

Robert Zimmerman is so out of touch that he suggested raising taxes to address inflation and claimed that we have “a strong economy” amid 40-year-high inflation. In Congress, Zimmerman has already pledged to support Nancy Pelosi and Joe Biden despite their tax and spend agenda. Zimmerman praised Nancy Pelosi’s anti-police bill and even expressed openness to decriminalizing prostitution nationally.

BACKUP:

Robert Zimmerman is so out of touch that he suggested raising taxes to address inflation while also claiming that we have “a strong economy” amid 40-year-high inflation:

- **VIDEO: In April 2022, Robert Zimmerman suggested raising taxes as a way to address inflation.** REPORTER: “How do you recommend raising revenue?” ZIMMERMAN: “Well, first step is these American corporations that are hiding their revenues in Ireland and in the Cayman Islands, that’s got to stop and they’ve got to be held accountable and be brought back in. Corporations have got to pay a minimum tax. The idea that Amazon pays no tax is unacceptable. We have to make sure that the top tier earners in our country are paying a little bit more then raise the corporate tax rate. You know, I know the Republicans will jump on this. They did, remember when President Obama put in really modest adjustments to the tax rate, and raised corporate taxes and they claimed it was going to create destroy the economy? It produced one of the largest times we had private sector job growth and it brought down the deficit. They said the same thing about Bill Clinton, I mean, one of the best economies in our nation’s history. So, I think we have to just keep focused on the fact we have to protect the middle class and focus on targeting corporations that are just basically using loopholes to avoid paying their taxes and go after corporate taxes and raise them. I’m not talking about an extraordinary raise, raising 3, 4%. I’d focus on those certainly in the income of \$10 million or more can certainly afford to pay more and we’re talking about a modest, maybe 2% more, but that could all contribute to helping us address inflation and trying to continue to bring the deficit down.” (Robert Zimmerman, [Interview With Blank Slate Media](#), 4/14/22) Minute 30:32-31:50
- **VIDEO: On April 14, 2022, Robert Zimmerman claimed that the U.S. has “a strong economy” while also acknowledging that inflation had reached a 40-year-high.** ZIMMERMAN: “Well, there’s more than two just a communications issue here, Steve, and that is to me, yes, we are seeing historic job growth without question. 11 months, 11 consecutive months of private sector job growth. We’re seeing also a strong economy. We’re seeing wages up. We’re also seeing, we’re also seeing inflation at a 40 year high. That’s cutting into any wage increase that people are feeling. We’re also feeling people’s insecurity. It’s not just gas at the pump that’s going up. It’s what people are paying for in the supermarket that’s climbing. Eggs and meat, eggs and meat and milk, basic costs are going up. It’s, you see the supply line. No, part of the problem is, Steve, is we came roaring out of this pandemic and there was enormous demand, people had savings to spend, but they didn’t have the goods to spend on it. Goods were limited because of the supply line, so prices went up and dramatically went up. And there have to be steps, and I think the administration started to take some steps.” (Robert Zimmerman, [Interview With Blank Slate Media](#), 4/14/22) Minute 24:59-25:54

Editor’s Note: Inflation [reached](#) a 40-year-high in April 2022.

Robert Zimmerman has donated to Nancy Pelosi, praised her repeatedly, stating that he'd "hate to see what our country would look like if Nancy Pelosi were not Speaker," and has stressed the importance of "making sure Nancy Pelosi remains as Speaker":

- Robert Zimmerman has donated \$1,500 to Nancy Pelosi. (Robert Zimmerman, [Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed: 9/7/22)
- VIDEO: Zimmerman: "I'd hate to see what our country would look like if Nancy Pelosi were not Speaker. She saved Democracy during the Trump years." (Robert Zimmerman, Remarks At A Candidate Forum, [Video](#), 8/2/22) Minute 37:43-38:11
- VIDEO: In November 2020, Zimmerman said "we've got a lot more work to do and it's making sure Nancy Pelosi remains as Speaker." ZIMMERMAN: "We've got a lot more work to do and it's making sure Nancy Pelosi remains as Speaker and keeping our Democratic majority in the House strong and united, and also is about focusing on trying to pick up one if not two seats in Georgia and I think we can get them both. We certainly we certainly have to try. [INAUDIBLE] That's so pivotal for the, it's so pivotal not just for the nation, but also for New York. Having Chuck Schumer as the majority leader is critical in terms of providing the aid and relief we need by making sure also that we restore the SALT tax deductions that were taken away from us. Schumer has been a leader on that issue but he needs to be the majority leader to get it done, so we're making progress. I know, what's the expression? You can't be progressive or idealistic and think the glasses is half empty, but it was a tremendous victory on election day, and so the numbers are only going to grow." (Robert Zimmerman, [Interview With Reach Out America](#), 11/11/20) Minute 29:14-30:07
- In February 2020, Zimmerman praised Speaker Nancy Pelosi. "In that one act, our Speaker stood up for justice, truth, decency and our nation! Speaker Pelosi is in my prayers with gratitude." (Robert Zimmerman, [Twitter](#), 2/4/20)



