

Chris Pappas voted to allow convicted criminals, including the Boston Marathon bomber terrorist, to receive nearly 1 billion dollars in stimulus checks. Pappas's campaign has also been backed by groups who have supported defunding the police and ending cash bail, putting criminals right back on the street.

BACKUP:

In March 2021, Chris Pappas voted for the American Rescue Plan, a Democrat plan that gave nearly one billion dollars in stimulus checks to prison inmates, including the Boston Marathon bomber terrorist:

- **In March 2021, Chris Pappas voted for H.R. 1319, the “American Rescue Plan Act.”** (H.R. 1319, [Roll Call #72](#), Passed 220-211: R 0-210, D 220-1, Courtney Voted Yea, 3/10/21)
  - **The American Rescue Plan passed through Congress with only Democratic support.** “The American Rescue plan made it through Congress with only Democratic support, making it stand out from the bipartisan COVID relief plans Congress passed over the last year.” (Savannah Behrmann, “Takeaways from the COVID-19 stimulus bill passing Congress: Weeks of partisan fighting comes to an end with a win for Biden,” [USA Today](#), 3/10/21)
  - **President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law in March 2021.** “President Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act into law on Thursday, finalizing an early policy victory that will send much-needed aid to millions of Americans still struggling from the COVID-19 pandemic.” (Grace Segers, “Biden signs \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan into law,” [CBS News](#), 3/12/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan sent nearly \$1 billion in stimulus payments to prison inmates in 2021.** “The federal government doled out nearly a billion dollars in stimulus payments to prison inmates in 2021 under President Joe Biden’s American Rescue Plan, according to IRS records obtained by the Washington Examiner. The third-round stimulus payments to prisoners totaled \$924.3 million, which was much greater than previously reported. The checks went out despite efforts by Republican Sens. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and Bill Cassidy of Louisiana to bar stimulus funds from going to prisoners. Senate Democrats voted unanimously against the amendment in a 50-49 party-line vote in March 2021.” (Jerry Dunleavy and Andrew Kerr, “Nearly \$1 billion in stimulus funds sent to prisoners in 2021, ‘terrorists and perverts’ got \$1,400 checks,” [Washington Examiner](#), 2/11/22)
  - **Senator Tom Cotton accused Democrats of voting for payments to violent criminals instead of solving the pandemic or helping the economy.** “The American Rescue Plan was passed in March. Sen. Tom Cotton said ‘every single Democrat’ voted for payments to ‘violent criminals,’ in a statement to Fox News published on Friday He added: ‘Sending cash to murderers and rapists in prison has nothing to do with solving the pandemic or improving the economy. Now, the same people who sent hundreds of millions of dollars as gifts to these inmates want to spend trillions more in an even bigger and more partisan bill.’” (Kevin Shalvey, “Stimulus checks totaling almost \$800 million went to incarcerated people, IRS records show,” [Business Insider](#), 7/31/21)
  - **The American Rescue Plan sent stimulus checks to approximately 645,000 people who were incarcerated at the start of 2021.** “The IRS reported that the money went to approximately 645,000 people who were incarcerated at the start of

the year, according to FOIA records provided to the Washington Examiner by the NRSC.” (Jerry Dunleavy and Andrew Kerr, “Nearly \$1 billion in stimulus funds sent to prisoners in 2021, ‘terrorists and perverts’ got \$1,400 checks,” [Washington Examiner](#), 2/11/22)

- **The American Rescue Plan sent stimulus payments to 163,000 prisoners “serving life sentences without the possibility of parole.”** “More than 1.1 million incarcerated individuals received COVID-19 stimulus checks, totaling over \$1 billion dollars, according to internal data provided by the IRS. Roughly 163,000 of those recipients are individuals serving life sentences without the possibility of parole, the IRS told Rep. Don Bacon (R., Neb.) in a letter exclusively obtained by the Washington Free Beacon. IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig said that his agency does not possess data on how many of those individuals with life sentences may also be facing the death penalty. A study by the left-wing Sentencing Project found that life sentences are most commonly given to individuals convicted of homicide and rape.” (Joseph Simonson, “IRS Sent Over \$1 Billion In Stimulus Checks To Locked Up Criminals, Including Murderers,” [Washington Free Beacon](#), 9/1/22)
  - **Prisoners serving life sentences without the possibility of parole are convicted criminals who will remain in prison for their entire life and will not have the ability to a conditional release before they complete their sentence.** “Life without possibility of parole: This is a prison sentence given to a convicted defendant in which they will remain in prison for their entire life and will not have the ability to a conditional release before they complete this sentence (see Parole). In states that have outlawed the death penalty, this is the most extreme sentence that one can be given. In states that still use the death penalty, many juries will recommend that the defendant serve life without the possibility of parole as opposed to being sentenced to death.” (Legal Information Institute, “Life without possibility of parole,” [Cornell Law School](#), Accessed 9/25/22)
- **The Boston Marathon bomber, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, received a \$1,400 stimulus check.** “A U.S. District Court judge agreed to let federal prosecutors use convicted Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev’s \$1,400 COVID-19 stimulus payment, as well as other money held in his inmate trust account, to help pay the millions of dollars he was ordered to pay his victims, The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday. In a filing Wednesday, the U.S. attorney’s office in Boston asked a judge to order the federal Bureau of Prisons to turn the money over to the Clerk of the Court ‘as payment towards his outstanding criminal monetary penalties, including unpaid special assessment and restitution.’ In addition to the stimulus payment, Tsarnaev, who’s being held at a maximum security prison in Florence, Colorado, has received money from dozens of sources during his incarceration, including the federal public defender’s office and regular payments from individuals living in Indiana, New Jersey and Maryland, according to the filing by acting U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts, Nathaniel Mendell.” (Associated Press, “Judge will allow Boston Marathon bomber’s \$1,400 stimulus check, other funds to go to victims,” [KTLA75](#), 1/6/22)
  - **Tsarnaev’s actions have been described as a terrorist attack.** “On April 15, 2013, Tamerlan and his younger brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, attacked the Boston Marathon. It was one of the worst terrorist attacks on U.S. soil since 9/11.” (“Unanswered Questions About Tamerlan Tsarnaev,” [WBUR](#), 7/10/17)

