

TNS Graham: Vụ tấn công Đồi Capitol 6/1 đã được lên kế hoạch trước
Lý Cao

Chủ tịch Ủy ban Tư pháp của Thượng viện Hoa Kỳ, Thượng Nghị sĩ (TNS) Lindsey Graham cho biết, nếu đảng Dân chủ triệu tập các nhân chứng trong phiên tòa luận tội Tổng thống Trump, thì đảng Cộng hòa sẽ yêu cầu FBI can thiệp, ý nói rằng kẻ chủ mưu đằng sau vụ tấn công Đồi Capitol ngày 6/1 sẽ hoàn toàn bị lộ diện.



Thượng Nghị sĩ Lindsey Graham (Ảnh: Al Teich/ Shutterstock)

Thành viên Đảng Cộng hòa bang Nam Carolina này đã nói với người dẫn chương trình Fox News rằng, việc kéo dài thủ tục luận tội không khác gì việc mở bung chiếc hộp Pandora. Ông bày tỏ hy vọng rằng việc này nên được tiến hành nhanh chóng thông qua bỏ phiếu.

Trong cuộc phỏng vấn, TNS Graham ám chỉ rằng ông và các TNS Hoa Kỳ phản đối việc luận tội sẽ chống lại phiên tòa trì hoãn kéo dài đối với cựu Tổng thống Trump. Và nếu đảng Dân chủ tiếp tục bức bách, ông Graham và các TNS sẽ mời FBI đến để điều tra kỹ lưỡng thủ phạm thực sự đằng sau cuộc bạo loạn.

Ông Graham nói: “Nếu các vị mở ‘chiếc hộp sâu bọ’ đó ra, thì chúng tôi sẽ mời FBI sẽ đến để cho tất cả mọi người biết về cuộc tấn công đã được lên kế hoạch trước như thế nào và điều gì đã xảy ra với bảo vệ an ninh tại Đồi Capital.”

Theo Washington Post, FBI đang điều tra vụ bạo loạn ở Điện Capitol và tìm thấy bằng chứng về một cuộc tấn công phối hợp đã được lên kế hoạch từ trước.

“Ngày càng nhiều bằng chứng cho thấy, trước thời điểm bài phát biểu của Tổng thống [Trump], mọi người đã đến Washington và lên kế hoạch trước cho cuộc tấn công,” ông Graham nói và ông “tin chắc” rằng Tổng thống Trump vô tội.

Ông Graham chỉ trích rằng việc cho gọi QAnon Shaman Jacob Chansley (còn gọi là pháp sư QAnon) để làm chứng sẽ biến phiên tòa luận tội trở thành “rap xiếc”.

Jacob Chansley, tên khác là Jake Angeli, đã bị bắt trong cuộc bạo loạn vào ngày 6/1. Lúc đó anh ta mặc một bộ quần áo kỳ dị, vẽ vệt trên mặt, mặc áo lông thú và đội mũ sừng trâu.

Anh ta bị buộc 2 trọng tội và 4 tội nhẹ cho những hành vi sai trái của mình.

Luật sư Albert Watkins của anh ta nói rằng Chansley sẵn sàng làm chứng trước Quốc hội, rằng cựu Tổng thống Trump đã xúi giục anh ta đột kích Điện Capitol. Đề xuất này đã khơi dậy sự hứng thú của một số nghị sĩ ủng hộ việc luận tội.

Tuy nhiên, ông Graham đã lên án ý tưởng để Chansley đứng ra Thượng viện làm nhân chứng luận tội, vì nếu làm như vậy sẽ xóa bỏ tính trang trọng của phiên tòa.

Thượng nghị sĩ trước đó đã nói trên Twitter: “Tôi không thể nghĩ ra cách nào để biến phiên tòa luận tội sắp tới thành một buổi biểu diễn xiếc hoàn chỉnh tốt hơn việc gọi ‘Pháp sư QAnon’ làm nhân chứng.”

Ông Graham chỉ ra rằng Chansley không những không nên làm chứng mà còn không nên gọi bất kỳ ai khác.

Ông nhấn mạnh trên Twitter: “Hạ viện đã luận tội Tổng thống Trump mà không có nhân chứng.”

Ông cũng chỉ ra những hậu quả bất lợi cho Tổng thống Trump: “Nếu chúng ta mở cửa cho các nhân chứng tại Thượng viện, sẽ có nhiều nhân chứng liên quan đến các chủ đề khác nhau được thẩm vấn. Sau đó, phiên tòa sẽ kéo dài hàng tháng thay vì vài ngày.”

TNS Graham nói Tổng thống Trump vô tội

Trong cuộc phỏng vấn với Fox News, ông Graham cũng cho rằng phiên tòa luận tội tổng thống sắp mãn nhiệm là vi hiến.

Hơn nữa, vào ngày xảy ra sự cố tại Đồi Capitol, bài phát biểu của Tổng thống Trump đã kêu gọi những người ủng hộ của mình hãy phản đối xác nhận của Quốc hội rằng ông Biden đã giành chiến thắng bằng cách thức ôn hòa, “luật kích động” không nên được áp dụng, hơn nữa ông Trump “không phải là một tội phạm”.

Hiện tại, tại Thượng viện Hoa Kỳ, đảng Cộng hòa và đảng Dân chủ được chia đều 50-50 ghế, nhưng lá phiếu của bà Harris cho phép đảng Dân chủ kiểm soát Thượng viện. Để kết tội cựu Tổng thống Trump, cần phải có 2/3 số phiếu của Thượng viện và ít nhất 17 dân biểu của Đảng Cộng hòa đồng ý.

Phiên tòa dự kiến sẽ bắt đầu vào tuần sau, ngày 8/2.

Trong những ngày gần đây, Tổng thống Trump đã giải tán một số luật sư ở Nam Carolina. Trong tuyên bố vào tối Chủ nhật, hai luật sư David Schoen và Bruce Castor

Jr. được công bố là trưởng nhóm pháp lý bảo vệ cho cựu Tổng thống Trump tại phiên luận tội sắp tới.