(Robert Zimmerman, [Twitter](#), 2/4/20)

Robert Zimmerman is a "close ally of President Joe Biden" and has endorsed him for re-election in 2024:

- Robert Zimmerman is a "close ally of President Joe Biden." "This year, the choice is also clear: Robert Zimmerman, New York's Democratic National Committeeman, close ally of

President Joe Biden, and the endorsed candidate of all the Democratic Party committees in the new 3rd District (Towns of Oyster Bay, North Hempstead and NE Queens).”

(“Endorsement: Robert Zimmerman for US Congress,” [The North Shore Leader](#), Accessed: 8/23/22)

- **Zimmerman supported Joe Biden for President in 2020.** “24. Who did or do you support for office in the Democratic primary in the following races A) mayor and comptroller in 2021 B) President in 2016 and 2020 C) Governor and Lt. Governor 2022 A) Scott Stringer and Corey Johnson B) Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden C) Kathy Hochul and Brian Benjamin” (Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club, “Candidate Answers to JOLDC: Robert Zimmerman for US Congress NY-03,” [Candidate Questionnaire](#), 4/21/22)
- **Zimmerman donated \$2,800 to Joe Biden’s presidential campaign.** (Robert Zimmerman, [Federal Election Commission](#), Accessed 9/7/22)
- **VIDEO: In June 2022, Zimmerman endorsed Joe Biden for re-election in 2024.** VIDEO: ATTENDEE: “I’ve seen some fracturing within the Democratic Party recently about Biden, so I was wondering if you are willing to endorse him for 2024 or support him?” ZIMMERMAN: “I’m endorsing him for 2024. You know, Democrats have got to get out of group therapy and stop, and we do this constantly. We have a midterm in front of us, Meg, that is going to determine the future of our democracy. I’m not kidding when I say that. It’s going to, how we do in this midterm of the future will determine the future of whether we have an electoral system fair and representative of our country. Whether in fact we can codify Roe v Wade and stand up to the outrageous decisions of the US Supreme Court, whether you can pass gun safety legislation, to try to curtail the mass killings around our country. Whether we can stand up the climate crisis, reduce prescription drugs. So much is on the line and we have Democrats debating whether Joe Biden should run or not in 2024. I think there are many aspects of his presidency that are great and historic and I’m proud to support. I’ve had some differences with them on policy for sure, but yes, I’m backing him again if he chooses to run, and quite frankly, the most important thing we can do, Meg, my view, is stop debating issues that are extraneous from the American people. These are you know, it’s funny. As I mentioned, I’ve done TV over the years and these topics should Biden run again or not. They’re great topics for political pundits.” (Robert Zimmerman, Remarks At A Meet And Greet, [Video](#), 6/29/22) Minute 31:04:32:27
 - **Zimmerman: “I think there are many aspects of [Biden’s] presidency that are great and historic and I’m proud to support.”** (Robert Zimmerman, Remarks At A Meet And Greet, [Video](#), 6/29/22) Minute 31:04:32:27
- **VIDEO: In April 2022, Zimmerman said that if Joe Biden wants to run again, he would support him and “thinks he’s done a heroic job.”** VIDEO: REPORTER: “If you are elected to Congress this November, then you will be up for reelection in 2024 where there will also be a presidential election happening. Should Joe Biden be the Democratic nominee for president in 2024, or should he step aside for a new generation of Democratic leadership?” ZIMMERMAN: “If he wants to run, I’m going to support him and I think he’s done a heroic job, especially in the Ukraine crisis. I mean, it’s underreported but the idea that he’s able to hold our European Union together with NATO and also avoid the missteps of leading to a World War is an extraordinary achievement, and we can all debate the steps that could have or should have been taken but none of us are in the Situation Room. None of us are getting the briefings from the Joint Chiefs, so it’s very easy to make

your opinion based on what you see on TV or what you read in the paper. But, the bigger point is, I think, both, it's been a, I think we're seeing real leadership, really leading the world community. His infrastructure bill. The fact we have, 400 people got shots in the arms and we're pulling out of this pandemic, really speaks to, I think, the great leadership, he's shown this president, and so if he chooses to run again, I'm going to support him."

