

Republican Senators & Their Allies Cast Nonwhite Biden Nominees As “Radical” While Taking Softer Tone On White Nominees

GOP Senators on Nonwhite Nominees	GOP Senators on White Nominees
<p data-bbox="115 401 768 499"><u>GOP Senators And Conservative Allies Aggressively Opposed Many Of Biden’s Nominees Of Color, Labeling Them “Radical”...</u></p> <p data-bbox="115 533 768 709">Senator Steve Daines on Deb Haaland: “I’m deeply concerned with the Congresswoman’s support on several <i>radical</i> issues that will hurt Montana, our way of life, our jobs and rural America.”</p> <p data-bbox="115 743 768 888">Senator John Barrasso on Haaland: “[Haaland’s] <i>radical</i> views are squarely at odds with the responsible management of our nation’s energy resources.”</p> <p data-bbox="115 921 768 1066">Senator Tom Cotton on Haaland: “Xavier Becerra, Biden’s nominee for HHS, is an unqualified <i>radical</i> who enforced California’s disastrous lockdowns.”</p> <p data-bbox="115 1100 768 1283">Senator Steve Daines on Xavier Becerra: “He has made his career aggressively pursuing a <i>radical</i> pro-abortion agenda and attacking the religious freedom of Americans who believe in the sanctity of human life.”</p> <p data-bbox="115 1316 768 1461">Senator Mitch McConnell on Xavier Becerra: “I am hard-pressed to see any way such a <i>radical</i> and underqualified nominee should fill such a critical post at this crucial time.”</p> <p data-bbox="115 1495 768 1640">Senator Marco Rubio on Alejandro Mayorkas: “His nomination is further evidence that the Biden Administration intends to pursue a <i>radical</i> immigration agenda.”</p> <p data-bbox="115 1673 768 1787">Senator Rick Scott on Neera Tanden: “Neera Tanden is a big-government, big-spending <i>radical</i> liberal who’s a terrible choice for OMB Director.”</p> <p data-bbox="115 1820 768 1961">Senator Paul on Becerra: “And really, he’s shown himself in California and in Congress, to be a <i>radical</i>, and so, I think he’s going to scare people to death if he gets in charge of a trillion-dollar</p>	<p data-bbox="841 401 1490 499"><u>GOP Senators Praised Credentials Of And Expressed Support For Many Of Biden’s White Nominees...</u></p> <p data-bbox="808 533 1528 646">Senator Lindsey Graham on Antony Blinken: “I think you’re an outstanding choice, and I intend to vote for you.”</p> <p data-bbox="808 680 1528 825">Senator Jim Risch on Blinken: “Mr. Blinken has a long and distinguished history when it comes to statecraft and foreign relations matter. Certainly, he is very qualified for this job.”</p> <p data-bbox="808 858 1528 972">Senator Marco Rubio on Avril Haines: “Fill this critical national security position as early into the Biden administration as possible.”</p> <p data-bbox="808 1005 1528 1073">Senator Chuck Grassley on Tom Vilsack: “I fully support this nomination.”</p> <p data-bbox="808 1106 1528 1220">Senator John Boozman on Vilsack: “You have an excellent reputation, and we look forward to working with you in the future.”</p> <p data-bbox="808 1253 1528 1398">Senator Roger Wicker on Pete Buttigieg: “Mayor Buttigieg has impressive credentials that demonstrate his intellectual and commitment to serving our nation.”</p> <p data-bbox="808 1432 1528 1499">Senator Todd Young on Buttigieg: “Pete understands how critical infrastructure is to growth and opportunity.”</p> <p data-bbox="813 1533 1523 1686"><u>...And Even When GOP Senators Opposed Biden’s White Nominees, They Tended To Use Softer Language Focused On Substantive Policy Disagreements</u></p> <p data-bbox="808 1719 1528 1833">Senator Tom Cotton on Blinken opposition: “Blinken deserves his share of the blame for President Biden’s diplomatic errors.”</p> <p data-bbox="808 1866 1528 1961">Senator Rand Paul on Blinken opposition: “Full-throated advocate of military intervention in the Middle East.”</p>

organization and uses it for all of the crazy left-wing ideas that they want to promote.”

