Plan's expanded Earned Income Tax Credit.
- Garcia voted against Build Back Better, which would cut taxes for working families and stop rewarding corporations for shipping jobs overseas.
  - Build Back Better would cut taxes for middle class and working families by extending increases in the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit.
  - Build Back Better Act would raise the State and Local Tax (SALT) deduction cap from \$10,000 to \$80,000.
    - The SALT deduction allowed taxpayers to "reduce their federal income tax liability by deducting certain taxes paid to their state and local government."
    - The 2017 Republican tax scam's \$10,000 SALT deduction cap caused the average California taxpayer who itemized SALT to pay around \$5,500 more in taxes.
  - Build Back Better would "adopt a 15% country-by-country minimum tax on foreign profits of U.S. corporations, so that they no longer receive massive tax benefits from" shipping jobs overseas.
  - Build Back Better would close tax loopholes and "apply a 5 percent rate above income of \$10 million, and an additional 3 percent above income of \$25 million."

**Garcia Wanted To Rip Away Current Health Care Protections And Opposed Policies To Make Health Care More Affordable**

- Garcia repeatedly expressed support for repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

- Aug 2019: Garcia believed that getting the ACA “off the books” would create a “forcing function for collectors to go out and do something.”
- Nov. 2019: Garcia said that he was in favor of repealing the ACA.
- May 2020: Garcia said that supported repealing the ACA.
- One of Garcia’s first actions in Congress, five months into the Coronavirus pandemic, was to support a taxpayer funded lawsuit to repeal the ACA.
  - May 19, 2020: Garcia was first sworn into Congress.
  - July 30, 2020: Garcia voted against an amendment to prevent the Department of Justice from litigating to defund the ACA.
    - If successful, this suit could have caused more than 4.2 million Californians to lose their health insurance and gut protections for more than 6 million Californians with pre- existing conditions.
- Garcia voted against multiple bills aimed at expanding the Affordable Care Act and lowering health insurance premiums.
  - June 2020: Garcia voted against the State Health Care Premium Reduction Act, which would expand enrollment in ACA health insurance marketplaces and eligibility for insurance subsidies.
  - February 2021: Garcia voted against the American Rescue Plan, which expanded the Affordable Care Act’s health insurance tax credits and subsidies and led to 2.5 million more Americans enrolling on the health insurance exchanges.
    - The American Rescue Plan enabled people with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty line to “get silver plans for zero premium with vastly reduced deductibles.”
    - The American Rescue Plan expanded health insurance tax credits and subsidies to all Americans with incomes up to 400% of the federal poverty line.
    - The American Rescue Plan increased enrollment in the ACA health insurance marketplaces by 2.5 million people.
  - Nov. 2021: Garcia voted against the Build Back Better Act, which would help nine million Americans save an average of \$600 annually on their health insurance premiums through the ACA marketplace.

- Garcia accepted over \$44,000 from the pharmaceutical industry during his political career, and voted against lowering prescription drug prices and supported tax giveaways to the pharmaceutical industry.
  - As of May 2022, Garcia had received \$44,017 in campaign contributions from the pharmaceutical industry during his political career.
  - Nov. 2021: Garcia voted against the Build Back Better Act, which would reduce prescription co- pays, limit out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors, and cap insulin prices at \$35 a month.
  - June 2020: Garcia voted against the State Health Care Premium Reduction Act, which would authorize maximum price negotiations for prescription drugs under Medicare.
  - Garcia supported repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which would increase the cost of prescription drugs by \$1,000 per year for 5 million California seniors.
  - Garcia supported the 2017 Republican tax scam, which gave drug companies billions in tax giveaways.
- Garcia said he was “not a big fan of” Medicaid, even though 15% of adults in his district benefitted from the program.
- Garcia said that he was open to block granting Medicaid, which would cut federal funding for states’ Medicaid programs and threaten recipients’ coverage and benefits.
  - Garcia said that he was “not necessarily opposed to block grants for Medicaid” and claimed that “block grants, block chain technologies usually do work if they’re tended to well.”
  - The Commonwealth Fund estimated on March 6, 2020, that block granting would cut Medicaid funding for the median state by 10.5% by 2025.
  - These Medicaid funding cuts “would require states to cut coverage, reduce benefits, increase cost-sharing, lower provider payment rates, or otherwise reduce Medicaid expenditures.”
- June 2020: Garcia voted against the State Health Care Premium Reduction Act, which incentivized Medicaid expansion by states.