(Robert Zimmerman, [Interview With 3on\(NY\)3 Podcast](#), 4/7/22) Minute 1:27:48-1:28:57

Joe Biden and Nancy Pelosi's tax-and-spend agenda includes the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan, which exacerbated inflation:

- **Nancy Pelosi praised the passage of "President Biden's American Rescue Plan."** "Today is a day of great progress and promise for the American people, as the Democratic Senate has passed President Biden's American Rescue Plan to save lives and livelihoods. The House now hopes to have a bipartisan vote on this life-saving legislation and urges Republicans to join us in recognition of the devastating reality of this vicious virus and economic crisis and of the need for decisive action." (Speaker Nancy Pelosi, "Pelosi Statement on Senate Passage of American Rescue Plan," [Press Release](#), 3/6/21)
- **President Joe 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 "colossal" 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)

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

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

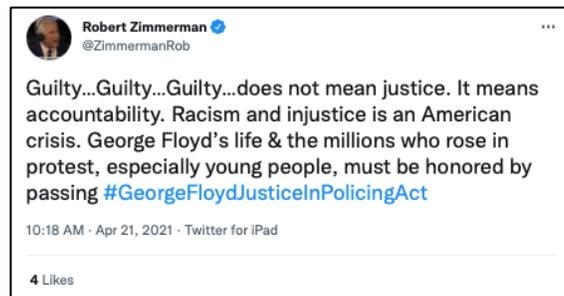
The New York Times

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)

Robert Zimmerman has called for passing the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, which is Nancy Pelosi's anti-police bill:

- In April 2021, Robert Zimmerman called for passing the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. "Guilty...Guilty...Guilty...does not mean justice. It means accountability. Racism and injustice is an American crisis. George Floyd's life & the millions who rose in protest, especially young people, must be honored by passing #GeorgeFloydJusticeInPolicingAct" (Robert Zimmerman, [Twitter](#), 4/21/21)



(Robert Zimmerman, [Twitter](#), 4/21/21)

- In 2020, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi unveiled the original George Floyd Justice in Policing bill, which has been described as "far-reaching legislation to overhaul policing in the United States." "House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and other top Democrats in the House and the Senate on Monday unveiled far-reaching legislation to overhaul policing in the United States as protests over excessive force by law enforcement against African Americans and others have gripped the nation. The bill, called the 'Justice in Policing Act,' would ban chokeholds, including the kind used by a then-Minneapolis police officer in the death of George Floyd last month, as well as no-knock warrants in drug cases, as was used in the incident leading to the fatal shooting of Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky, in March, according to a House Democratic aide and a bill summary obtained by NBC News." (Leigh Ann Caldwell and Rebecca Shabad, "Congressional Democrats unveil sweeping police reform bill that would ban chokeholds, no-knock warrants in drug cases," [NBC News](#), 6/8/20)
- The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, H.R. 1280, was introduced in February 2021. ([H.R. 1280](#), Introduced 2/24/21)
- H.R. 1280 would "establish reporting and oversight requirements" for policing data and "restrict the use of certain policing practices." "Passage of the bill that would establish reporting and oversight requirements related to policing data and restrict the use of certain

policing practices by federal law enforcement agencies and state and local agencies receiving certain federal policing grants. It would restrict a number of policing practices by federal law enforcement agencies and state and local agencies that receive federal funding, including to prohibit the use of ‘no-knock warrants’ to execute searches in drug cases; the use of deadly force, including chokeholds, except as a ‘last resort’ to prevent imminent injury to an officer or another person; and the use of deadly or ‘less lethal’ force before exhausting reasonable alternatives, including deescalation tactics. It would prohibit racial profiling by law enforcement, authorize lawsuits regarding violations of the prohibition, and require agencies to implement racial profiling training and oversight procedures.” (“Policing Overhaul – Passage: House Roll Call Vote 60 – HR 1280: Description,” [CQ](#), 3/3/21)

- **H.R. 1280 would also “eliminate ‘qualified immunity’ protections for law enforcement officers,” among other things.** “It would eliminate ‘qualified immunity’ protections for law enforcement officers by prohibiting legal defenses based on an officer acting ‘in good faith’ or the purported absence of ‘clearly established’ law. It would require federal law enforcement officers to use body cameras and dashboard cameras and require state and local agencies to use certain grant funding to purchase body cameras and develop protocols for their use. It would make it a crime for an officer to engage in a sexual act with an individual under custody. It would require the Justice Department to establish a national police misconduct registry, and it would establish a number of reporting requirements for law enforcement agencies, including on use of force, racial profiling, officer misconduct records and routine policing practices ~ with data disaggregated by demographics of officers and civilians involved. Among other provisions, it would require the Justice Department to analyze and recommend updates to law enforcement agency accreditation standards. It would authorize \$750 million annually through fiscal 2024 for grants to support independent investigations into police use of deadly force, including to create civilian review boards. It would authorize subpoenas by the Justice Department or state attorneys general for evidence related to potential violations of constitutional rights by law enforcement and authorize grants to states to support such investigations. It would authorize grant funding for activities related to community-based policing practices and non-police public safety initiatives. It would limit the transfer of military equipment from the Defense Department to state and local law enforcement agencies.” (“Policing Overhaul – Passage: House Roll Call Vote 60 – HR 1280: Description,” [CQ](#), 3/3/21)

