Julia Brownley has been in public office for approximately 28 years, but has voted on the wrong side of working families. She's repeatedly voted to raise taxes on American workers, and she supports reckless government spending that's causing the highest inflation in 40-years, causing food prices and housing to get more expensive.

BACKUP:

Per her website, Julia Brownley began her career in public service in 1994 after deciding to run for the local school board, served for three subsequent terms, was elected to the California State Legislature in 2006, and was first elected to Congress in 2012:

- **Per her website, Julia Brownley began her career in public service in 1994 after deciding to run for the local school board.** "Brownley began her career in public service in 1994 after deciding to run for the local school board as a way to advocate for a better education for her daughter, who had dyslexia, and other special-needs students. She won and served on the school board for three subsequent terms working to ensure that local schools provided a quality education for every student in the district. She was elected to the California State Legislature in 2006, where she served as Chairwoman of the Assembly Education Committee for four years. She also served on every educational committee in the Assembly, including the Committee on Higher Education, Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance, and the State Allocation Board." (Full Biography, Office of Julia Brownley, Accessed 09/12/22)

- **Per her website, Julia Brownley was first elected to Congress in 2012.** "Julia Brownley was first elected to Congress in 2012 to serve as the Representative for California's 26th District, which encompasses most of Ventura County and a portion of Los Angeles County, including the cities of Ventura, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Ojai, Santa Paula, Fillmore, Camarillo, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village, along with some areas of Simi Valley." (Full Biography, Office of Julia Brownley, Accessed 09/12/22)

Julia Brownley is a cosponsor of the Social Security 2100 Act, which would increase taxes to pay for the depleting Social Security program while extending its funding to give Congress more time to fix impending insolvency:

- **Julia Brownley is a cosponsor of H.R. 5723, the Social Security 2100 Act.** (H.R. 5723, Introduced 01/30/19)
    - **The bill increases the rates for the payroll and self-employment taxes that fund the Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI). "**The bill also increases rates for the payroll and self-employment taxes that fund OASDI." (Summary, H.R. 860, Introduced 1/30/20)

- **Julia Brownley is a cosponsor of H.R. 5723, the Social Security 2100 Act in 2021.** (H.R. 5723, Introduced 10/26/21)
    - **The Social Security 2100 Act would extend Social Security funding an extra four years to "give Congress more time to come up with a long-term solution to the program's solvency issues."** "The new version of the bill, called Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust, follows the Social Security Administration's latest estimates

that the trust funds that support the program will be depleted in just 13 years. At that time, in 2034, only 78% of promised benefits will be payable. The bill proposes extending that date to 2038 to give Congress more time to come up with a long-term solution to the program's solvency issues. The measure would also incorporate proposals made by President Joe Biden during his presidential campaign." (Lorie Konish, "Congress has a new plan to fix Social Security. How it would change benefits," *CNBC*, 10/26/21)

- **The Social Security 2100 Act would increase taxes on higher earners to pay for the extension.** "However, the legislation does call for increasing Social Security taxes paid by higher-wage earners. In 2021, those taxes are capped at $142,800 in wages, and in 2022 that will rise to $147,000. This proposal reapplies taxes on wages at $400,000 and up, which is also in line with what Biden has proposed. At the same time, the bill would also raise the thresholds above which income including Social Security is taxed. The plan calls for changing that to $35,000 for individuals and $50,000 for couples, up from $25,000 and $32,000, respectively." (Lorie Konish, "Congress has a new plan to fix Social Security. How it would change benefits," *CNBC*, 10/26/21)

- **Despite the Social Security program approaching insolvency, the Social Security 2100 Act would implement a benefit bump equivalent to roughly 2% of the average benefit.** "House Democrats on Tuesday reintroduced a Social Security reform bill, which calls for extending the program's depletion date to give lawmakers more time to devise plans to maintain the long-term solvency of the trust funds, among other proposals. Rep. John Larson (D-Conn.), chair of the House Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee, said the bill, dubbed Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust, will 'expand benefits and strengthen social security,' pointing to the COVID-19 pandemic as reason why stronger benefits are needed… Additionally, House Democrats are looking to implement a benefit bump for all current and new social security beneficiaries that will be equal to roughly 2 percent of the average benefit. 'The US faces a retirement crisis and a modest boost in benefits strengthens the one leg of the retirement system that is universal and the most reliable,' the bill's fact sheet reads." (Mychael Schnell, "House Democrats reintroduce Social Security reform bill," *The Hill*, 10/27/21)