## **Garcia Has Repeatedly Opposed Efforts To Lower Costs And Address Supply Shortages**

- Garcia voted against the Build Back Better Act, which would help reduce energy costs by \$500 per year for the average household by investing in clean energy.
- Garcia suggested he opposed food stamps—which make food more affordable for working families— because he thought “everyone should have to figure out how to fend for themselves.”
  - Garcia suggested that he was opposed to food stamps, saying that “as a purist” he would “say no” to “food stamps at a low level” because he thought “everyone should have to figure out how to fend for themselves.”
  - Approximately 7.5% of households in CA-25 were on food stamps as of 2019.
- May 2022: Garcia voted against the Consumer Fuel Price Gouging Prevention Act, which would strengthen the President and Federal Trade Commission’s ability to crack down on fuel price gouging.
- May 2022: Garcia voted against \$28 million in emergency funding to help alleviate the national baby formula shortage.
- Garcia voted against the America COMPETES Act, which aimed to decrease inflation and increase the U.S.’s global economic competitiveness by bolstering supply chains and investing in domestic manufacturing.
  - Garcia voted against the America COMPETES Act, a bill to protect American supply chains by investing in American manufacturing and reducing US reliance on China. The bill would:
    - Authorize \$45 billion to bolster the supply chain and increase U.S. manufacturing of “critical” goods.
    - Invest \$3 billion in solar manufacturing to reduce the U.S.’s reliance on China.
    - Invest \$52 billion in domestic manufacturing and research of semiconductors to decrease the U.S.’s technological dependence on Asia.
    - Fund an aid program for workers impacted by increased imports and invested in STEM education programs.

- The National Association of Manufacturers said that the America COMPETES Act would “help address inflation and alleviate supply chain challenges we’re facing today.”

### **Garcia Repeatedly Supported Fiscally Irresponsible Budget Practices That Risked Economic Crisis**

- Garcia repeatedly voted against raising the debt limit, risking a “cataclysmic” economic crisis destroying up to 6 million jobs and \$15 trillion in household wealth.
  - Dec. 2021: Garcia voted against raising the Debt Limit by \$2.5 trillion to fund the government through 2022.
  - Sept. 2021: Garcia voted against the extension of the Debt Ceiling through December 16, 2022.
  - Sept. 2021: Garcia voted against raising the Debt Limit.

### **Garcia Opposed Workers’ Rights**

- Garcia voted against the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, which would make it easier for workers to organize and collectively bargain.
  - Garcia voted against the PRO Act which would expand the authority of the National Labor Relations Board and protect collective bargaining rights.
  - The PRO Act would increase penalties for illegal union-busting, expand collective bargaining rights, weaken “right to work” laws, and allow more contractors to be reclassified as employees.
  - Garcia said he voted against the PRO Act to protect the “flexibility and independence that makes [...] gig jobs attractive in the first place.”
  - Garcia opposed the PRO Act despite stating “all union members deserve leadership and protection.”
    - May 2021: Garcia attacked the PRO Act and claimed that similar legislation in California caused people to flee the state.
    - November 2021: Garcia tweeted “all union members deserve leadership and protection.”

- Garcia voted against prevailing wage requirements for federal-aid highway and public transportation projects.
- Garcia voted against providing whistleblower protections to employees who report labor law violations.
- Garcia voted against prohibiting employers from hiring permanent replacements for strikers.
- Garcia voted against Build Back Better, which would impose financial penalties for employers who engaged in unfair labor practices, such as illegal union-busting.
- Garcia opposed California's Assembly Bill 5, which required businesses to reclassify gig workers as employees so they could get workplace benefits, and claimed that 70,000 jobs had been lost since it was enacted.
  - Garcia opposed California's Assembly Bill 5, which required businesses to reclassify gig workers as employees so they can get workplace benefits, such as health insurance.
  - Garcia claimed that Assembly Bill 5 led to 70,000 job losses in California.
  - Garcia co-sponsored federal legislation that would preempt bills like California's Assembly Bill

### **Garcia Opposed Making Childcare More Affordable And Accessible**

- Garcia repeatedly voted against expanding access to affordable child care.
  - Garcia voted against the Child Care for Economic Recovery Act, a program that would extend "grants for states to provide family care for essential workers" in response to COVID-19.
  - Garcia voted against the Child Care is Essential Act, which would create a \$50 billion child care stabilization fund to provide grant funding to child care providers.
  - Garcia voted against the Build Back Better Act, which would have created universal pre-k and made child care more affordable.
    - Build Back Better would cap child care costs and to increase access to high quality care.
    - Build Back Better would provide universal access to pre-k for every three and four year old.



- Nov. 2021: Garcia voted against creating a national paid family leave program that would give all workers at least four weeks of paid leave when he voted against the Build Back Better Act.
  - The think tank New America stated that paid leave would help working families “defray the high cost of infant care.”

### **Garcia Opposed Efforts To Make Housing More Affordable**

- July 2020: Garcia voted against HR 2, which invested over \$100 billion into our nation's affordable housing infrastructure to create or preserve 1.8 million affordable homes.
- Nov. 2021: Garcia voted against the Build Back Better Act, which included \$170 billion for affordable housing and about 300,000 new housing vouchers.
- Garcia said that “free market capitalism” and private charities could solve homelessness.
- Garcia opposed Biden’s proposal for a \$500 million increase in homeless assistance grants.
  - Garcia claimed that the \$500 million increase was unnecessary because the federal government had already spent \$9 billion in homeless aid since March 2020.

