

Jared Golden voted for a trillion dollars in government spending, which has contributed to the worst inflation in 40 years. As prices soared, Golden supported Biden's cuts to our oil supply which further jacked up the cost of heating oil and gas.

BACKUP:

In November 2021, Jared Golden voted for H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which was a \$1.2 trillion bill:

- On November 5, 2021, Jared Golden voted for the Motion to Concur on H.R. 3684, passing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. (H.R. 3684, [Roll Call 369](#), Passed 228-206: R 13-200, D 215-6, Golden Voted Yea, 11/5/21)
- In November 2021, President Joe Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act into law, shoring up \$1.2 trillion in funds. "President Joe Biden on Monday signed into law one of the largest infrastructure packages in U.S. history after months of bipartisan negotiations and tense political infighting, shoring up \$1.2 trillion in funds, including \$550 billion in new investments for the nation's bridges, airports, waterways, public transit and more—here's what you need to know about where the massive new spending will go." (Jonathan Ponciano, "Everything In The \$1.2 Trillion Infrastructure Bill: New Roads, Electric School Buses And More," [Forbes](#), 11/15/21)

Stephen Miran—a former senior adviser for economic policy at the U.S. Treasury—predicted that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act would fuel inflation:

- **HEADLINE: "The Trillion-Dollar Infrastructure Bill Will Fuel Inflation"** (Stephen Miran, "The Trillion-Dollar Infrastructure Bill Will Fuel Inflation," [Op-Ed](#), *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/8/21)
- In August 2021, Stephen Miran predicted that the bipartisan infrastructure bill would "heap more fuel on the inflation fire." "The 2,702-page, trillion-dollar infrastructure bill under consideration in Congress is a monumental feat of bipartisan negotiation, but if passed, it will likely heap more fuel on the inflation fire." (Stephen Miran, "The Trillion-Dollar Infrastructure Bill Will Fuel Inflation," [Op-Ed](#), *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/8/21)

*Editor's Note:* Stephen Miran [was](#) a senior adviser for economic policy at the U.S. Treasury from 2020 to 2021.

- According to Miran's analysis, the infrastructure bill contained "hidden inflationary forces" such as new regulations. "There are other hidden inflationary forces in the bill. A persistent driver of inflation is the regulatory cost of doing business, and the bipartisan infrastructure bill is filled with new regulations." (Stephen Miran, "The Trillion-Dollar Infrastructure Bill Will Fuel Inflation," [Op-Ed](#), *The Wall Street Journal*, 8/8/21)

Analysis from RBC Wealth Management advised investors that the infrastructure bill was expected to lead to large increases in near-term inflation:

- An analysis from RBC Wealth Management suggested that long-term investors should "de-emphasize the large, but expected, increases in near-term inflation." "The infrastructure bill will likely be subject to considerable revision during the legislative

process and may never pass into law. Whatever its final form, the key considerations for the Fed are likely to be the magnitude and duration of the spending plan and the distribution toward higher consumption, lower-income households. The more pronounced and durable the fiscal impact, the greater the Fed's flexibility to adjust monetary accommodation. We believe long-term investors will be well-served to focus on the infrastructure plan and its ramifications and de-emphasize the large, but expected, increases in near-term inflation.” (Atul Bhatia, “Infrastructure, inflation, and a possible Fed policy rethink,” [Analysis](#), RBC Wealth Management, Accessed: 8/4/22)

*Editor's Note:* The version of the infrastructure bill referenced above was not the final version of the bill, though it was similar.

### **In January 2022, inflation accelerated to a 40-year high, reaching a 7.5% annual rate:**

- **Headline from *The Wall Street Journal*: “U.S. Inflation Rate Accelerates to a 40-Year High of 7.5%”** (Gwynn Guilford, “U.S. Inflation Rate Accelerates to a 40-Year High of 7.5%,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 2/10/22)
- **In January 2022, inflation hit a four-decade high of 7.5%.** “A relentless surge in U.S. inflation reached another four-decade high last month, accelerating to a 7.5% annual rate as strong consumer demand collided with pandemic-related supply disruptions. The Labor Department on Thursday said the consumer-price index—which measures what consumers pay for goods and services—in January reached its highest level since February 1982, when compared with the same month a year ago. That put inflation above December’s 7% annual rate and well above the 1.8% annual rate for inflation in 2019 ahead of the pandemic.” (Gwynn Guilford, “U.S. Inflation Rate Accelerates to a 40-Year High of 7.5%,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 2/10/22)