Senator Mike Lee on Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke: “I was disappointed that Judge Garland declined to condemn dangerous, *radical* positions previously taken by fellow DOJ nominees, Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke.”

Heritage Action advertisement on Becerra:
“*Radical* Partisan”

Judicial Crisis Network advertisement on Gupta: “A *Dangerous* Appointee”

Tom Cotton advertisement on Becerra: “So *Extreme**”

Senator Rick Scott on Buttigieg opposition:
“[Buttigieg] said he’s open to raising the gas tax on the American people to pay for government’s wasteful spending. There is absolutely NO reason we should be placing that burden on taxpayers.”

Spokesman for Senator Mike Lee on Yellen opposition: “Secretary Yellen’s answers made it clear she did not view debt or deficit reduction as a priority of hers. Sen. Lee strongly disagrees and voted accordingly.”

Republican Senators Cast Nonwhite Biden Nominees As “Radical”

Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) Referred To Deb Haaland’s “Radical” Views And Xavier Becerra’s “Radical” Agenda

Senator Daines Claimed Haaland’s “Radical” Views Would Hurt Montana And Its “Way Of Life,” And That He Would Block Her Confirmation “Unless My Concerns Are Addressed.” “U.S. Senator Steve Daines issued the following statement after meeting with President Biden’s nominee to head the Department of the Interior, Representative Deb Haaland: ‘After our conversation, I’m deeply concerned with the Congresswoman’s support on several radical issues that will hurt Montana, our way of life, our jobs and rural America, including her support for the Green New Deal and President Biden’s oil and gas moratorium, as well as her opposition to the Keystone XL pipeline. [...] Unless my concerns are addressed, I will block her confirmation.’” [Senator Steve Daines – Press Release, [2/5/21](#)]

Following Her Senate Hearing, Daines Continued To Refer To Haaland’s Agenda As “Radical.” “Rep. Haaland said she will blindly follow @JoeBiden’s radical, anti-American energy agenda. She refused to answer whether or not she stands by her hostile record and divisive rhetoric on energy.” [Twitter - @SteveDaines, [2/23/21](#)]

Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) Said Becerra Made His Career On “Radical” Pro-Choice Agenda. “Xavier Becerra is a disaster for religious freedom and pro-life issues. He has made his career aggressively pursuing a radical pro-abortion agenda and attacking the religious freedom of Americans who believe in the sanctity of human life.” [Twitter - @SteveDaines, [12/7/20](#)]

Senator John Barrasso Alleged Deb Haaland Had “Radical” Views That Were Not “Best For Montana”

Senator John Barrasso Opposed Haaland For Interior Secretary, Saying Her Confirmation Would Encourage Biden Along A “Illegal And Reckless Path” On Drilling. “Frustration among Republicans with President Biden’s climate policies has coalesced around one of his most historic Cabinet picks — Rep. Deb Haaland (D-N.M.). [...] The latest is Sen. John Barrasso, the top Republican on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The lawmaker from Wyoming, a top oil-producing state, said her opposition to issuing more leases to drill for oil and gas on federal lands and waters is ‘squarely at odds with the responsible

management of our nation's energy resources' and 'will only encourage President Biden along the illegal and reckless path that he has begun,' according to a statement Monday." [Washington Post, [2/9/21](#)]

Barrasso Said Haaland's "Radical Views Are Squarely At Odds With The Responsible Management Of Our Nation's Energy Resources." "Sen. John Barrasso (Wyo.), the top Republican on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, joined the mudslinging Monday, telling E&E News that Haaland's 'radical views are squarely at odds with the responsible management of our nation's energy resources.'" [Mother Jones, [2/9/21](#)]

- **Daines: "I'm Not Convinced The Congresswoman Can Divorce Her Radical Views And Represent What's Best For Montana And All Stakeholders In The West."** "I'm not convinced the Congresswoman can divorce her radical views and represent what's best for Montana and all stakeholders in the West,' added Daines, who also is on the energy panel." [Washington Post, [2/9/21](#)]

Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR) Claimed Xavier Becerra Was "Unqualified Radical"