According to a report by the Social Security Administration, H.R. 860 is projected to cost nearly $19 trillion over 75 years:

- **The Chief Actuary Social Security Administration estimated that there would be a $18.9 trillion net increase in revenue, primarily coming from additional payroll tax.** "For the 75-year (long-range) period as a whole, the current-law unfunded obligation of $13.2 trillion is replaced by a positive trust fund reserve of $2.1 trillion in present value assuming enactment of the proposal. This change of $15.3 trillion results from: A $18.9 trillion net increase in revenue (column 2), primarily from additional payroll tax…" (Social Security Administration, Letter to Rep. John Larson, Senator Van Hollen & Senator Blumenthal, 1/30/19)

According to a report from The Heritage Foundation, the bill would raise payroll taxes by nearly 20 percent for all workers:

- **Beginning in 2020, all workers combined Old Age and Survivors and Disability Insurance (OSADI) would rise by 0.1 percentage points per year until 2043, going from 12.4 percent to 14.8 percent, a nearly 20 percent increase.** "Beginning in 2020, all workers' combined OASDI payroll tax rate—currently at 12.4 percent—would rise by 0.1 percentage points per year until reaching 14.8 percent in 2043. Once fully phased in, it would amount to an additional $1,200 per year, or $7,400 total, in Social Security taxes for any worker who earns $50,000 per year." (Rachel Greszler & Drew Gonshorowski, "The Personal and Fiscal Impact of the Social Security 2100 Act," The Heritage Foundation, 6/11/19)

According to a report from the Joint Committee on Taxation, The Social Security 2100 Act would raise $1.3 trillion in new payroll taxes over the next 10 years:

Editor's Note: *The additional $868.2 billion plus $473.6 billion in new tax revenue on payroll taxes amounts to $1.341 trillion.*

- **According to a report from the Joint Committee on Taxation, The Social Security 2100 Act would raise $868.2 billion in new OASDI taxes applied to earnings over $400,000.**

Fiscal Years
[Billions of Dollars]

Item	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2020-24	2020-29
Taxation of Social Security Benefits [1].	-1.7	-34.2	-36.5	-39.0	-41.5	-44.1	-47.3	-59.0	-62.3	-65.6	-152.9	-431.2
OASDI taxes applied to earnings over $400,000 [1].....	21.6	71.7	77.0	81.9	87.3	93.7	99.4	105.0	111.8	118.9	339.5	868.2
Annual increase in OASDI tax rate by 0.1 percentage point [1].....	7.6	12.8	21.0	29.8	39.3	49.6	60.2	71.5	84.1	97.6	110.5	473.6

(Joint Committee on Taxation, Letter to Rep. Kevin Brady, 5/23/19)

- **According to a report from the Joint Committee on Taxation, The Social Security 2100 Act would raise an additional $473.6 billion in revenue from annual increases in the OASDI tax rate.**

Item	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2020-24	2020-29
	Fiscal Years [Billions of Dollars]											
Taxation of Social Security Benefits [1].	-1.7	-34.2	-36.5	-39.0	-41.5	-44.1	-47.3	-59.0	-62.3	-65.6	-152.9	-431.2
OASDI taxes applied to earnings over $400,000 [1].....	21.6	71.7	77.0	81.9	87.3	93.7	99.4	105.0	111.8	118.9	339.5	868.2
Annual increase in OASDI tax rate by 0.1 percentage point [1].....	7.6	12.8	21.0	29.8	39.3	49.6	60.2	71.5	84.1	97.6	110.5	473.6

(Joint Committee on Taxation, Letter to Rep. Kevin Brady, 5/23/19)

The Social Security 2100 Act would result in lifetime tax increases for all individuals:

- **According to a report from the Heritage Foundation, under the Social Security 2100 Act, all individuals would begin paying higher payroll taxes the following year.** "Under the Social Security 2100 Act, all individuals would begin paying higher payroll taxes next year. Although the taxes would phase in slowly over time, they would nonetheless result in significant lifetime tax increases." (Rachel Greszler & Drew Gonshorowski, "The Personal and Fiscal Impact of the Social Security 2100 Act," The Heritage Foundation, 6/11/19)