### **In June 2022, U.S. inflation reached a new 40-year high with consumer prices increasing 9.1% – the fastest increase in prices since November 1981:**

- **Headline from CBS News: “Inflation hit 9.1% in June, highest rate in more than 40 years”** (IRINA IVANOVA, “Inflation hit 9.1% in June, highest rate in more than 40 years,” [CBS News](#), 7/13/22)
- **In June 2022, inflation hit a new 40-year high with consumer prices increasing 9.1%.** “Inflation hit a new 40-year record of “Inflation hit a fresh 40-year record in June, with consumer prices increasing 9.1% over the last 12 months, the Labor Department said Wednesday.” (IRINA IVANOVA, “Inflation hit 9.1% in June, highest rate in more than 40 years,” [CBS News](#), 7/13/22)
- **The 9.1% increase represented “the fastest increase in prices since November 1981” and were broad-based.** “Inflation hit a fresh 40-year record in June, with consumer prices increasing 9.1% over the last 12 months, the Labor Department said Wednesday. It’s the fastest increase in prices since November 1981, and above what economists had expected. The increases were broad-based: Rent, new and used vehicles, car insurance and medical care all rose in June, the government report said. Core inflation, which strips out volatile food and energy prices, rose 5.9% over the last 12 months, slowing its pace from May.” (IRINA IVANOVA, “Inflation hit 9.1% in June, highest rate in more than 40 years,” [CBS News](#), 7/13/22)

### **Inflation has put pressure on consumers and added as much as \$250 a month to living expenses:**

- **Inflation has put pressure on consumers and added as much as \$250-per-month to living expenses.** “Higher prices are putting pressure on consumers, with inflation adding as much as \$250 a month to living expenses, and businesses, which are scrambling to keep up with rising materials and labor costs.” (Gwynn Guilford, “U.S. Inflation Rate Accelerates to a 40-Year High of 7.5%,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), 2/10/22)

**As prices were on the rise, Jared Golden supported Joe Biden's plan to cut our oil supply by banning Russian energy imports, which has caused gas prices and home heating oil prices to rise even higher:**

- **As gas prices were on the rise, President Joe Biden announced that he would ban imports of Russian oil, which could drive gas and home heating oil prices even higher.** “Gasoline prices are pushing above \$4 a gallon, the highest average price that American motorists have faced since July 2008, The Associated Press reports. Prices at the pump were already rising prior to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, but the war has now accelerated that trend. President Joe Biden’s decision Tuesday to ban imports of Russian oil could drive gas and home heating oil prices further. According to AAA, the U.S. national average per gallon hit a record \$4.17 a gallon Tuesday, up nearly 55 cents a gallon since last week, marking the highest price point in nearly 14 years. The average cost per gallon in Maine, however, is slightly higher at \$4.19.” (Maddison Raynor, “Pain at the pump: Maine sees soaring fuel prices,” [Spectrum Local News](#), 3/8/22)
- **Jared Golden supported Biden’s decision to ban all Russian energy imports over Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.** “This is the right thing to do, but the president must now take decisive action and pair this ban with initiatives to boost domestic oil and gas production. We must protect American consumers and our national security interests.” (Congressman Jared Golden, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)



(Congressman Jared Golden, [Twitter](#), 3/8/22)

- **Golden acknowledged that Biden’s decision to ban Russian oil imports would likely cause gas prices to rise even higher.** “There has been talk about actions Congress could take to make the U.S. more energy independent for the long term. But it's unlikely Congress could act swiftly enough to make a difference right away. Second congressional district U.S. Rep. Jared Golden, D-Maine, and some of his colleagues sent a letter to President Joe Biden outlining steps they want him to take immediately because this problem is likely to worsen before it gets better. ‘Our decision to ban Russian oil imports is

only going to shake up global markets even worse,' Golden said. 'We're already near five dollars. I think we're going higher.'" (Pat Callaghan, "Rep. Golden offers ideas for Biden administration to boost oil & gas production," [News Center Maine](#), 3/10/22)