Cotton Tweeted That Becerra Was "Unqualified Radical." "Xavier Becerra, Biden's nominee for HHS, is an unqualified radical who enforced California's disastrous lockdowns. Any Senator supporting him will pay a price with voters." [Twitter - @TomCottonAR, [2/22/21](#)]

Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) Alleged Alejandro Mayorkas Had "Radical Immigration Agenda"

Senator Rubio Opposed Mayorkas' Confirmation, Saying His Nomination Was Part Of Biden's "Radical Immigration Agenda." "U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) released a statement regarding his opposition to Alejandro N. Mayorkas to be Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. 'The Department of Homeland Security plays a crucial role in protecting our nation from threats and securing our borders, and any qualified nominee to lead this agency should have a track record of supporting its mission,' Rubio said. 'It is clear that Alejandro Mayorkas does not. Whether it is his prior misconduct while serving in government, support for blanket amnesty, or his disastrous efforts to normalize relations with Castro's regime, Mayorkas is one of the most radical nominees to be considered to lead the Department. Not only has Mayorkas pledged to undo the sensible protections put in place by the Trump Administration that ended the dangerous policy of catch and release, but his nomination is further evidence that the Biden Administration intends to pursue a radical immigration agenda. I oppose his confirmation.'" [Senator Marco Rubio – Press Release, [2/2/21](#)]

Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) Said Becerra Was "Radical And Underqualified"

Senator McConnell's Office Released Prepared Remarks In Which He Called Xavier Becerra "A Radical And Underqualified Nominee." "We will review Mr. Becerra's testimony today. But I am hard-pressed to see any way such a radical and underqualified nominee should fill such a critical post at this crucial time." [Office of Senator Mitch McConnell – Press Release, [02/23/21](#)]

Senator Rick Scott (R-FL) Said Neera Tanden Was "Big-Spending Radical Liberal"

Senator Rick Scott (R-FL) Said Neera Tanden Was "Big-Spending Radical Liberal." "Neera Tanden is a big-government, big-spending radical liberal who's a terrible choice for OMB Director. It's just more proof that @JoeBiden and the Democrats will continue to move further and further to the Left." [Twitter - @SenRickScott, [11/30/20](#)]

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) Referred To Becerra As Having "Shown Himself In California And In Congress, To Be A Radical"

Paul Called Becerra “Radical” With No Experience, Saying, “I Think He’s Going To Scare People To Death.” PAUL: “Plus he has no experience running an organization like this. This is a trillion-dollar organization. No experience in science, no experience running something like this. And really, he’s shown himself in California and in Congress, to be a radical, and so, I think he’s going to scare people to death if he gets in charge of a trillion-dollar organization and uses it for all of the crazy left-wing ideas that they want to promote.” [YouTube – Fox Business, [2/24/21](#)] (4:32 to 4:55) (VIDEO)

Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) Called On Merrick Garland To Condemn “Dangerous, Radical” Views Of Justice Department Nominees Vanita Gupta And Kirsten Clarke

Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) Said He Was Disappointed Garland Did Not Condemn “Dangerous, Radical Positions” Taken By Justice Department Nominees Vanita Gupta And Kristen Clarke. “I was disappointed that Judge Garland declined to condemn dangerous, radical positions previously taken by fellow DOJ nominees, Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke.” [Twitter - @SenMikeLee, [2/22/21](#)] (VIDEO)

Conservative Groups Have Spent Millions On Paid Ads Calling Nonwhite Biden Nominees As “Radical” And “Dangerous”

Politico: “A Trio Of Conservative Organizations” Launched A “Multimillion Dollar Advertising Blitz” Aimed At Sinking Becerra Nomination, Among Others. “A trio of conservative organizations are launching a multimillion dollar advertising blitz aimed at undermining two of President Joe Biden’s high-profile nominees. [...] This time, however, the trio is going negative, hoping to torpedo the confirmations of Vanita Gupta, Biden’s nominee for associate attorney general, and Xavier Becerra, the Democratic attorney general of California and nominee for secretary of Health and Human Services.” [Politico, [2/18/21](#)]

Heritage Action’s Advertisement Opposing Becerra Labeled Him As “Radical Partisan.” The advertisement was titled “Becerra – Not the Right Choice.”



