

Frank Mrvan claims to fight for the middle class, but he voted for a reckless nearly \$2 trillion spending bill that increased costs and created 40-year high inflation.

Frank Mrvan says he is a fighter for the middle-class:

- **Mrvan says that he fights for the middle class.** “We cannot lose the tens of thousands of good-paying, middle class jobs that could be impacted by these orders.” (Press Release, “Mrvan Testifies Before ITC Hearing on Cold-rolled Steel Flat Products,” [Congressman Frank Mrvan](#), 5/24/2022)
- **Mrvan also claims that he fights for an economy that works for all.** “Rep. Mrvan believes that more work must be done to build an economy that works for everyone and that provides education and economic opportunities for all.” (Issues, “BUILDING AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE,” [Congressman Frank Mrvan](#), Accessed 6/24/2022)
- **One of Mrvan’s goals while in Congress is to help the middle class.** “His takeaway from the insurrection is that workers felt left behind, Mrvan said, so he spent his first year in Congress to ‘make sure that workers have an equitable opportunity to participate in our economy’ and uplift the middle class to close the divide.” (Alexandra Kukulka, “A year of difference: Mrvan starts term during attack on Capitol, settles into less dramatic work in Congress,” [Post-Tribune](#), 12/31/2021)

Mrvan voted for the American Rescue Plan, which provided \$1.9 trillion to combat COVID-19:

- **On February 27, 2021, Mrvan voted for H.R. 1319, the American Rescue Plan, which provided \$1.9 trillion to combat COVID-19.** “Passage of the fiscal 2021 budget reconciliation bill, as amended, comprising a coronavirus relief package that would provide roughly \$1.9 trillion in funding to further address the health and economic effects of COVID-19, including approximately \$350 billion in direct aid to state and local governments; \$47.8 billion for testing and contact tracing; \$168 billion to assist educational institutions; and \$50 billion to assist small businesses.” (H.R. 1319, [Roll Call Vote #49](#): Passed 219-212: R 0-210, D 219-2, Mrvan Voted Yea, 2/27/21; [CQ Summary](#), Accessed 5/9/22)
- **The American Rescue Plan passed through Congress on a partisan basis.** “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)
 - **Democrat Jared Golden of Maine was the sole Democrat to oppose the American Rescue Plan.** “Democratic Rep. Jared Golden of Maine, who also voted against the original House version, was the sole member to break ranks. Golden argued in late February that many of the provisions in the nearly \$1.9 trillion pandemic relief package were not directly related to the pandemic or should be addressed in stand-alone bills.” (Jennifer Shutt, “House sends massive coronavirus relief bill to Biden,” [Roll Call](#), 3/10/21)

Less than 9% of the funds allocated by the American Rescue Plan went directly towards mitigating the Coronavirus pandemic:

Editor’s Note: \$160 billion [equates to](#) 8.4% of the total spending in the \$1.9 trillion package.

- **According to President Joe Biden, the American Rescue Plan provides \$160 billion in total towards the pandemic for testing, protective gear, and vaccine production and distribution.** “Now, critics say the plan is too big, that it costs too much. But let me ask a rhetorical question: What would you have me cut? What would you have me cut out? On vaccines alone, if we don’t invest 20 million – billion dollars to vaccinate the nation – doesn’t that make sense? Or \$160 billion in total towards the pandemic for testing, to protective gear, to vaccine production and distribution?” (The White House, “[Remarks by President Biden at an Event Commemorating the 50 Millionth COVID-19 Vaccine Shot](#),” 2/25/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan is a \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package.** “President Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package on Thursday. The colossal bill, known as the American Rescue Plan, allocates money for vaccines, schools, small businesses, and anti-poverty programs such as an expanded child tax credit that will mean new monthly payments to many parents.” (Barbara Sprunt, “Here’s What’s In The American Rescue Plan,” [NPR](#), 3/11/21)

The American Rescue plan contained millions of dollars’ worth of “pork” not directly COVID-19 related:

- **The American Rescue Plan would give \$1.5 million for a bridge connecting New York to Canada.** “The bill would give \$1.5 million to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corp. ‘to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus by conducting the operations, maintenance, and capital infrastructure activities of the Seaway International Bridge,’ which connects New York State and Ontario.” (Tom Kertscher, “The COVID-19 rescue bill includes money for a list of projects that are not COVID-related,” [PolitiFact](#), 02/26/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan would give \$112 million to a railroad project in Silicon Valley.** “Stand for America cites a Fox Business news article that says the language of the bill alludes to \$112 million going to phase two of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) expansion. The Washington Post also reported that it’s estimated the expansion will receive about \$112 million.” (Tom Kertscher, “The COVID-19 rescue bill includes money for a list of projects that are not COVID-related,” [PolitiFact](#), 02/26/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan would allocate nearly \$500 million for museums & Native American language preservation.** “The bill ‘would appropriate \$480 million for grants to fund activities related to the arts, humanities, libraries and museums, and Native American language preservation and maintenance,’ according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.” (Tom Kertscher, “The COVID-19 rescue bill includes money for a list of projects that are not COVID-related,” [PolitiFact](#), 02/26/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan would allocate \$1.5 billion for Amtrak.** “The bill would steer grants totaling \$1.5 billion to the National Railroad Passenger Corp. (Amtrak) ‘to prevent, prepare for and respond to coronavirus’: \$820.4 million for the northeast corridor and \$679.6 million for the national network.” (Tom Kertscher, “The COVID-19 rescue bill includes money for a list of projects that are not COVID-related,” [PolitiFact](#), 02/26/21)

- **The American Rescue Plan would appropriate \$50 million for grants to family planning organizations.** “The bill appropriates \$50 million ‘for making grants and contracts under’ the Public Health Service Act, which gives grants and contracts for family planning.” (Tom Kertscher, “The COVID-19 rescue bill includes money for a list of projects that are not COVID-related,” [PolitiFact](#), 02/26/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan appropriated \$20 million to modernize fish hatcheries in Maine, \$4 million for bird sanctuary, \$2 million for a golf course.** “We have cataloged numerous examples of ridiculous waste of federal tax dollars from the American Rescue Plan: \$2 million to purchase a ski area, \$140 million for luxury hotel developments in Florida, \$20 million to modernize fish hatcheries in Maine, \$4 million for bird sanctuary, \$2 million for a golf course.” He also said that \$250,000 has been spent to build pickleball courts.” (“House Republicans Attack ARPA as ‘Boondoggle.’ Mayor, Democrats Say it Prevented Layoffs, Saved Lives,” [Route Fifty](#), Accessed 7/19/22)
- **The American Rescue Plan appropriated \$250,000 for pickleball courts.** “We have cataloged numerous examples of ridiculous waste of federal tax dollars from the American Rescue Plan: \$2 million to purchase a ski area, \$140 million for luxury hotel developments in Florida, \$20 million to modernize fish hatcheries in Maine, \$4 million for bird sanctuary, \$2 million for a golf course.” He also said that \$250,000 has been spent to build pickleball courts. (“House Republicans Attack ARPA as ‘Boondoggle.’ Mayor, Democrats Say it Prevented Layoffs, Saved Lives,” [Route Fifty](#), Accessed 7/19/22)

Additional government spending caused a rise in the prices of goods:

- **CNN BUSINESS HEADLINE: “All that stimulus is sending inflation higher”** (Anneken Tappe, “All that stimulus is sending inflation higher,” [CNN Business](#), 4/9/21)
- **Stimulus checks caused additional spending, decreasing supply, and driving up prices.** “Supply bottlenecks have occurred because companies were caught flat-footed by the speed of the economic recovery from the pandemic, with most consumers flush with cash, after multiple stimulus checks, and spending freely. With everyone now ramping up at once, manufacturers, shipping firms, miners and agricultural companies can’t keep up.” (Christopher Rugaber, “EXPLAINER: Why are fears of high inflation getting worse?,” [AP](#), 5/12/21)
- **Consumer goods prices are up.** “Gas prices are rising. Auto prices are soaring. Consumer goods companies are charging more for household basics like toilet paper, peanut butter, and soft drinks.” (Christopher Rugaber, “EXPLAINER: Why are fears of high inflation getting worse?,” [AP](#), 5/12/21)
- **“Food companies like Campbell Soup, Kraft Heinz and Mondelez have all announced higher prices on items.”** “Food companies like Campbell Soup, Kraft Heinz and Mondelez have all announced higher prices on items that include soup, macaroni and cheese, crackers, and cookies, and Dollar Tree announced it’s hiking prices on most products to \$1.25.” (Rachel Siegel, “Prices Climbed 6.8% In November Compared With Last Year, Largest Rise In Nearly Four Decades, As Inflation Spreads Through Economy,” [Washington Post](#), 12/10/21)

The American Rescue plan exacerbated inflation, causing it to reach its highest point in over four decades:

Editor's Note: To see most recent inflation numbers, please see the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly [data](#).

- HEADLINE: “. . . Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.”



(Jeanna Smialek, “A regional Fed analysis suggests Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.,” [The New York Times](#), 10/18/21)

- **According to a regional Federal Reserve Bank analysis, the American Rescue Plan boosted inflation.** “Inflation is likely getting a temporary boost from the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package that the Biden administration ushered in early this year, new Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco research released on Monday suggested.” (Jeanna Smialek, “A regional Fed analysis suggests Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.,” [The New York Times](#), 10/18/21)
- **In June 2022, inflation reached a four-decade high.** “The prices of gas, food and most other goods and services jumped in May, raising inflation to a new four-decade high and giving American households no respite from rising costs.” (“US inflation at new 40-year high as price increases spread,” [Associated Press](#), 6/10/22)

Inflation over the decade

Annual CPI inflation from Jan 2010 to June 2022



(“Inflation surges 9.1% in June, accelerating more than expected to new 40-year high,” [Fox News](#), 7/13/22)

- **“The Labor Department said the increases for food and energy were the fastest 12-month gains in at least 13 years.”** “The Labor Department said the increases for food and energy were the fastest 12-month gains in at least 13 years.” (Megan Henney, “US Inflation Surges To 39-Year High As Consumer Prices Soar,” [Fox News](#), 12/10/21)
- **Researchers found that the American Rescue Plan might raise the vacancy-to-unemployment ratio close to its historical peak in 1968, fueling inflation.** “Based on the package’s size and using historical evidence on how fiscal spending affects the labor market, the researchers found that the American Rescue Plan might raise the vacancy-to-unemployment ratio close to its historical peak in 1968, fueling some inflation – but that the price impact would be small and short-lived.” (Jeanna Smialek, “A regional Fed analysis suggests Biden’s stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation.,” [The New York Times](#), 10/18/21)
- **The American Rescue Plan extended supplemental unemployment benefits.** “The American Rescue Plan extended unemployment benefits until September 6 with a weekly supplemental benefit of \$300 on top of the regular \$400 benefit.” (The White House, “[American Rescue Plan](#),” Accessed 11/1/21)
 - **COVID-related unemployment benefits contribute to inflation.** “5) Low-wage workers are finally getting raises. Full-service restaurants saw no inflation in April, but fast-food establishments jacked up prices significantly. ... With their savings buttressed by stimulus checks – and, for the previously laid off, their sustenance assured by \$300-a-week federal unemployment benefits – many American workers have become newly empowered to turn down lousy job offers. This, combined with resurgent demand, has produced a shortage of labor in some sectors, forcing firms

to raise wages to attract new hires.” (Eric Levitz, “THE ECONOMY JUNE 8, 2021 The Case for (and Against) Worrying About Inflation,” [NY Mag](#), 6/8/21)