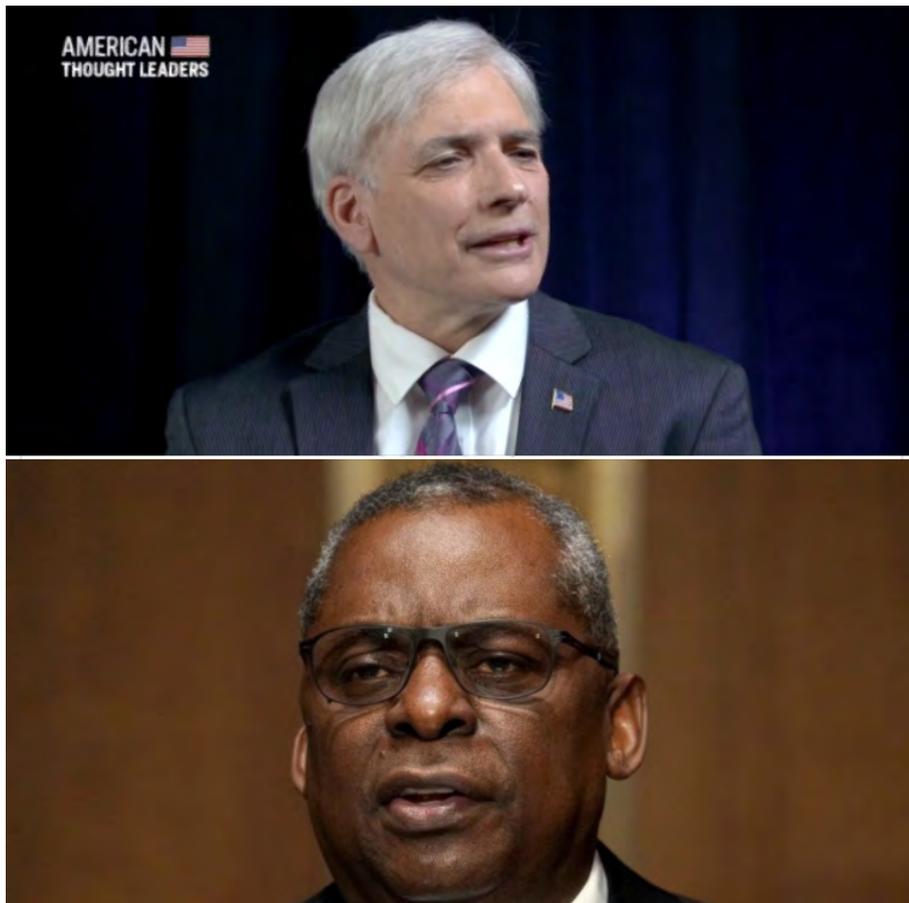
Ông Graham nói rằng “có quá nhiều đầu bếp trong nhà bếp” để giải thích lý do tại sao đội luật sư Nam Carolina bị rời khỏi nhóm của cựu Tổng thống Trump, và nói rằng nhân sự mới được tuyển dụng là “luật sư rất giỏi.”

Lý Cao - Vision Times

Cựu Phó Đề Đốc Hải quân Steven Rogers: Thanh trừng quân đội theo ‘Chủ nghĩa cực đoan’ của Bộ Trưởng Quốc Phòng Lloyd Austin có thể dẫn đến chủ nghĩa cộng sản.

<https://www.theepochtimes.com/military-extremism-purge...>

Viet Light



Cựu Phó Đề Đốc Hải quân Hoa Kỳ Steven Rogers cho biết hôm thứ Năm 4/2 rằng lệnh của Bộ trưởng Quốc phòng Lloyd Austin yêu cầu quân đội từ chức để giải quyết “chủ nghĩa cực đoan” là chưa từng có tiền lệ, không cần thiết và là con đường nguy hiểm dẫn đến như “Trung cộng”.

“Đối với tôi, điều này thật nguy hiểm, nó trông giống như bắt quân nhân khai kiểm điểm và đó là con đường mà bạn sẽ chỉ tìm thấy ở Trung cộng hoặc ở Liên Xô cũ,” cựu Phó Đề Đốc Rogers nói.

Austin đã ra lệnh thanh lọc toàn Bộ Quốc Phòng và sa thải nhằm giải quyết chủ nghĩa cực đoan trong hàng ngũ vào hôm thứ Tư.

Rogers nói rằng quân đội Hoa Kỳ đã là một thần tượng mẫu mực trong việc giải quyết sự phân biệt đối xử, chủ nghĩa cực đoan, chủ nghĩa cấp tiến, điều đã làm cho quân đội Hoa Kỳ trở nên vĩ đại nhất trên trái đất.

Ông bày tỏ lo lắng về việc liệu những người có khuynh hướng bảo thủ sẽ bị loại bỏ.

“Tôi tin rằng đó là Bộ trưởng Quốc phòng dưới thời chính quyền Biden. Bây giờ họ sẽ thanh trừng những người có khuynh hướng bảo thủ? Các thành viên quân đội có quan điểm và giá trị bảo thủ — họ có phải là những người sẽ bị nhắm tới không?” Rogers hỏi.

Thư ký Báo chí Ngũ Giác Đài John Kirby hôm thứ Tư lưu ý rằng một số kẻ cực đoan xông vào Điện Capitol của Hoa Kỳ vào ngày 6 tháng 1 là quân nhân tại ngũ và những người khác là cựu quân nhân.

Bộ trưởng quốc phòng Austin cho biết trong cuộc họp với các nhà lãnh đạo quân đội rằng mặc dù số lượng phần tử cực đoan có thể ít, nhưng “Bất kể đó là gì, nó ... không phải là một vấn đề nhỏ và phải được giải quyết.”

Rogers lưu ý rằng Trung Cộng đã xâm nhập vào các trường học, cao đẳng, đại học, công ty và hệ thống chính trị của Hoa Kỳ.

Roger nói, “Bây giờ mối quan tâm của tôi là họ đang toan tính xâm nhập vào hàng ngũ quân đội Hoa Kỳ của chúng tôi. Bây giờ, điều đó không có nghĩa là các quân nhân chúng tôi đang bị ảnh hưởng bởi Đảng Cộng sản Trung Quốc, nhưng mà các chính trị gia lãnh đạo quân đội của chúng tôi đang bị ảnh hưởng”.

Rogers nói rằng việc kiểm duyệt internet và thanh trừng những người có niềm tin bảo thủ trên khắp đất nước là điều vô cùng đáng lo ngại.