While all income groups would receive higher benefits under the bill, the highest-income earners would receive some of the largest benefit increases:

- **The highest-income earners would receive some of the largest benefit increases under the Social Security 2100 Act.** "All income groups would receive higher benefits, but the highest-income earners would receive some of the largest benefit increases. A worker with average earnings of $30,000 would receive $333 more per year, while someone with average earnings of $1,000,000 would receive $12,333 more per year." (Rachel Greszler & Drew Gonshorowski, "The Personal and Fiscal Impact of the Social Security 2100 Act," The Heritage Foundation, 6/11/19)

On November 19, 2021, Julia Brownley voted for H.R. 5378, the Build Back Better Act:

- **On November 19, 2021, Brownley voted for H.R. 5376, the Build Back Better Act.** *(H.R. 5376, Roll Call 385, Passed 220-213: R 0-212, D 220-1 Brownley voted Yea,, 11/19/21)*

Build Back Better could lead to about $1 trillion in tax hikes on American workers and businesses, force middle class Americans to shoulder the burden of new corporate taxes, and result in one of the highest tax rate in the developed world:

- **Build Back Better could lead to $530 billion in tax hikes on American workers and $470 billion in tax hikes on corporations.** "On a conventional basis, the House bill would raise about $1 trillion in federal revenue from 2022 to 2031. The bill includes about $1.7 trillion in gross revenue raisers, composed of about $470 billion in corporate tax increases, $530 billion in individual tax increases, $148 billion net from additional IRS tax

enforcement, $340 billion from the drug pricing provisions, and about $177 billion in net revenue from Ways & Means items scored by the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) and Congressional Budget Office (CBO)." (Alex Durante, Cody Kallen, Huaqun Li, William McBride, Alex Muresianu, Erica York, Garrett Watson, "House Build Back Better Act: Details & Analysis of Tax Provisions in the Budget Reconciliation Bill," *Tax Foundation*, 12/2/21)

- **The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget determined that the increase in corporate taxes would result in an indirect tax burden for "some percentage of households in every income group."** "By comparison, only about one-third of those in the top 1 percent of earners and one-fifth of those within the 95th and 99th income percentiles would face a higher tax burden. While the bill does not directly increase taxes on anyone earning less than $400,000 per year, some percentage of households in every income group would end up with higher *indirect* tax burdens because of higher corporate taxes. TPC and other estimators believe corporate tax increases ultimately flow through to retirement accounts, wages, and other sources of income across the income spectrum." (Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, "Two-Thirds of the 'One Percent' Get a Tax Cut Under Build Back Better, Due to SALT Relief," Blog, 12/10/21)

- **The National Federation of Independent Business determined that the Build Back Better Act would hit small businesses with "significant tax increases, inflexible mandates, and unaffordable penalties."** "'By passing the Build Back Better Act, the U.S. House has proposed saddling small businesses with significant tax increases, inflexible mandates, and unaffordable penalties,' said Kevin Kuhlman, NFIB Vice President of Federal Government Relations. 'Small businesses are facing numerous challenges right now, including the inflation tax, supply chain disruptions, worker shortages, and COVID-19 variants and restrictions. These additional burdens will severely hurt small businesses across the country, threaten the small business recovery, and punish Main Street.'" (National Federation of Independent Business, "NFIB: House's Build Back Better Act Would Harm Small Business Recovery," Press Release, 11/19/21)

- **Build Back Better would result in one of the highest income tax rate in the developed world.** "Under the latest iteration of the House Build Back Better Act (BBBA), the average top tax rate on personal income would reach 57.4 percent, giving the U.S. the highest rate in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). All 50 states plus the District of Columbia would have top tax rates on personal income exceeding 50 percent." (Alex Durante and William McBride, "Top Tax Rate on Personal Income Would Be Highest in OECD under New Build Back Better Framework," *Tax Foundation*, 11/1/21)

Per reporting on July 13th, 2022, inflation soared 9.1% compared to a year earlier, the biggest yearly increase since 1981 and up from an 8.6% jump in May:

Editor's Note: *Joe Biden was President at the time.*

- **Inflation soared 9.1% compared to a year earlier, the biggest yearly increase since 1981 and up from an 8.6% jump in May.** "Consumer prices soared 9.1 percent compared with a year earlier, the government said Wednesday, the biggest yearly increase since 1981, and up from an 8.6 percent jump in May." (Christopher Rugaber, "U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high," PBS News Hour, 07/13/22)