[YouTube – Heritage Action, [2/18/21](#)] (VIDEO)

Judicial Crisis Network’s Advertisement Opposing Gupta Labeled Her As “A Dangerous Appointee.” The advertisement was titled “Dangerous Appointee.”



[YouTube – Judicial Crisis Network, [2/18/21](#)] (VIDEO)

Tom Cotton’s Advertisement Opposing Becerra Labeled Him As “So Extreme.” The advertisement was titled “Becerra Can’t be Trusted – New Hampshire.”



[YouTube – Tom Cotton, [2/22/21](#)] (VIDEO)

Republican Senators Praised Credentials Of White Nominees

Senator Lindsey Graham On Tony Blinken: “Outstanding Choice”

Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) Told Tony Blinken, “I Think You’re An Outstanding Choice, And I Intend To Vote For You.” “One sign of the committee’s direction came from Sen. Lindsey O. Graham (R-S.C.), a strong Trump partisan who opposed Blinken the last time he appeared before it, for confirmation as deputy secretary of state six years ago. ‘I think you’re an outstanding choice, and I intend to vote for you,’ Graham said this time around.” [Washington Post, [1/19/21](#)]

Senator Chuck Grassley “Fully Support[ed]” Tom Vilsack’s Nomination To USDA

Grassley Said He “Fully Support[ed]” Vilsack’s Nomination To Head USDA, Taking To Senate Floor To Defend His Record On Racial Disparities. GRASSLEY: “I fully support this nomination. He has received support from farm and commodity groups across the country, but more important to this senator, he’s received praise from family farmers in Iowa. However, a few critics of the former Iowa Governor have raised questions about his record on addressing racial inequities during his time as Secretary of Agriculture from 2009

to 2017. I'd like to take this opportunity to set the record straight." [YouTube, SenChuckGrassley, [2/22/21](#)] (0:17 to 0:59) (VIDEO)

Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) Praised Pete Buttigieg's "Impressive Credentials"

Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) Praised Pete Buttigieg's "Impressive Credentials" During His Confirmation Hearing. "The hearing was chaired by the Commerce Committee's Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Miss.), who holds the gavel while both parties work out a power-sharing agreement in the 50-50 split Senate. Wicker said Buttigieg was almost certain to win confirmation. 'Mayor Buttigieg has impressive credentials that demonstrate his intellect and commitment to serving our nation,' Wicker said." [Washington Post, [1/21/21](#)]

Senator John Boozman (R-AR) Noted Vilsack's "Excellent Reputation" At His Confirmation Hearing

Senator John Boozman (R-AR) Discussed Tom Vilsack's "Excellent Reputation" At His Confirmation Hearing. "The nomination of Tom Vilsack as agriculture secretary received swift and bipartisan support Tuesday from the Senate Agriculture Committee. [...] Vilsack, a former Iowa governor, is already a familiar face in the farming community; he held the same job in the cabinet of President Barack Obama and is highly regarded, Boozman said. 'You have an excellent reputation, and we look forward to working with you in the future,' Boozman said. 'I've enjoyed working with you in the past and look forward to strengthening our relationship as we do good work in a very bipartisan nature on this committee to help our agriculture community.'" [Arkansas Democrat Gazette, [2/3/21](#)]

Senator Jim Risch (R-ID) Noted Antony Blinken's "Long And Distinguished History," Saying He Was "Very Qualified"

Senator Jim Risch (R-ID) Praised Antony Blinken's "Long And Distinguished History," Said He Was "Very Qualified For This Job." "Antony Blinken, a longtime aide to Joe Biden and former deputy Secretary of State, has been confirmed by the Senate to be America's next top diplomat. [...] 'Mr. Blinken has a long and distinguished history when it comes to statecraft and foreign relations matter. Certainly, he is very qualified for this job,' Sen. James Risch, R-Ida., the outgoing chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said on the Senate floor before Tuesday's vote. 'We need a secretary of state. This is the person for the job.'" [ABC 7 NY, [1/26/21](#)]

Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) Called For Swift Confirmation Of Avril Haines, Noting "Critical National Security Position"