**Pappas has taken tens of thousands of dollars from organizations that want to defund the police and eliminate cash bail:**

- Pappas has taken \$14,400 from Planned Parenthood Action Fund.

<u>Source Name</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Election</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc.	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	8/11/21	<a href="#">\$90</a>
Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc.	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	6/24/21	<a href="#">\$2,000</a>
Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc.	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	9/24/20	<a href="#">\$4,000</a>
Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc.	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	3/17/20	<a href="#">\$4,000</a>
Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc.	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	12/19/19	<a href="#">\$1,000</a>
Planned Parenthood Action Fund Inc.	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	8/16/18	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>\$14,400</b>

(Chris Pappas for Congress, [Federal Elections Commission](#), Accessed 9/15/22)

- **Planned Parenthood has supported defunding the police.** “Planned Parenthood Action Fund – in solidarity with patients, staff, and supporters – stands with the Movement for Black Lives’ call to defund the police. Defunding the police means investing less in militarizing police forces and investing more in community-based solutions, education, and healthcare.” (Planned Parenthood Action Fund, “Defunding the Police: What it Means and Why Planned Parenthood Supports It,” [Planned Parenthood Action Fund](#), 7/9/20)

- Pappas has taken \$12,500 from NARAL Pro-Choice America.

<u>Source Name</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Election</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NARAL Pro-Choice America PAC	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	6/24/22	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
NARAL Pro-Choice America PAC	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	12/13/21	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
NARAL Pro-Choice America PAC	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	11/19/19	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
NARAL Pro-Choice America PAC	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	11/2/18	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
NARAL Pro-Choice America PAC	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	10/26/18	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>\$12,500</b>

(Chris Pappas for Congress, [Federal Elections Commission](#), Accessed 9/15/22)

- **NARAL Pro-Choice America supports defunding the police.** “NARAL Pro-Choice America supports the demands of the Movement for Black Lives, including defunding the police and investing in Black communities, which are a response to hundreds of years of systemic oppression and the failure of reforms to address urgent needs and injustices. Budgets reflect our priorities.” (“Intersectional Commitments and Supporting Policies: Racial Justice,” [NARAL Pro-Choice America](#), Archived 12/2/21)

- Pappas has taken \$10,282 from the Sierra Club Political Committee.

<u>Source Name</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Election</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	11/3/20	<a href="#">\$359</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	10/31/20	<a href="#">\$2,181</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	10/14/20	<a href="#">\$1,437</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	10/5/20	<a href="#">\$275</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	Primary	6/30/20	<a href="#">\$1,500</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	11/26/18	<a href="#">\$380.58</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	11/26/18	<a href="#">\$2,575.28</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	10/17/18	<a href="#">\$1,482.57</a>
Sierra Club Political Committee	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	10/17/18	<a href="#">\$91.37</a>
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>\$10,281.80</b>

(Chris Pappas for Congress, [Federal Elections Commission](#), Accessed 9/15/22)

- **The Sierra Club supports defunding the police.** “The Sierra Club is committed to meeting this moment. We mobilized our members and staff to take part in massive Juneteenth rallies across the country. We added our voices to support the Movement for Black Lives’s demands: Defund the police, invest in Black communities, and get Donald Trump out of office. The board officially signed on to their platform late last week.” (Ramón Cruz, “A Movement Moment,” [Sierra Club](#), 6/23/20)

- **Pappas has taken \$2,000 from MoveOn.org Political Action.**

<u>Source Name</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Election</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
MoveOn.org	Chris Pappas for Congress	General	9/25/18	<a href="#">\$2,000</a>
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>\$2,000</b>