- **On a monthly basis, prices rose 1.3% from May to June, another substantial price increase after prices jumped 1% from April to May.** "On a monthly basis, prices rose 1.3 percent from May to June, another substantial increase, after prices had jumped 1 percent from April to May." (Christopher Rugaber, "U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high," PBS News Hour, 07/13/22)

- **Grocery prices jumped 12.2% compared with a year ago, the steepest such climb since 1979.** "Grocery prices have jumped 12.2 percent compared with a year ago, the steepest such climb since 1979." (Christopher Rugaber, "U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high," PBS News Hour, 07/13/22)

- **Rents increased by 5.8%, the most since 1986.** "Rents have risen 5.8 percent, the most since 1986." (Christopher Rugaber, "U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high," PBS News Hour, 07/13/22)

- **New car prices increased 11.4% from a year earlier.** "New car prices have increased 11.4 percent from a year earlier." (Christopher Rugaber, "U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high," PBS News Hour, 07/13/22)

- **Airline fares are up 34% from a year earlier.** "And airline fares, one of the few items to post a price decline in June, are nevertheless up 34 percent from a year earlier." (Christopher Rugaber, "U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high," PBS News Hour, 07/13/22)

- **From May to June, the cost of dental services surged 1.9%, the biggest one-month increase since record-keeping began in 1995.** "From May to June, the cost of dental services surged 1.9 percent, the biggest one-month increase since record-keeping began in 1995." (Christopher Rugaber, "U.S. inflation at 9.1 percent, a record high," PBS News Hour, 07/13/22)

Julia Brownley voted for the American Rescue Plan:

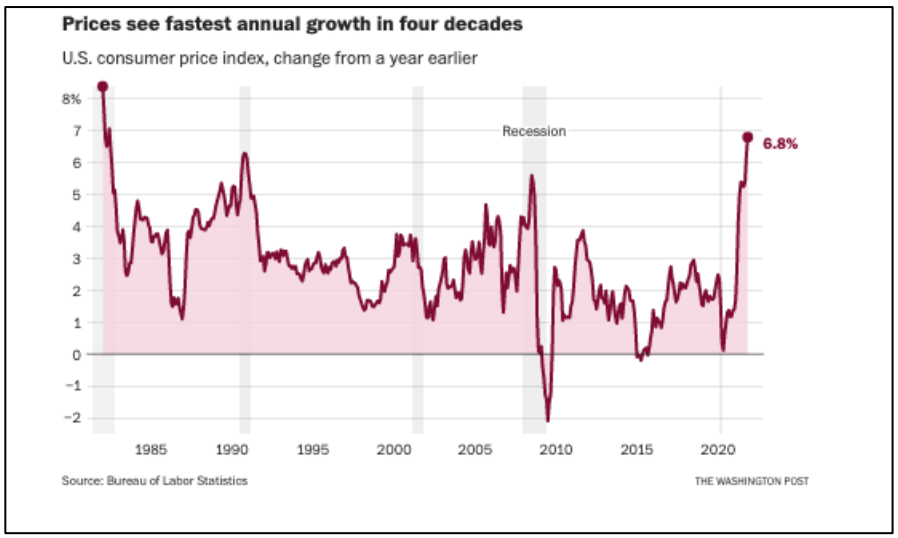
- **Brownley voted YEA on H.R. 1319, or the "American Rescue Plan Act."** (H.R. 1319, Roll Call #72, Passed 220-211: R 0-210, D 220-1, Brownley Voted Yea, 3/10/21)

    - **The American Rescue Plan was a Democrat plan that no Republicans voted for.** "This week has been a significant week for the American people, as the House passed the final version of the American Rescue Plan and President Joe Biden signed it into law. House Democrats secured major assistance to the middle class with this legislation, including: $1,400 in direct payments to most families, $300 enhanced unemployment benefits through Labor Day, boosting SNAP benefits by 15%, and increasing the child tax credit to up to $3,600 per child, which will lift half of American children out of poverty. In addition, the American Rescue Plan will establish a national vaccination strategy, ensure schools have the resources to resume in-person learning safely, strengthen the Affordable Care Act, and support small businesses. It is a shame that zero Republicans voted to send this critical relief to families, despite poll after poll reflecting broad, bipartisan support for this bill. Nevertheless, under President Biden's leadership, Democrats have delivered For The People and now that the American Rescue Plan has been signed into law, direct assistance will be given to Americans immediately around our country." (Steny Hoyer Majority Leader, "Democrats Deliver Needed Relief to Americans with the American Rescue Plan," Press Release, 3/12/21)