Ông nói: “Bây giờ chúng tôi có Bộ trưởng Quốc phòng, người có vẻ sẽ cho các thành viên quân đội làm bài kiểm điểm và có thể thanh trừng những cá nhân ủng hộ Tổng thống Trump khỏi quân đội,” ông nói. “Nó rất nguy hiểm. Nó đang đi xuống một con đường quá u nguy hiểm. ”

Rogers cho biết cuộc “kiểm tra” hay “kiểm điểm” sắp tới trong quân đội “sẽ có tác động tiêu cực to lớn đến tinh thần của những nam và nữ quân nhân của chúng ta trong quân đội.” Họ sẽ lo lắng về việc bị báo cáo, về việc đánh mất sự nghiệp của họ, hoặc thậm chí “bị truy tố”.

Ông nói rằng cuối đường nó sẽ dẫn đến việc Hoa Kỳ trở thành một nước xã hội chủ nghĩa.

Republicans Demand Pelosi Pay Fine After Speaker Defies New Rule, Bypasses House Metal Detectors

Emily Zanotti



Tasos Katopodis/Getty Images

Republicans say they're planning a "huge push" to force Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) to pay a hefty fine after Pelosi reportedly skirted the metal detectors in place outside the House chambers, defying her own rule requiring all members to submit to the increased security.

Fox News reports that members of the House GOP caught Pelosi using an alternative entrance to the House — an entrance that allows the Speaker to bypass the new security measures, put in place after a January 6th attack on the United States Capitol that allegedly came within feet of threatening lawmakers.

"She opened the session on the floor, she came through what is known as the Speaker's lobby," Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL) told the network. "We are all told, one Republican was fined for doing this just yesterday, that you cannot walk through those entrances unless you are disabled."

Last week, Pelosi and other members of Democratic House leadership pushed through a rule requiring all members to pass through a pair of metal detectors or submit to a basic search before entering House chambers in order, they said, to ensure that federal lawmakers were entirely safe while conducting House business. The rule levied steep fines for bypassing security.

"The House of Representatives voted in a major security upgrade on Wednesday, including a new \$5,000-per-incident fine for bypassing metal detectors now stationed at the entrance to House chambers," The Daily Wire noted.

"The fine, first proposed weeks ago by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), is designed to prevent confrontations like the ones that took place in early January when select Republicans refused to open their briefcases for security or pass through metal detectors before heading to work."

"The rule gives the Sergeant-at-Arms the authority to fine lawmakers \$5,000 for a first offense and \$10,000 on a second if the legislators do not complete the security

screening to enter the house, which includes walking through a metal detector,” USA Today added Wednesday.

“The new metal detectors were put at the House Chamber’s entrance in the wake of the mob that stormed the Capitol, incited by former President Donald Trump. However, some Republican members openly ignored and balked at the screening in the days that followed.”

Rep. Louis Gohmert (R-TX) was the first legislator fined the \$5,000; he ducked the metal detectors when “he’d left the House floor to use the bathroom,” according to Fox.

Rep. Dan Crenshaw (R-TX) slammed the House leader on Twitter.

“Pay the fine Speaker Pelosi,” Crenshaw wrote, tearing into the rule itself, and noting how Speaker Pelosi’s “exemption” exposed how useless the rule itself is for protecting lawmakers.

“Now is this a smart rule? No. Is this a rule that makes sense? No of course not. But that’s not the point, the point is they’re her rules. She’s literally confiscated property in the form of money, which we think is unconstitutional, but in any case they’re doing it.”

Crenshaw pledged to make a “huge push” to force Pelosi to pay the fine she levied on herself, reporting the violation to the Capitol Police who, he says, can get an official violation from the Sergeant-at-Arms.

“She won’t abide by the rules herself so we’re going to make a huge push for her to actually have to pay that fine,” Crenshaw said.

Democrat Cori Bush Rushes To Defense Of ‘Very Violent’ Criminals Rioting, Attacking Guard In Jail

Ryan Saavedra



Michael B. Thomas/Getty Images

Far-left Rep. Cori Bush (D-MO) rushed to defend hardened criminals that were rioting in a St. Louis prison after attacking a corrections officer on Saturday, a move that drew instant criticism given her response to the riot that broke out at the U.S. Capitol Building last month.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that the riot inside the City Justice Center broke out during the early morning hours on Saturday when an inmate who was mad at one of the guards decided to attack the guard, at which point other inmates joined in. Eventually, well over 100 inmates broke free from their jail cells and started a riot, breaking windows and setting fires. Authorities did eventually regain control of the facility.

“These were just very angry, defiant, very violent people that we house at the Justice Center,” the city’s director of public safety, Jimmie Edwards, told reporters.

“No one at the Justice Center is housed for a misdemeanor, a municipal offense or a low-level felony. Everybody housed at the Justice Center is housed there because of very serious offenses like assault on police officers and homicide and things of that sort.”

Bush rushed to defend the criminals over the weekend, quoting Martin Luther King Jr.: “A riot is the language of the unheard.”

“I want to talk to my constituents in the window. Their lives and their rights must be protected,” Bush tweeted.

“My team and I are working to ensure that the urgent needs of people who are incarcerated are not ignored.”

Bush also released a separate statement on the riot where she specifically stated that she wanted to make sure that the “demands” being made by the violent criminals were “not ignored” [emphasis added]:

What we saw today—and have been seeing at the St. Louis City Justice Center (CJC)—must be addressed immediately. Long before today, our jails have been notorious for their unsafe and unsanitary conditions.

We have an incarceration crisis. To date, 1 in 5 incarcerated people nationally has tested positive for COVID-19, including many across the City of St. Louis. I am concerned that the conditions for people who are incarcerated pose serious risks to their health, safety, and well being as well as that of those who work there.

I am calling for complete transparency and accountability from the city of St. Louis. Officials must publicly disclose the city’s COVID-19 testing protocols, case rate and hospitalization data, vaccination plans, use of solitary confinement, and transfer procedures for its local jails. Additionally, following two previous uprisings at CJC, our community needs information about any actions taken to address concerns raised by people in detention, some of whom are simply being held because they cannot afford bail.

I have been in contact with local government officials and community leaders since I became aware of the incident early this morning. My team and I are taking steps to reach out to the impacted families and communities to figure out the path forward to justice. I want to ensure that the demands made by those being held at CJC are not ignored, and I plan to investigate this further. There needs to be a plan to improve conditions and decarcerate.

My thoughts are with all those who have been harmed or injured during today's events. To everyone involved, especially those in the system and their families, know that you have a Congresswoman who loves everyone in our community and who wants to hear directly from you.

If you have information about the conditions that people who are incarcerated are living under in our community—or for any other needs my office can help you with during this time—please call or leave a message with my office at 314-955-9980 to share your story.