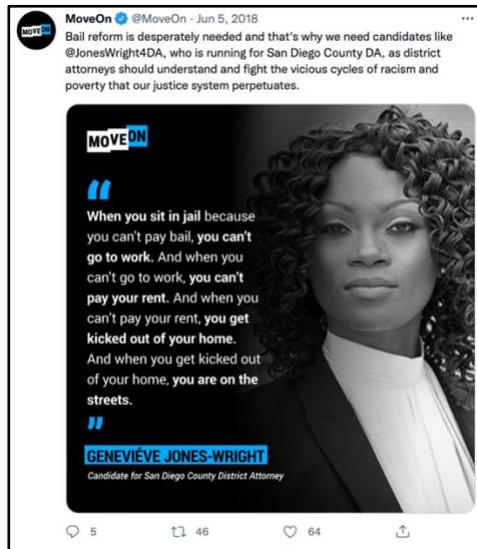
(Chris Pappas for Congress, [Federal Elections Commission](#), Accessed 9/15/22)

- **MoveOn supports defunding the police.**



(MoveOn, [Twitter](#), 6/16/20)

- **MoveOn supports believes that “bail reform is desperately needed.”**



(MoveOn, [Twitter](#), 6/5/18)

### Bail reform laws release criminals back onto the street:

- As a result of bail reform, in Cook County, IL, “the number of released defendants charged with committing new crimes increased by 45%” and “the number of pretrial releasees charged with committing new violent crimes increased by an estimated 33%.” “Recently bail reform issues have been in the news across the country, as concerns about fair treatment of defendants and possible public safety risks from expanding pretrial release have collided. These issues involve important empirical questions, including whether releasing more defendants before trial leads to additional crimes. An opportunity to investigate this public safety issue has developed in Chicago, our nation’s third largest city. There, the Office of the Chief Judge of the Cook County Courts adopted new bail reform measures in September 2017 and reviewed them empirically in May 2019. Cook County’s Bail Reform Study concluded that the new procedures had released many more defendants before trial without any concomitant increase in crime. This article disputes the Study’s conclusions. This article explains that, contrary to the Study’s assertions, the new changes to pretrial release procedures appear to have led to a substantial increase in crimes committed by pretrial releasees in Cook County. Properly measured and estimated, after more generous release procedures were put in place, the number of released defendants charged with committing new crimes increased by 45%. And, more concerning, the number of pretrial releasees charged with committing new violent crimes increased by an estimated 33%. In addition, as reported by the Chicago Tribune, the Study’s data appears to undercount the number of releasees charged with new violent crimes; and a substantial number of aggravated domestic violence prosecutions prosecutors dropped after the changes, presumably because batterers were able to more frequently obtain release and intimidate their victims into not pursuing charges. These public safety concerns call into question whether the bail “reform” measures implemented in Cook County were cost-beneficial. And because Cook County’s procedures are state-of-the-art and track those being implemented in many parts of the country, Cook County’s experience suggests that other jurisdictions may similarly be suffering increases in crime due to bail reform.” (Paul Cassell and Richard Fowles, “Does Bail Reform Increase Crime? An Empirical Assessment of the Public Safety Implications of Bail Reform in Cook County, Illinois,” [University of Utah Law Faculty Scholarship](#), 2/2020)
- Because of New York’s bail reform law “the number of pretrial defendants who are being released, often without conditions and without allowing judges to consider the risk that a defendant poses to the public” has resulted in “repeat and serious offenders—some with violent criminal histories—being returned to the street.” “After enacting a sweeping bail reform, New

York lawmakers have drawn the ire of constituents who are troubled by the many stories of repeat and serious offenders—some with violent criminal histories—being returned to the street following their arrests. In the state’s biggest city, the public’s growing concerns are buttressed by brow-raising, if preliminary, crime data, amplifying calls for amending or repealing the bail reform. The operative provisions of New York’s bail reform severely limit judicial discretion in pretrial release decisions, increasing the number of pretrial defendants who are being released, often without conditions and without allowing judges to consider the risk that a defendant poses to the public. New York is now the only state that does not allow judges to consider public safety in any pretrial release decisions.” (Rafael A. Mangual, “Issue Brief: Reforming New York’s Bail Reform: A Public Safety-Minded Proposal,” [Manhattan Institute](#), 3/5/20)

- **HEADLINE: “New Data shows nearly 4 percent of people out on bail to changes were rearrested for violent felonies”**



(Joshua Solomon and Brendan J Lyons, “New data shows nearly 4 percent of people out due to bail changes were rearrested for violent felonies,” [Albany Times Union](#), 1/2/22)

- **HEADLINE: "The worst NYC crimes committed in 2021 are thanks to shaky bail reform law"**



(Jorge Fitz-Gibbon, “The worst NYC crimes committed in 2021 are thanks to shaky bail reform law,” [New York Post](#), 12/28/21)

- **Because of New York’s bail reform law, in 2021 “a slew of violent criminals landed back on the streets — only to reoffend.”** “The year 2021 brought a hefty serving of junk justice to the Big Apple. Between lenient judges and liberal state bail reform laws, a slew of violent criminals landed back on the streets — only to reoffend. The soft-on-crime statute, passed by state lawmakers in 2019 and tweaked in 2020, stripped judges of discretion by barring them from setting bail on nearly all misdemeanors and non-violent felonies.” (Jorge Fitz-Gibbon, “The worst NYC crimes committed in 2021 are thanks to shaky bail reform law,” [New York Post](#), 12/28/21)