The American Rescue Plan and infrastructure bill 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.*

- **In March 2022, inflation reached its highest levels in over 40 years.** "Inflation surges to 8.5%, highest in over 40 years… Inflation surged again in March, as consumer prices hit yet another fresh peak not seen in a generation. Why it matters: The relentless rise in prices is a challenge for investors, Federal Reserve policy makers and politicians, who are all trying to navigate an inflationary backdrop that hasn't been seen since the early 1980s. Driving the news: The consumer price index rose 1.2% in March compared to February, above economists expectations for 1.1%. Prices were up 8.5% over the last year, higher than the 8.4% rise that economists expected, according to consensus expectations reported by FactSet. That's the highest annual rate of inflation since December 1981." (Matt Phillips, "Inflation surges to 8.5%, highest in over 40 years," *Axios*, 4/12/22)



(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 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)

- **HEADLINE: ". . . Biden's stimulus is temporarily stoking inflation."**


The New York Times

A regional Fed analysis suggests 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)

- **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)

- **According to the Heritage Foundation, Biden's infrastructure bill contributed to the worst inflation surge in decades.** "The harmful effects of excessive government spending have become the most pressing issue for Americans due to the worst inflation surge in decades. Washington's reckless choice to pump trillions of dollars into the economy is the reason we face more inflation than other top economies around the world. Yet, incredibly, Congress is still planning an onslaught of additional inflationary spending bills with seemingly no end in sight… Compared to projections from February 2021, when Biden had just taken office, the latest analysis shows a combined $2.77 trillion in additional deficits over the 2021-2031 period. The largest factor for this increase was the wasteful and opportunistic $1.9 trillion COVID-19 package that passed with exclusively Democratic support in March 2021. The shoddy $1.2 trillion infrastructure bill that Biden championed added even more red ink." (David Ditch, "New Charts Reveal Harms of Biden's Budget-Busting Binge," The Heritage Foundation, 6/8/22)

Julia Brownley voted for H.R. 5376, The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which is the Democrats' $740 billion dollar reconciliation bill:

- **Julia Brownley voted for H.R. 5376, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.** (H.R. 5376, Roll Call #420, Passed 220-207: R 0-207, D 220-0, Brownley Voted Yea, 08/12/22)

- **The Inflation Reduction Act is the Democrats' $740 billion dollar reconciliation bill.** "President Biden signed into law Tuesday the Democrats' $740 billion reconciliation bill. Why it matters: The package, known as the Inflation Reduction Act, includes provisions that increase taxes on large corporations, address climate change and lower prescription drug costs." (Shawna Chen, "$740 billion tax, climate and health care bill into law," Axios, 08/16/22)

The Inflation Reduction Act could generate nearly $10.6 billion in tax revenues from earners making as much as $200,000 and generate more than $8 billion in tax revenues from earners making between $200,000 and $500,000, excluding the effect of Affordable Care Act subsidies:

- **According to the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, the Inflation Reduction Act could generate nearly $10.6 billion in tax revenues from earners making as much as $200,000 and generate more than $8 billion in tax revenues from earners making between $200,000 and $500,000, excluding the effect of Affordable Care Act subsidies.**

Income Category	Change in Federal Taxes (in Millions)
Less than $10,000	$88
$10,000 to $20,000	$83
$20,000 to $30,000	$155
$30,000 to $40,000	$259
$40,000 to $50,000	$351
$50,000 to $75,000	$1,222
$75,000 to $100,000	$1,577
$100,000 to $200,000	$6,833
Subtotal:	**$10,568**
$200,000 to $500,000	$8,741
Total:	**$19,309**

(Joint Committee on Taxation, "Distributional Effects Of Selected Provisions From Subtitle A And Subtitle D Of Title I - Committee On Finance Of An Amendment In The Nature Of A Substitute To H.R. 5376," House Budget Committee Republicans, 8/10/22)

Editor's Note: *According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income in the U.S. was $67,521 in 2020.*