Bush has also expressed support for some of the most violent and heinous criminals in the criminal justice system, calling on people to “say [the] names” of “13 people murdered by Trump’s death row killing spree.”

The list of names included a white supremacist murderer; a violent rapist and murderer; a child murderer and drug trafficker; a man who murdered a grandmother and a young child; a child murderer, rapist, and torturer; a child molester, rapist, and murderer; two men who murdered youth ministers; a drug trafficker who kidnapped and raped an honor roll student and later buried her alive; a man who abused, tortured, and murdered his two-year-old daughter; a man who murdered seven people; a man who kidnapped and murdered three women; and a woman who murdered a pregnant woman, cut open the woman’s body and kidnapped the baby.

Bush was slammed online by people who noted Bush’s recent remarks about those who were involved in a riot that broke out in the nation’s capital on January 6, 2021.

New York Times Reporter Claims Billionaire Tech Investor Used The R-Word, Gets Corrected, Blames Everyone Else

Ashe Schow



Jerod Harris/Getty Images

New York Times tech reporter Taylor Lorenz on Saturday evening accused Marc Andreessen, a billionaire tech entrepreneur and investor, of saying the “r-word” while using the social media network Clubhouse.

Clubhouse is a social media network that allows users to actually speak to each other using their own voices. It was during one of these drop-in audio conversations that Lorenz claimed she heard Andreessen use the slur.

“[Marc Andreessen] just openly using the r-slur on Clubhouse tonight and not one other person in the room called him on it or saying anything,” Lorenz claimed in a since-deleted tweet.

*Nait Jones, a partner at Andreessen’s venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz, responded to Lorenz’s tweet by saying he was the moderator for the Clubhouse chat and that Andreessen never used the slur. The word was mentioned because some of the redditors who participated in the GameStop stock market spree called themselves the “R***** Revolution.”*

*“I modded that room,” Jones wrote on Twitter. “Here’s what actually happened. Felicia explained that the Redditors call themselves “R-word revolution” but Marc never used that word, ever, he referenced “DeepF***ingValue” – that’s all – and this is why people block because of this horse s*** dishonesty.”*

*“Felicia” referred to Felicia Horowitz, wife of Ben Horowitz who is the co-founder of the venture capital firm with Andreessen. “DeepF***ingValue” refers to the Reddit investor Keith Gill who made millions from the GameStop stock surge.*

Lorenz deleted her tweet soon after Jones corrected the record. Instead of apologizing for falsely smearing Andreessen, Lorenz pivoted to criticizing the entire group who were on Clubhouse for using the word even though they were referring to a group of redditors.

“Thanks for clarifying that it was Felicia saying that word, rather than Marc as many in the room heard it. I hope you can understand how some people in the room felt

hearing it,” Lorenz tweeted in response to Jones. Perhaps other people in the room thought Marc said the word, but it was Lorenz who made the false accusation on Twitter to her more than 200,000 followers.

About 20 minutes after the deflection tweet, Lorenz wrote: “Many heard Marc’s voice saying the r word b/c it was male. 4:05 in you can hear Ben say “Alex, maybe you could take us through the r****d revolution.” I hope everyone who used this word can think more carefully about why people in the audience were upset.”

Lorenz’s false accusation comes just a day after Times reporter Donald McNeil Jr. resigned for his use of the “n-word” during an educational trip to Peru with high school students. The trip occurred in 2019 and McNeil was disciplined for his actions, the Times said, but when the allegations became public, he resigned.

The Times regularly publishes articles seeking to cancel people who use offensive words, regardless of age, context, or intent. As The Daily Wire [reported](#) in December, the Times reported the story of a high school student who saw one of his classmates post a Snapchat video in which she celebrates her learner’s permit by saying “I can drive, [n-word].”

The allegedly offended student held onto the video and sent it to the university that had accepted the female student who made the video, costing her an acceptance, even though the video was made four years earlier when the girl was just 15.

Protesters Clash With Cops, Threaten To ‘Burn’ D.C. During ‘Black Lives Matter’ March
Emily Zanotti



Tayfun Coskun/Anadolu Agency via Getty Images

“Anti-fascist” protesters clashed with Washington, D.C., police, disrupted outdoor diners and threatened to “burn” down the city during a “DC Queer and Trans Black

History Month March and Rally” on Saturday, in the latest incident of far-left violence to take place during President Joe Biden’s term.

The march, organized by the “Total Liberation Collective and the Palm Collective” wound its way through central D.C., delivering “lectures” about “race, Black and Indigenous lives,” to Washington, D.C., residents dining outdoors at some of the city’s restaurants — lectures interrupted, occasionally, with chants of, “If we don’t get it, burn it down!”

The group clashed several times with the police during the hours-long march. A number of the clashes were caught on video and posted to social media by guerilla journalist Brendan Gutenschwager.

Although the protest was largely led by representatives of “Black Lives Matter,” [Fox News](#) noted that “[s]ome Antifa protesters mixed in, as a red and black ‘Antifascist Action’ flag could be seen being carried by a group of protesters clad in black.”

“At one point, things escalated after a black bloc protester shined a light into the face of a police officer, who then slapped away the flashlight. The black bloc member retaliated and smacked the police officer,” [The Blaze](#) noted.

“The officer then pushed the crowd back by using his bicycle. The black bloc protester then slaps another cop. The officer thrusts his bike even more aggressively into the crowd dressed in all black. During the tense situation, a female in the crowd tells the officer to put his face mask on.”

“We are here tonight because black lives matter,” the group announced as the protest concluded following their march through a row of restaurants, according to [Fox](#).

“Despite black lives mattering, black people are still dying at the hands of the police paid for by our tax dollars.”

Saturday night’s protest was the latest in a series of “anti-fascist” demonstrations in major cities — a series that began just as President Joe Biden, a Democrat, took office in late January, and a series that has largely gone unnoticed by legacy media outlets.

Both Seattle and Portland have seen occasionally violent protests since January 20th, Biden’s Inauguration Day, and, in some cases, those protests have been aimed at Democrats. A January 20th riot in Portland [targeted that city’s Democratic Party headquarters](#), smashing through the building’s windows and covering the building in anti-Biden graffiti.

Late last month, “anti-Fascist” protesters swarmed and [attacked an Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Portland](#), triggering a federal response. “Agents of the Federal Protective Services confronted crowds of rioters in Portland, Oregon,” on January 23rd, the [Daily Wire](#) reported at the time, directly confronting protesters who “descended on the Portland ICE facility demanding that inmates being held within be allowed to go free.”

