

Barnes campaign: FACT CHECK: Self-Serving U.S. Sen. Johnson used his office to enrich himself and wealthy donors

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MADISON — Ron Johnson used his office to line the pockets of his wealthiest donors and himself, including pushing through millions in tax deductions for his company and two of his wealthiest donors, while using hard-earned taxpayer dollars to fly to his \$3 million dollar vacation home in Florida.

While Johnson and his friends rake it in, working and middle-class families are getting left behind. Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes is the product of the middle class who will always fight for working people, unlike self-serving Ron Johnson.

Ron Johnson orchestrated tax law that enriched his wealthiest donors and himself:

- [Politifact](#): TRUE: “The Pass-Through Tax Break Johnson Advocated For In 2017 Overwhelmingly Benefited The Wealthiest, Over Small Businesses.”
- [Associated Press](#): “Report: Johnson Pushed For Tax Break Benefitting Megadonors.”
 - Tax records showed that Johnson pushed for greater tax benefits for pass-through companies that [netted two families among Johnson’s biggest donors \\$215 million in deductions in 2018 alone.](#)
- [The Guardian](#): “Republican senator ‘personally benefited from tax change he sought’”

Johnson also took the liberty of using taxpayer dollars to fund trips to his \$3 million dollar vacation home in Florida:

- [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#): Sen. Ron Johnson uses tax dollars to travel between Florida family home and the U.S. Capitol
 - [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#): “U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson has been using taxpayer dollars to cover the cost of flights between a Florida family vacation home and Washington, D.C., including nine such trips last year, federal records show.”

At the same time, multi-millionaire Johnson got away with paying fewer taxes than a public school teacher:

- [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#): “Bice: Multimillionaire U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson paid a mere \$2,105 in state income taxes in 2017, despite making big bucks”