

# WisDems: ICYMI: PolitiFact finds that Ron Johnson's tax breaks benefitted billionaires, while small businesses got the short end of the deal

Posted on Tuesday, Jun 7, 2022

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**MADISON, Wis.,** — Today, [PolitiFact gave a “True” rating to the claim](#) that the provision Ron Johnson muscled into the 2017 GOP tax bill disproportionately benefitted the ultra wealthy like himself and his [two biggest donors](#).

See below for a full breakdown of their rating against Johnson.

**POLITIFACT: [Yes, a tax break Ron Johnson pushed for in 2017 has benefited America's wealthiest more](#)**

*Key Facts:*

- In a news release, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin honed in on an action Johnson took at the beginning of his second term: He withheld his yes vote on the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act unless the bill included a tax break for companies called [“pass-throughs”](#) — those that pass all their income on to the owners or investors. Companies structured this way (often small, family owned businesses) are not subject to corporate income tax.
- “Multiple independent studies found that the tax carve out Johnson spearheaded overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest, over small businesses,” the [April 29, 2022 release](#) said

- That small group of the ultra-wealthy — made up of Republicans like Dick and Liz Uihlein, whose shipping supply company Uline is headquartered in Wisconsin, and Democrats like former presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg — received close to \$25 billion in total tax savings in 2018 as a result of the pass-through tax break benefits, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research study.
- The rest of the top 10% of Americans by income received a little over \$12 billion in total, and everyone else in the country, about \$6 billion.
- **Our Ruling: The Democratic Party of Wisconsin claimed that the pass-through tax break Johnson advocated for in 2017 “overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest, over small businesses.” Multiple analyses show America’s millionaires and billionaires are receiving large chunks of those benefits.**
- **We rate their claim True**