Although former President Donald Trump took heat for deploying specialized federal agents to defend a federal courthouse in downtown Portland over the summer of 2020, the Biden Administration's decision to allow federal authorities to defend the ICE facility appeared to go largely unnoticed.

Another Black Lives Matter rally is planned for Sunday in Washington, D.C.



Tom Brady's Super Bowl Win Is a Familiar End to an Odd Season *Ben Shpigel*

Every experiment sets out to prove a hypothesis, and Tom Brady formulated an outrageous one last March, when he chose to flee the empire he helped build in New England to [sign with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers](#).



Doug Mills/The New York Times

Tom Brady celebrated with his children after winning the Super Bowl on Sunday in Tampa, Fla. "I think we knew this was going to happen now, didn't we?" Brady said.

Going from a franchise with whom he had won six titles to one that had won a total of six playoff games, Brady believed that, at age 43, he could master a new offense, acclimate to a new team and conquer a new conference, all while the coronavirus pandemic limited in-person activity.

The most precious of N.F.L. baubles is the Super Bowl ring, and each of Brady's — seven, the latest secured on Sunday night — reinforces an indomitable truth: When he has something to prove, he is just about unbeatable.

Flicking away the Kansas City Chiefs' dynastic aspirations and the quarterback who poses the most credible threat to someday matching him, Brady guided the

Buccaneers to a 31-9 romp that recalibrated his own standard for greatness in front of a partisan crowd at their home field, Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fla.

This Super Bowl win was, for Brady, almost certainly his hardest, his sweetest and his strangest, too, captured at the end of the most improbable season in N.F.L. history.

The final game is always an exhausting, exhilarating conclusion to the N.F.L. calendar, but never before had so many events surrounding the field of play threatened to pause the nation's most popular sport.

After the pandemic gripped the country last spring, the decision to play the regular season on time, as scheduled, was met with push back and confusion. The N.F.L. plowed ahead, establishing health protocols and reinforcing them as the virus upended schedules, postponed games and infected more than 700 players, coaches and staff members — as well as Brady's parents, Tom Sr. and Galynn.



Doug Mills/The New York Times At halftime, Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes had 67 yards passing, and his team trailed by 15 points.

Civil unrest over racial injustice roiled the country, emboldening players, coaches and owners to protest systemic inequality, with some players gathering to challenge the commissioner, Roger Goodell, to proclaim that Black Lives Matter.

(Additional STUPID comment from Ben Shpigel) What super bowl has to do with politic?)

Brady left New England behind and did not comment this season on the red Make America Great Again hat seen in his locker there in 2015, but he did say his relationship with President Donald J. Trump became “uncomfortable.” As Trump's term came to a close, with some of his supporters leading an armed attack on the U.S. Capitol, Patriots Coach Bill Belichick declined to accept a Presidential Medal of Freedom from him, citing his conversations with the team “about social justice, equality and human rights.”

For this untidy heap of a season even to reach Sunday's capstone, it was as if the N.F.L. struck a cosmic bargain: In exchange for plowing through a full 256-game slate without creating a closed environment in which to play, it would be granted the most tantalizing quarterback match-up in the Super Bowl era, [Brady versus Patrick Mahomes](#), the best of all time against the best of this time.



Doug Mills/The New York Times Buccaneers safety Antoine Winfield Jr. intercepted Mahomes in the third quarter.

The last two Super Bowl-winning quarterbacks had never faced each other, and in some circles the game had been distilled in rather crude, and imprecise, terms as a referendum on each of their legacies — as if Brady's would be tarnished with a defeat, or if, four seasons into a glorious career, Mahomes's was somehow linked to the outcome.

In delivering Tampa Bay's second to win his seventh — more than any N.F.L. franchise, more than John Elway and his boyhood idol, Joe Montana, combined, more than Michael Jordan in the N.B.A. — Brady joined Peyton Manning as the only starting quarterbacks to win Super Bowls with multiple franchises.

“We came together at the right time,” Brady, who went 21 of 29 for 201 passing yards and was selected as the Super Bowl's most valuable player for the fifth time, said on the field afterward. “I think we knew this was going to happen now, didn't we?”

Mahomes had won 16 of 17 starts this season, but he and his team collapsed amid a deluge of penalties, drops and pressure from the Buccaneers, who, exploiting the Chiefs' diluted offensive line, reveled in it, inflicted it, even embraced it. At halftime, Mahomes had 67 yards, and Kansas City trailed by 21-6, its 15-point deficit tied for its largest during his three seasons as starter, according to Pro Football Reference. “They beat us pretty good,” Mahomes said. “The worst that I think I've been beaten in a long time.”

The only other time Mahomes's team had been behind by that many points across his three seasons as Kansas City's starter occurred in October 2018, in a loss to Brady at New England. Brady spent two decades there, where he and Belichick were the immovable objects of the postseason, winning six championships as the most famous quarterback-coach tandem of this generation.

What Belichick must have been wondering Sunday night as New England wept, watching Brady throw each touchdown to a former Patriots teammate — two to [Rob Gronkowski](#), who came out of retirement for the chance to play again with his old pal, and one, just before halftime, to [Antonio Brown](#).

Brady's time in New England will forever be a part of him, but now he wears a skull and crossbones on his helmet, can dress in shorts to practice in the winter and reports to a 68-year-old coach, Bruce Arians, who, coming out of retirement to coach the Buccaneers, represents the stylistic antithesis of Belichick. When asked recently about pursuing Brady during the off-season, Arians responded with a rhetorical question: "Do you sit and live in a closet trying to be safe, or are you going to have some fun?"

He added, "I think I'd have been smoking something illegal to really imagine this."

Brady's arrival in Tampa reflected a certain harmonic convergence, a confluence of foresight, audacity and serendipity largely alien to the Buccaneers, who hadn't won a playoff game since steamrolling the Raiders for their only title after the 2002 season.

Their quest was nicknamed Operation Shoeless Joe Jackson, a wink to the prophecy from the movie "Field of Dreams": "If you build it, he will come." Brady valued how General Manager Jason Licht had assembled a team that solved problems around him instead of asking him to solve them himself.

"They were an organization ready to win," Gronkowski said of the Buccaneers. "The players here were ready to win." The Buccaneers loaded up on play-making receivers, linebackers who excelled in coverage and aggressive defensive backs who matured as the season progressed.