- **According to a fact sheet from the White House, President Biden's ban on Russian energy imports came at a cost, which Americans have seen at the gas pump.** "At the start of this year, gas was about \$3.30 a gallon. Today, it's over \$4.20, an increase of nearly \$1. And now, a significant amount of Russian oil is not making it to market. The President banned the import of Russian oil – which Republicans and Democrats in Congress called for and supported. It was the right thing to do. But, as the President said, Russian oil coming off the global market would come with a cost, and Americans are seeing that at the pump." (The White House, "FACT SHEET: President Biden's Plan to Respond to Putin's Price Hike at the Pump," [Fact Sheet](#), 3/31/22)

### Golden's Votes Against Unleashing American Energy

As gas and heating oil prices soared, Jared Golden voted with Washington Democrats to block consideration of H.R. 6858, legislation to unleash American energy production that could lower the rising cost of gas, increase our energy independence from Russia, reauthorize the Keystone XL Pipeline, and allow the resumption of oil and gas drilling on federal lands:

- **CBS Boston headline: "Cost Of Home Heating Oil Set To Soar This Winter"** (No Author, "Cost Of Home Heating Oil Set To Soar This Winter," [CBS/Associated Press](#), 10/14/21)
- **Mainers who rely on home heating oil have said that they are being forced to make difficult decisions such as not driving as much due to inflation.** "Mainers, who heavily rely on home heating oil to survive the winter, said they're already being forced to make difficult decisions due to inflation. 'I'm not driving as much,' Rebecca, of Bradley, Maine, told Fox News. 'Trying to conserve. Filled up our tank early this year anticipating the increase in heating oil.'" (Matt Leach and Matt Wall, "Rising inflation sees Maine, New Englanders blast Biden administration and 'rich people trying to get richer,'" [Fox News](#), 11/15/21)
  - **According to Kara Hay, President and CEO of Penquis—a nonprofit that works with low- and moderate-income families—many Mainers live paycheck to paycheck and "simply don't have savings."** "Many Mainers live paycheck to paycheck, according to Penquis President and CEO Kara Hay. Her nonprofit works with low- and moderate-income families to help them become financially secure. 'We simply don't have savings,' Hay told Fox News." (Matt Leach and Matt Wall, "Inflation sparks financial insecurity in New England as winter looms," [Fox News](#), 11/26/21)
  - **Hay noted that that the "increased heating costs, utility costs, food costs, gas costs, home costs" have also had a "significant impact on Maine families."** "A single gap in wages can be very detrimental. So, that could mean caring for a sick loved one or having a child safely quarantined from school after exposure to COVID,' she continued. 'When those situations happen and there's a gap in wages, our families and individuals are spiraling negatively toward financial insecurity. When you add to that increased heating costs, utility costs, food costs, gas costs, home costs, we're seeing a significant impact on Maine families,' Hay said." (Matt Leach and Matt Wall, "Inflation sparks financial insecurity in New England as winter looms," [Fox News](#), 11/26/21)

- **“Tom, of Hampden, Maine, said: ‘I blame policies in Washington, D.C., that come straight from the top.’ Tom’s wife Lee said: ‘Shutting down the [Keystone] pipeline affects us all directly. Then [President Biden] wants ... OPEC to sell more oil to us, so what difference does it make what country is doing it?’”** (Matt Leach and Matt Wall, “Rising inflation sees Maine, New Englanders blast Biden administration and ‘rich people trying to get richer,” [Fox News](#), 11/15/21)
- **The American Energy Independence from Russia Act would unleash American production to lower oil prices and displace Russian imports, reauthorize the Keystone XL Pipeline, and mandate the resumption of leases for oil and gas drilling on federal land.** “Tuesday’s failed legislation sought to counter Russia’s energy influence and Ukrainian aggression by unleashing American production to lower oil prices and displace Russian imports. The bill reauthorized the Keystone XL Pipeline axed by Biden on his first day in office, which transported more than double the oil imported from Russia in December. The legislation also mandated the resumption of leases for oil and gas drilling on federal land. Biden quietly paused leases again last month through a legal maneuver, contesting rules governing the social cost of carbon calculations.” (Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)
- **On March 1, 2022, House Democrats shot down the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, legislation to reclaim energy independence.** “House Democrats shot down legislation to reclaim energy independence on Tuesday hours before President Joe Biden offered a rallying cry for his administration’s climate agenda. The ‘American Energy Independence from Russia Act’ introduced by the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s ranking member Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash., was rejected primarily along partisan lines 221 to 202.” (Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)
  - **On March 1, 2022, Golden joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 950, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #49](#), Passed: 221-202: R 1-202, D 220-0, Golden Voted Yea, 3/1/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote [called](#) the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