### **Garcia Opposed Investments In California’s Infrastructure To Create Jobs And Make Transportation More Accessible**

- Garcia voted against the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which had bipartisan support and allocated \$550 billion in new infrastructure spending.
  - The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal (BID) would create around 2 million jobs per year for a decade by investing billions of dollars in roads, bridges, broadband, electricity, public transit, and other forms of infrastructure.
  - Garcia voted against the BID even though it:
    - Contained broadband investments that benefitted households without wireline broadband or internet access in CA-25.
      - Nearly 23% of CA-25 households lacked access to wireline broadband while more than 12% lacked any internet access whatsoever.

- Included \$73 billion for power grid modernization, which Garcia said was key to address problems like frequent power outages in Simi Valley.
  - Provided California with "\$25.3 billion for federal-aid highway apportioned programs and \$4.2 billion for bridge replacement and repairs."
  - Provided California with "\$9.45 billion over five years [...] to improve public transportation options across the state."
  - Invested "\$3.5 billion over five years" in California's water infrastructure to "ensure that clean, safe drinking water is a right in all communities."
  - Spent \$1.5 billion on "infrastructure development for" California's airports.
- Garcia voted against the Moving Forward Act, a bill to provide \$1.5 trillion in infrastructure projects for roads, transit, water, broadband, schools, hospitals, and reducing pollution.
  - Garcia repeatedly proposed legislation to end federal funding for California's high-speed rail project, which, as of March 2021, had already created 5,200 jobs and generated more than \$10 billion in total economic activity.
    - California's high-speed rail project aimed to build a 200-mph bullet train between Anaheim and San Francisco.
    - Garcia claimed that high-speed rail would not help California's traffic problems.
  - Garcia voted against investing in surface transportation infrastructure in southern border communities, tribal infrastructure, and lead service line replacement projects.
    - Garcia voted against \$30 million to repair and maintain surface transportation infrastructure in communities along the southern border.
    - Garcia voted against \$20 billion in energy department grants for tribal infrastructure improvements.
    - Garcia voted against an amendment to reauthorize funding for the EPA comprehensive lead service line replacement projects.

## **Garcia Was Bad For California Seniors**

- Garcia signaled that he was willing to cut Social Security and Medicare, saying he would reduce spending on "entitlement programs" to balance the budget and that he didn't want the federal government to be a safety net.
  - When asked in a candidate questionnaire what government spending he would reduce in order to balance the budget, Garcia answered, "entitlement programs."
  - Separately, in August 2019: Garcia said that "there should be safety nets, but I don't want the federal government to be the safety net."
  - Garcia said he wanted "the churches," "the local community nonprofits," and "our neighbors to be the safety net" rather than the federal government.
- Aug. 2019: Garcia said he supported a social safety net via Medicare "at some levels."
- Garcia voted against preventing sequestration cuts to Medicare.
- Garcia voted against the Build Back Better Act, which would have expanded Medicare coverage to include hearing benefits.
- Garcia repeatedly opposed efforts to lower the cost of prescription drugs for seniors.
  - Nov. 2021: Garcia voted against the Build Back Better Act, which would reduce prescription co- pays, limit out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors, and cap insulin prices at \$35 a month.
  - June 2020: Garcia voted against the State Health Care Premium Reduction Act, which would authorize maximum price negotiations for prescription drugs under Medicare.
  - Garcia supported repealing the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which would increase the cost of prescription drugs by \$1,000 per year for 5 million California seniors.
- Garcia voted against U.S. Postal Service funding that would help older Americans get their Social Security checks on time.
  - Garcia voted against a bipartisan emergency funding bill for the U.S. Postal Service.

- Without this funding, older Americans might not have gotten their Social Security checks on time.
- Garcia voted against combatting age discrimination in the workplace twice.
  - November 2021: Garcia voted against protections against age discrimination for job applicants.
  - June 2021: Garcia voted against the Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act.

### **Garcia Was Bad For California Students And Teachers**

- When asked what government spending he would reduce in order to balance the budget, Garcia said he would “download funding for Federal Dept of Education to local school boards and schools themselves.”
- Garcia voted against the American Rescue Plan, which gave California more than \$15 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funding to help safely reopen schools.
- Garcia opposed measures to keep students safe at school during the pandemic, such as mask and vaccine rules.
- Garcia voted to require schools to resume in-person learning in order to receive federal funding.
- Garcia opposed funding for high-poverty schools and reducing educational disparities.
  - Garcia voted against \$130 billion in funding for high-poverty schools with facilities that endangered student and educator health.
  - Garcia voted against awarding grants to school districts that implement plans to reduce educational disparities.
- Feb. 2022: Garcia voted against broadening Pell Grant eligibility even though students in Garcia’s district received \$25,225,040 in Pell Grants from 2019 to 2020.
- Garcia voted repeatedly against increased student debt relief.
  - July 2020: Garcia voted against requiring the Treasury Department from making payments of up to \$10,000 to help pay down private education student loans.

- June 2020: Garcia voted to keep a Betsy Devos Education Department rule that narrowed the requirements to receive student loan forgiveness.
- Garcia said he would support taxpayer-funded student loan relief “only if the student serves in the military.”