Before it even started, their cornerbacks coach, Kevin Ross, wrote on a board all the quarterbacks they would be facing — Matt Ryan, Drew Brees, Aaron Rodgers and Mahomes, who torched them in Week 12 for 462 yards and three touchdowns. But that defeat proved to be an inflection point for the Buccaneers, who had moonwalked through the first three months, going 7-5, shuffling forward at the same time as they drifted backward.

They closed the season by winning their last four, then defeated three consecutive division champions — and two of Brady's elite quarterbacking peers, Brees and Rodgers — on the road to advance to their first Super Bowl in 18 seasons.

That team, like this one, teemed with defensive talent and needed an outsider, Coach Jon Gruden, to synthesize it into a champion. [Brady conferred the Buccaneers](#) with hope and credibility and possibility.

“Brady, there’s nothing that he can’t do ,” said outside linebacker Shaquil Barrett, who had four tackles and a sack. “New team, new scheme, first year, going to the Super Bowl and winning it all. He’s the GOAT for sure.”

In a measure of Brady’s sustained excellence, consider that he has now quarterbacked not only the most recent team to win consecutive Super Bowls, with New England after the 2003 and 2004 seasons, but also the last two to ruin repeat bids. If a classic defensive play foiled Seattle after the 2014 season, then it was a comprehensive effort that smothered the Chiefs.

Heading into Sunday, Mahomes had finished 14 drives this postseason, excluding kneel-downs, and only once did the defense prevent Kansas City from scoring a touchdown or attempting a field goal. Tampa Bay’s defensive coordinator, Todd Bowles, devised a masterly plan to neutralize Mahomes, erasing the sideline and deep areas while deploying a four-man rush.

The Buccaneers forced two turnovers, held the Chiefs without a play longer than 14 yards until the third quarter and prevented the team from scoring even a touchdown. The last time the Chiefs didn’t breach the end zone, in Week 11 in 2017, Mahomes was backing up Alex Smith.

“I think he got a little tired of hearing how unstoppable they were,” Ariens said of Bowles.

Brady ousted three Super Bowl-winning quarterbacks during this championship run, but unlike Brees and Rodgers, Mahomes, 25, has plenty of seasons remaining to flaunt his exceptional talent. The league is now Mahomes’s, and with the Chiefs’ inventive coaching staff and nucleus of bountiful young talent, his time will very likely come again.

But this championship belongs to Brady, who, 10 Super Bowls down, has already started plotting his off-season objective: He wants to get faster. As he smiled the other day, Brady said he wanted to catch up with the younger generation of quarterbacks. Really, though, it is they who are trying to catch up with him, always and forever.



\$1,400 stimulus check update: When could you get your third payment?
Megan Henney



Congressional Democrats are pushing ahead with passing [President Biden's](#) nearly \$2 trillion [coronavirus](#) relief package, paving the way for a third \$1,400 stimulus check for millions of Americans — and households could start to receive the money in just a few weeks.

Once Congress approves the emergency aid bill, Biden needs to sign the legislation to release the money. The IRS and Treasury Department would then distribute the cash payments through direct deposit, mailed checks and prepaid debit cards.

The federal government took about two weeks to start distributing the first round of \$1,200 payments in April, and about one week to send the second round of checks, worth \$600, in January. House Majority Whip Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., told Yahoo Finance last week that Americans can expect to receive the money "within a week" of the bill's passage.

The White House is eyeing the first week of March to push through the bill and begin to enact relief measures, as supplemental unemployment benefits are currently poised to expire on March 14. Assuming Congress meets that deadline, the money could arrive as soon as mid-March.

On Friday morning, the Senate took a pivotal step to passing the \$1.9 trillion measure without any Republican buy-ins, approving a budget resolution that will allow them to pass the measure using a procedural tool known as "reconciliation." The Senate passed the budget resolution 51-50 on a party-line vote, with Vice President Kamala Harris breaking the tie.

House committee chairs and Democratic leaders met with Biden at the White House, during which Speaker Nancy Pelosi said it was her goal to have a bill approved and send it to the Senate within two weeks as lawmakers look to enact the proposal before the next unemployment cliff on March 14.

The legislation is expected to allocate \$160 billion for vaccine distribution, boost expanded unemployment benefits to \$400 a week through September and include a third stimulus check worth \$1,400. It will add to the nation's already-ballooning deficit, which hit a record \$3.1 trillion in fiscal year 2020, not including the \$900 billion relief package passed in December.

It's still unclear which Americans will qualify for the payment. Biden has maintained the size of the check -- \$1,400 -- won't change, but has indicated that he's open to limiting eligibility for the money. The administration has declined to comment on what it thinks the income threshold should be for the payments.

"Further targeting means not the size of the check, it means the income level of people who receive the check," White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters during a briefing last week. "That's something that is under discussion."

One proposal floated by senior Democrats includes lowering the threshold for the payments to begin phasing out above \$50,000 for single taxpayers, \$75,000 for people who file as the heads of households, and \$100,000 for married couples, according to [The Washington Post](#).

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said Sunday that Americans earning \$60,000 per year should receive the full promised payment.

"The exact details of how it should be targeted are to be determined, but struggling middle-class families need help," Yellen said during an interview on CNN's "State of the Union."

If Congress approves the emergency aid package, the U.S. will return to full employment next year, Yellen predicted. Otherwise, she said, the labor market will take years to reach its pre-crisis levels.

[Megan Henney](#)



Revealed: 104 terrorist border crossings

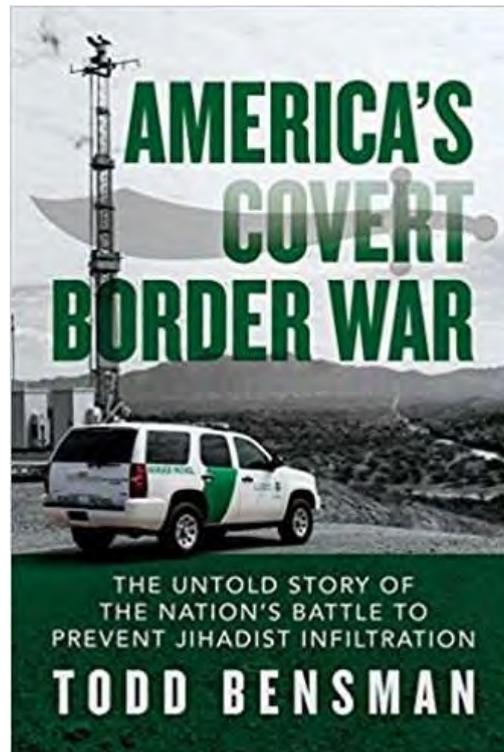
[Paul Bedard](#)



Eric Gay/AP Border Patrol agents stop men thought to have entered the country illegally, near McAllen, Texas, along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Critics laughed at former President Donald Trump when he claimed that terrorists, “some real bad ones,” had crossed the border just as he was selling Congress on paying for a border wall.