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act would eliminate protections for law enforcement officers and could cost hundreds of millions of dollars each year:

- **Per the Congressional Budget Office, H.R. 1280 would incur costs on “more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies” and cost “several hundred million dollars annually.”** “More than 18,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide would be affected by the bill’s requirements. All would incur costs for training and for data collection, management, and reporting. Using information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and law enforcement associations nationwide, CBO expects that more than 6,000 agencies would either need to upgrade or to invest in new technology to comply with the new reporting requirements. Also using information from the FBI and law enforcement experts, CBO estimates that the costs across all intergovernmental entities would total several hundred million dollars annually to collect, manage, and transmit data to DOJ. Those costs would be higher the first year after the bill was enacted, as agencies made significant investments

in technology.” (Phillip L. Swagel, “Re: H.R. 1280, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021,” [Congressional Budget Office](#), 3/9/21)

- **H.R. 1280 would “cost local departments hundreds of millions of dollars in training, data collection and equipment costs.”** “A House Democrats’ bill to revamp policing and end racial profiling would cost local departments hundreds of millions of dollars in training, data collection and equipment costs, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.” (Jonathan Nicholson, “Democratic policing bill would cost departments hundreds of millions to comply with, says CBO,” [MarketWatch](#), 3/11/21)
- **H.R. 1280 would eliminate qualified immunity for law enforcement.** “This legislation makes it easier for the federal government to successfully prosecute police misconduct cases, ends racial and religious profiling and eliminates qualified immunity for law enforcement.” ([House Committee on the Judiciary](#), “Issues: Justice in Policing Act,” Accessed 11/1/21)
 - **Qualified immunity protects police officers “from civil lawsuits so long as their conduct does not violate clearly established law or constitutional rights of which a reasonable officer would have known.”** “Qualified immunity provides police officers with protection from civil lawsuits so long as their conduct does not violate clearly established law or constitutional rights of which a reasonable officer would have known. Further, qualified immunity does not prevent individuals from recovering damages from police officers who knowingly violate an individual’s constitutional rights.” (International Association of Chiefs of Police, “[IACP Statement on Qualified Immunity](#),” Accessed 11/1/21)
 - **Ending qualified immunity protections “would have a profoundly chilling effect on police officers and limit their ability and willingness to respond to critical incidents without hesitation.”** “Qualified immunity is an essential part of policing and American jurisprudence. It allows police officers to respond to incidents without pause, make split-second decisions, and rely on the current state of the law in making those decisions. This protection is essential because it ensures officers that good faith actions, based on their understanding of the law at the time of the action, will not later be found to be unconstitutional. The loss of this protection would have a profoundly chilling effect on police officers and limit their ability and willingness to respond to critical incidents without hesitation.” (International Association of Chiefs of Police, “[IACP Statement on Qualified Immunity](#),” Accessed 11/1/21)

Zimmerman said he would need to review specific legislation before deciding if he would support “the decriminalization of sex work” – which could include decriminalizing prostitution:

- **In a 2022 candidate survey, Zimmerman said he would need to review specific legislation before deciding if he would support “the decriminalization of sex work.”** “6. Do you believe in the decriminalization of sex work? I would need to review the specific legislation in question before deciding whether to support. In any effort to decriminalize sex work, my priority would be ensuring the rights and safety of sex workers. Thus, I would want to make sure that any legislation encourages victims of crimes to report them to law enforcement and access important health services. I would also work to ensure that programs are implemented to ensure sex workers do not face barriers to transitioning to other forms of

employment.” (Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club, “Candidate Answers to JOLDC: Robert Zimmerman for US Congress NY-03,” [Candidate Questionnaire](#), 4/21/22)

- **According to the ACLU, the decriminalization of sex work includes removing criminal penalties for prostitution, but is not the same thing as legalizing it.** “Sex workers deserve the same legal protections as anybody else. They should be able to maintain their livelihood without fear of violence or arrest, access health care and other services without discrimination, and seek justice when they are harmed. Decriminalization would help bring sex workers out of the dangerous margins and into the light where people are protected – not targeted – by the law. For key findings on the impacts of sex work criminalization and decriminalization models, read the full brief, ‘Is Sex Work Decriminalization the Answer? What the Research Tells Us.’ What does decriminalization mean? Decriminalization refers to the removal of criminal penalties for the buying and selling of sexual acts, specifically those categorized as prostitution. Decriminalization is not the same as legalization. Legalization removes criminal penalties for certain incidents of buying and selling of sexual acts, i.e. prostitution, provided the participants comply with relevant regulations.” (ACLU, “[It’s Time to Decriminalize Sex Work](#),” 1/21/22; Accessed: 9/22/22)