Senator Marco Rubio Called For Swift Confirmation Of DNI Nominee Avril Haines, Calling DNI "Critical National Security Position." "Among the slate of nominees appearing before the Senate on Tuesday was Avril Haines, Biden's nominee to be director of national intelligence. Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), the incoming vice chair of the Intelligence Committee, said he wanted to 'fill this critical national security position as early into the Biden administration as possible.'" [Politico, [1/19/21](#)]

Senator Todd Young Responded To Pete Buttigieg's Nomination: "Pete Understands How Critical Infrastructure Is To Growth And Opportunity." "U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) today issued the following statement regarding the former mayor of South Bend, Pete Buttigieg's recent nomination to be Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation. 'As a former city leader here in Indiana, Pete understands how critical infrastructure is to growth and opportunity. It will be good to have a Hoosier serving in this capacity.'" [Senator Todd Young – Press Release, [12/15/20](#)]

And Even When Republican Senators Opposed White Nominees, They Tended To Use Softer Language Focused On Substantive Policy Disagreements

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) Criticized Blinken On Foreign Policy History

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) Criticized Blinken As Being “Full-Throated Advocate Of Military Intervention In The Middle East.” “Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., emerged as Blinken's most vocal opponent. A libertarian who has long opposed U.S. military intervention, Paul suggested Blinken would lead the country into more messy foreign entanglements. ‘Mr. Blinken has been a full-throated advocate of military intervention in the Middle East for 20 years,’ Paul said Tuesday on the Senate floor, citing Blinken's support for the U.S. military’s role in Iraq, Libya and Syria. ‘He's more of the same,’ Paul said, arguing that Blinken is part of a bipartisan foreign policy establishment that has supported regime change and war.” [USA Today, [1/26/21](#)]

Senator Cotton Criticized Blinken As Deserving “His Share Of The Blame For President Biden’s Diplomatic Errors”

Senator Cotton Explained His Vote For Blinken: “Blinken Deserves His Share Of The Blame For President Biden's Diplomatic Errors.” “Antony Blinken deserves his share of the blame for President Biden's diplomatic errors. I did not support his nomination.” [Twitter - @SenTomCotton, [1/26/21](#)]

Senator Scott Criticized Buttigieg Over Openness To Raising Gas Taxes, Saying It Would “Pay For Government’s Wasteful Spending”

Scott: Buttigieg Said He's Open To Raising The Gas Tax On The American People To Pay For Government’s Wasteful Spending,” “NO Reason We Should Be Placing That Burden On Taxpayers.” “Yesterday, @USDOT nominee @PeteButtigieg said he's open to raising the gas tax on the American people to pay for government's wasteful spending. There is absolutely NO reason we should be placing that burden on taxpayers.” [Twitter - @SenRickScott, [1/22/21](#)] (VIDEO)

Senator Ted Cruz Criticized Raimondo Over Her Position On China’s Huawei

Cruz Put Hold On Raimondo’s Nomination Over Position On Chinese Internet Company Huawei. CRUZ: “I’ll lift the hold when the Biden admin commits to keep the massive Chinese Communist Party spy operation Huawei on the Entity List.” [Twitter, @tedcruz, [2/4/21](#)]



[Twitter, @tedcruz, [2/4/21](#)]

Senator Lee Argued Yellen “Did Not View Debt Or Deficit Reduction As A Priority Of Hers” In Explaining His Opposition Vote

Senator Lee’s Office Janet Yellen Opposition: “Secretary Yellen’s Answers Made It Clear She Did Not View Debt Or Deficit Reduction As A Priority Of Hers.” “Yellen was confirmed on an 84-15 vote to become the first-ever woman serving as treasury secretary. Lee voted no because he opposes her philosophy about public debt and the deficit, Carroll said. ‘Sen. Lee met personally with Secretary Yellen and asked her directly about her commitment to reducing the debt and deficit,’ he said. ‘Secretary Yellen’s answers made it clear she did not view debt or deficit reduction as a priority of hers. Sen. Lee strongly disagrees and voted accordingly.’” [Salt Lake Tribune, [1/28/21](#)]