President Joe Biden is rushing to wipe out some of his predecessor's toughest immigration measures to fortify the U.S.-Mexico border.



Provided by Washington Examiner 51mf2mkCh4L._SX331_BO1,204,203,200 .jpg

Some sales pitch, they mocked, as officials cited the discovery of a Muslim prayer rug near the border.

But it turns out that Trump was not only correct but that in the waves of illegal immigrants pouring over the southern border in the last decade were dozens of terrorists and terror sympathizers.

In his new book, [America's Covert Border War, The Untold Story of the Nation's Battle to Prevent Jihadist Infiltration](#), journalist and former counter-terrorism intelligence official Todd Bensman tallied up 104 illegal crossings by terrorists between 2014 and 2018.

And it could be more, way more. Government records he reviewed showed that 22,000 so-called “special interest aliens,” the catchphrase for terrorist-related immigrants, were “encountered” between 2008 and 2019.

“Professional homeland security leadership under both Democrats and Republicans, with access to intelligence reporting most Americans don't have, regarded the threat

of terrorist infiltration as quite real,” wrote Bensman, now with the Center for Immigration Studies.

And just a few slipping in, as with the 9/11 attackers, could be catastrophic.

“Despite comparatively small numbers, the potential consequences of attack from that pathway are high and society-changing,” he wrote.

Tomorrow, the Center for Immigration Studies is hosting a 1 p.m. online panel to discuss the book and situation at the border where Bensman has spent time this month.

His book is being released this week as President Biden is reversing the Trump administration’s crackdown on immigration by implementing existing law that the former Obama administration simply ignored.

That raises the possibility that terrorists will again hide in the waves of illegals crossing the border, war critics.

In an interview with Secrets, former acting Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Mark Morgan raised concerns about terrorists and cartels mixing in with those the new administration plans to let in.

“We saw the cartels and smuggling operations use families and kids as a tactic to distract Border Patrol agents. They would send a family and a small group across knowing that resources would go there to process them and care for them,” he said. “Meanwhile, the criminals and drugs went across the border right behind them.

Now that’s exactly what is already happening,” he said as some 3,500 are now surging the border since Biden signaled an open-door policy.

Paul Bedard

House Dems propose cutting off \$1,400 stimulus checks to families earning over \$200,000

Megan Henney

House Democrats are plowing ahead with a [coronavirus](#) relief package that would keep the existing income limits for the third stimulus check, while narrowing eligibility for higher-income Americans.

Under the [draft legislation](#) introduced Monday, Americans earning \$75,000 or less would receive the fully promised \$1,400 payment, despite a last-minute push by some moderate Democrats and Republicans to lower the threshold. But the checks would phase out faster than previous rounds, cutting off individuals who earn more than \$100,000 and couples earning more than \$200,000.

Stimulus check eligibility emerged as a major point of contention between different ideological factions of the Democratic Party. The party can't afford to lose the support of even a single Senate Democrat, as it needs all 50 members to pass the measure using a procedural tool known as budget reconciliation.

Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.V., has repeatedly argued the payments need to be better targeted and reportedly called for the checks to begin phasing out for individuals earning more than \$50,000.

"I don't think a single person on this floor would disagree to target the relief to our neighbors who are struggling," Manchin said on the Senate floor last week. "There are other families who have not missed a single paycheck as a result of this pandemic. It does not make sense to send a check to those individuals."

Still, he indicated on Monday that he was open to House Democrats' plan, saying that he and other centrists are trying to ensure the payments go to those "truly in need." "So if they can show that \$75,000 and \$150,000 is truly in need," Manchin said.

President Biden suggested last week that he was willing to limit which Americans receive the third stimulus check in hopes of securing bipartisan support for the measure.

"Further targeting means not the size of the check, it means the income level of people who receive the check," White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters last week. "That's something that is under discussion."

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said Sunday that Americans earning \$60,000 per year should receive the full promised payment.

"The exact details of how it should be targeted are to be determined, but struggling middle-class families need help," Yellen said during an interview on CNN's "State of the Union."

The House Ways and Means Committee is set to debate its part of the massive reconciliation bill on Wednesday and go through Friday. Lawmakers are hoping to pass the stimulus checks, part of a broader \$1.9 trillion relief package, no later than March 14, when supplemental unemployment benefits are poised to run out for millions of Americans.

"While it is still our hope that Republicans will join us in doing right by the American people, the urgency of the moment demands that we act without further delay," Rep. Richard Neal, chair of the Ways and Means Committee, said in a statement.

[*Megan Henney*](#)



South Dakota GOP introduces legislation that would allow state to nullify Biden executive orders

Michael Lee

South Dakota's Republican-controlled House is introducing legislation that would allow the state to nullify President Biden's executive orders if it determines they are unconstitutional.



Provided by Washington Examiner

"The Executive Board of the Legislative Research Council may review any executive order issued by the President of the United States, if the order has not been affirmed by a vote of the Congress of the United States and signed into law, as prescribed by the Constitution of the United States," [the bill's text](#) reads.

The bill sets up a process for reviewing the president's executive orders, which would be submitted to the governor and attorney general so that the attorney general could "determine whether the state should seek an exemption" from the order or have it "declared an unconstitutional exercise of legislative authority by the President."

The bill targets orders that would "restrict a person's rights," specifically pointing to orders related to a "pandemic or other public health emergency" and "the regulation of the constitutional right to keep and bear arms," among other topics.

South Dakota has frequently stood out from national and state governments amid the coronavirus pandemic, with Gov. Kristi Noem opting for a [more relaxed](#) public health approach that resisted strict lockdowns and mask mandates.

"South Dakota is not New York City," Noem [said](#) of her approach. "Our sense of personal responsibility, our resiliency and our already sparse population density put us in a great position to manage the spread of this virus without needing to resort to some of the measures we've seen in some of these major cities, coastal cities and other countries."