- **The bill’s failure came less than a week after Russia launched its assault on Ukraine.** “The bill’s partisan failure comes less than a week after Russia, a global energy producer supplying more than 10 percent of the world’s oil, launched its assault on Ukraine.” (Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)
- **The legislation sought to counter Russia’s energy influence by unleashing American production to lower oil prices.** “Tuesday’s failed legislation sought to counter Russia’s energy influence and Ukrainian aggression by unleashing American production to lower oil prices and displace Russian imports.” (Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)

- **On March 9, 2022, House Democrats voted down a motion to consider the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.** “Democrats voted down a motion to consider GOP legislation that would reverse several Biden administration energy policies, according to Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy’s office. During the vote Wednesday evening, 219 Democrats voted against consideration of the American Energy Independence from Russia Act offered by Republican Texas Rep. Dan Crenshaw, McCarthy’s office said. The legislation was introduced by Energy and Commerce Committee Ranking Member Cathy McMorris Rodgers and Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member Bruce Westerman on Feb. 28.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Democrats Block GOP Bill That Would Restart Keystone XL, Federal Oil Lease Program,” [The Daily Caller](#), 3/9/22)
  - **On March 9, 2022, Golden joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 973, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #63](#), Passed: 219-199: R 0-199, D 219-0, Golden Voted Yea, 3/9/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote [called](#) the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

- **On March 16, 2022, House Democrats blocked consideration of the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.** “House Democrats on Wednesday blocked consideration of a Republican bill aiming for U.S. energy independence from Russia amid the Ukraine war. A former environmental engineer now running for Congress in New Mexico condemned the move as ‘unconscionable’ in comments to Fox News Digital... H.R.6858, the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, would approve the Keystone XL pipeline without a presidential permit, direct the president to commission an energy security plan, and open up oil and gas leases across the U.S., among other things. Republicans have emphasized U.S. energy production as the solution to America's importing Russian oil – which President Biden halted in an executive order this month – and to Europe's reliance on Russian oil amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine.” (Tyler O’Neil, “House Dems block energy independence bill; GOP energy expert slams move as ‘unconscionable,’” [Fox News](#), 3/17/22)
  - **On March 16, 2022, Golden joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 979, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #73](#), Passed: 219-204: R 1-204, D 218-0, Golden Voted Yea, 3/16/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote [called](#) the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

- **On March 31, 2022, for the fourth time, House Democrats blocked consideration of the American Energy Independence from Russia Act—legislation that could help lower the rising cost of gas.** “Republicans offered a motion to block the previous question on the House floor. If the previous question was blocked, the House could consider Republican-led H.R. 6858, the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, to support American energy production across the country. However, Democrats blocked the motion in support of the bill on the same day that President Joe Biden urged American oil companies to start producing more oil and threatened them with punishment if they did not respond. If the bill passed, it would have provided a solution Biden is looking for by supporting the

production of American energy across the country and helping lower the rising cost of gas. On Thursday, the bill was offered by Rep. Michelle Fischbach (R-MN), who offered up the bill earlier in the month as well. However, it was shot down – for the fourth time – as 218 Democrats in the House voted against the motion, and four did not vote.” (Jacob Bliss, “House Democrats Block Consideration for American Energy Independence From Russia Act for the Fourth Time,” [Breitbart](#), 3/31/22)

- **On March 31, 2022, Golden joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 1017, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #98](#), Passed: 219-202: R 1-202, D 218-0, Golden Voted Yea, 3/31/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote [called](#) the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

- **On April 6, 2022, House Democrats—for the fifth time— blocked consideration of the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.** “House Democrats blocked a motion by the Republicans on Wednesday for the fifth time that would have brought a bill up for consideration that would have supported American energy to help lower the price of gas for all Americans. (Jacob Bliss, “House Democrats Block Consideration of American Energy Independence from Russia Act for 5th Time,” [Breitbart](#), 4/7/22)
- **On April 6, 2022, Golden joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 1033, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #119](#), Passed: 221-206: R 1-206, D 220-0, Golden Voted Yea, 4/6/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote [called](#) the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”