



Former Vice President

**Joe Biden**



Political Experience: U.S. Senator, 1973-2009; U.S. Vice President, 2009-2017

Education: University of Delaware, B.A. in History and Political Science; Syracuse University College of Law, J.D.

Twitter: **@JoeBiden**

Website: <https://joebiden.com>

AFT Votes Town Hall: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMZrbbnWGwI>

## **Workers' Voice & Labor**

**Increasing Minimum Wage:** [Proposes](#) \$15-per-hour minimum wage to protect low-wage workers.

**Strengthening Unions & Workers:** [Proposes](#) holding corporations and executives personally accountable for interfering with organizing efforts; making it easier for workers to unionize by stopping employers from “running out the clock” on negotiating an initial collective bargaining agreement; providing a federal guarantee for public sector employees to bargain for better pay, benefits and conditions; and banning “right-to-work” laws.

**Labor Law Reform:** [Proposes](#) expanding labor rights to farmworkers and domestic workers, extending the right to organize and bargain collectively to independent contractors, eliminating noncompete clauses, expanding protections for undocumented immigrants who report labor violations, and ending mandatory arbitration clauses.

**AFTvotes.org**

## Education

**Public Education:** [Proposes](#) to provide teachers with competitive wages and benefits by tripling Title I funding, investing in teacher mentoring, and doubling the number of mental health professionals.

**Early Education:** [Proposes](#) working with states to offer high-quality, universal pre-K for all 3- and 4-year-olds.

**College Affordability:** [Proposes](#) investing in community colleges, improve the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, stop for-profit education programs from hurting students and more.

**Freedom to Teach & Student Testing:** [Proposes](#) that educators should have the resources and respect they deserve.

**Teachers Strikes:** [Stated that](#) “teachers around the country ... deserve to earn a living wage and have smaller class sizes.”

**Vouchers & Privatization:** [Opposes](#) private school vouchers, and voted against the Washington, D.C., voucher program.

## Healthcare & Workplace Safety

**Affordable Care Act:** With President Obama, [enacted](#) the ACA in 2010 as vice president; the law protected more than 100 million people with pre-existing conditions, insured about 20 million additional people, and made quality healthcare more available to all.

**Protecting & Building on the ACA:** [Proposes](#) giving every American access to affordable health insurance, making the healthcare system less complex to navigate, standing up to the abuse of power by prescription drug corporations, and ensuring healthcare is a right for all.

**Public Option:** As the next step toward achieving universal healthcare, [proposed](#) allowing those who are covered by their employer to opt out of the ACA.

**Prescription Drug Costs:** [Proposes](#) drug companies negotiate with Medicare over drug prices, and supports limiting launch prices and price increases for drugs that face no competition, allowing consumers to buy prescription drugs from other countries, terminating pharmaceutical corporations’ tax break for advertisement spending, and improving the supply of quality generics.

**Opioid Epidemic:** Stated his plan will come out in the months ahead.

**Gun Violence Reform:** [Stated](#) gun violence is a public health epidemic and proposes universal background checks, banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and addressing everyday gun violence as well as mass shootings.

## **Jobs & the Economy**

**Trump's Tax Cuts for the Wealthy:** [Supports](#) tax reforms that reward the middle class and reverse Trump's tax cuts for the super-wealthy, and getting rid of the capital gains loophole for multimillionaires.

**Rural America:** [Proposes](#) to revitalize rural economies, partner with rural communities to access federal resources, and improve access to quality healthcare in rural communities.

**Social Security:** [Proposes](#) protecting and strengthening Social Security, providing higher benefits for the oldest Americans, and providing workers who work for 30 years a benefit of at least 125 percent of the poverty level.

**Infrastructure:** [Proposes](#) modernizing our transportation, energy and water infrastructure by making bold investments in innovative technologies to [achieve](#) a 100 percent clean energy economy and net-zero emissions by 2050.

## **Democracy**

**Voting Rights:** [Proposes](#) guaranteeing that every American's vote is protected, making it easier to vote, and protecting our voting booths and processes from foreign powers.

**Citizens United:** [Proposes](#) creating a public financing system for federal campaigns and ensuring it is clear who is contributing to which advertisements and campaign initiatives.

**Immigration & DACA:** [Proposes](#) securing our border and enforcing laws without tossing aside our values and our humanity, and opposes family separation.

**Civil Rights:** [Proposes](#) investing in public defenders' offices to create a fairer criminal justice system, eliminating mandatory sentencing minimums, and ending the federal government's use of private prisons.