Biden has set a [record-shattering pace](#) for executive orders in the first few weeks of his presidency, many of which have been aimed at curbing the yearlong pandemic. Noem's office did not immediately respond to the Washington Examiner's request for comment on whether the governor was aware of or planned on signing the new legislation.

Michael Lee



House Covid-19 Relief Bill Offers Checks at Same Income Levels

Richard Rubin & Andrew Duehren



Oliver Contreras/Zuma Press

WASHINGTON—House Democrats released the biggest piece of their coronavirus relief bill late Monday, offering a measure that would extend a \$400-a-week unemployment insurance payment through Aug. 29 and send \$1,400 per-person payments to most households without lowering the income thresholds from earlier rounds.

Democrats have been debating whether to reduce those income levels, but the version headed for a Ways and Means Committee vote this week gives the full amounts to individuals with incomes up to \$75,000 and married couples with incomes up to \$150,000. The legislation also expands the child tax credit, broadens child-care assistance and bolsters tax credits for health insurance.

It will be combined with pieces advancing through other House committees with the aim of getting through the full House later this month. Together, the measures make

up President Biden's \$1.9 trillion aid plan, which Democrats are trying to push quickly through Congress.

"Our nation is struggling, the virus is still not contained, and the American people are counting on Congress to meet this moment with bold, immediate action," said Rep. Richard Neal (D., Mass.), the committee chairman whose panel will begin considering the bill on Wednesday.

Other sections of the relief plan will provide \$130 billion in funding for K-12 schools, \$40 billion for colleges and universities and \$39 billion for child-care providers. Mr. Biden has also proposed offering funds for vaccine distribution, unemployment programs and state and local governments, among other measures.

The legislation will also incorporate a minimum-wage increase to \$15 an hour, though some Democrats, including Mr. Biden, have questioned whether it would be possible to pass in the final legislation.

There are some changes from the president's framework: The unemployment insurance extension goes through Aug. 29 instead of the end of September. And it doesn't include provisions that Democrats have discussed that would tie further aid to economic conditions instead of set dates.

Portions of the bill began to emerge on Monday, with House committees expected to release and mark up their sections of the legislation over the course of the week. One of the largest pieces is the \$1,400 payments, which are similar to the \$1,200 checks issued after the March economic-relief law and the \$600 payments issued after December's law.

This round of payments would total \$422 billion.

There are some key differences, however. This time around, children and adult dependents would be eligible for the full \$1,400. Those adult dependents, including disabled adults and college students, haven't been previously eligible.

A married couple with two children under 17 would get as much as \$5,600, compared with \$3,400 from the first round of payments and \$2,400 in the second round. A single parent with a college student would get up to \$2,800, compared with \$1,200 from the first round and \$600 in the second round.

Compared with previous versions, the payments phase out faster as incomes rise, responding to lawmakers' concerns about higher-income households possibly getting money. According to a committee summary, individual payments go to zero once individual income reaches \$100,000 and married couples' payments go to zero when income hits \$200,000.

Sen. Joe Manchin (D., W.Va.), a centrist Democrat whose support will be key to passing the legislation, had called for the payments to begin phasing down at \$50,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for couples. He said Monday that he would study the House bill. "I'm going to look at it, as long as we're targeting to people that really need it," he said.

Democrats from more expensive areas praised the move. “Working families in high-cost regions like the Bay Area are counting on the next round of economic impact payments and should not be left behind,” said Rep. Anna Eshoo (D., Calif.), who worked with Ways and Means member Mike Thompson (D., Calif.) to keep the \$75,000 and \$150,000 levels.

The payments would be based on 2019 or 2020 incomes, so households who want the Internal Revenue Service to use their 2020 information because their income declined that year have an incentive to file their tax returns quickly before the payments go out.

They could also get supplemental payments this year after they file their 2020 returns. People who don’t get the full payments they are owed using 2021 information would be able to claim the rest on their 2021 tax returns early next year. As before, the payments aren’t taxable, and people generally don’t have to repay money they receive even if their income rises beyond the eligibility range.

Democrats are proceeding with a legislative tool called reconciliation, which allows them to pass the relief plan without Republican support in the Senate. But that process constrains what policy provisions lawmakers can pass, possibly endangering the \$15 minimum-wage increase for which progressives have pushed.

“Our focus should be on crushing the virus and rebuilding our economy,” said Rep. Kevin Brady of Texas, the top Republican on the Ways and Means Committee.

“Unfortunately, the bill placed before us at this late hour doesn’t fit that effort.”

The legislation also includes a significant increase in the child tax credit for 2021 only, offering \$3,000 per child instead of \$2,000, and \$3,600 for children under age 6. In addition, parents of 17-year-olds would be eligible. The credit would be fully refundable, which means households can get the full benefit even if they have no income or owe no income taxes.

The full expanded credit would be available to individuals making up to \$75,000 and married couples making up to \$150,000. Households making above those amounts wouldn’t lose any of the \$2,000-per-child credit that already exists.

The credit expansion is a down payment on Democrats’ antipoverty plans, and many lawmakers in the party want to make a near-universal child allowance a permanent part of the tax system.

The IRS would begin making monthly payments of the expanded child tax credit as early as July, giving families their money for the 2021 tax year well ahead of the tax-filing season that starts in January 2022. Families would be able to opt out of the monthly payments.

Mr. Neal’s plan would also expand the earned-income tax credit, the wage subsidy for low-income workers. In particular, it would boost the amounts available to childless workers in 2021. Tax credits for paid leave and for pandemic-affected employers that retain their workers would also get extended.

He would also expand the tax credit for child and dependent care, taking the maximum credit to 50% of expenses, so that a family with one child can get up to

\$4,000 and a family with two children could get \$8,000. More low-income and middle-income households would get the full amounts, while high-income households would no longer benefit.

That credit would start phasing out right at \$400,000 of income. High-income households could benefit from another dependent-care provision, which would more than double the maximum set aside in a tax-preferred flexible spending account to \$10,500 for 2021.

Mr. Neal didn't include a provision progressives wanted that would have clawed back business tax breaks Congress approved last year. And he didn't propose adjusting the cap on the state and local tax deduction.

He did propose repealing a corporate-tax provision that gives U.S.-based multinationals flexibility in how they treat their interest expenses, raising \$22 billion over a decade. The proposal would also increase tax credits to people who buy Affordable Care Act health plans in 2021 and 2022 to reduce their premiums.

The proposal also extends a federal program that provides unemployment benefits to people who exhaust their state-level benefits. The program, which is currently set to expire in mid-March, would last through the end of August.

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