



Written by [R. Cort Kirkwood](#) on April 26, 2024

Sheila Jackson Lee and Reparations Group Urge Biden to Buy Black Vote With Reparations Commission

U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas) and advocates of slavery reparations are openly — and loudly — urging President Joe Biden to establish a commission that would dangle the prospect of free cash in front of black voters to help defeat GOP presidential opponent Donald Trump.

But the [report in the Daily Mail](#) about the latest Democratic scam doesn't just show that Lee and her ilk have no trouble calling for what amounts to legalized theft.

It also shows that Democrats are terrified that Trump might defeat the [physically and mentally declining](#) president. Biden trails Trump in the RealClearPolitics (RCP) average of nationwide polls. But, more importantly, Trump leads Biden by substantial margins in six of the seven key battleground states.

The way to shore up support among blacks: Bribe them with reparations talk. The problem: The plan could backfire if non-black voters who oppose reparations turn out to vote for Trump.

The Plan

Lee and her gang “say Biden should bypass Congress and use his executive powers to create a slavery payouts panel to put him over the line against rival Donald Trump,” the [Mail reported](#). Though Lee [has been pushing](#) reparations in Congress for years, the idea went nowhere, the *Mail* rightly noted, even after the George Floyd Hoax of 2020.

But a pro-reparations outfit called the [Earn the Black Vote Collaborative](#) claims that a poll of uncertain black voters in Michigan showed that some 58 percent might vote for Biden if he created a commission. Total votes for Biden: 150,000. And, the [group's news release said](#), Biden beat Trump in Michigan in 2020 by a slim 154,000 votes. He needs every vote he can get.

The group worries that “voter apathy among Black communities poses a significant challenge, with an estimated 271,000 registered Black voters abstaining from the polls.” Yet polling shows that a reparations panel would get them to the voting booth, the [group explained](#):

Similar trends were observed in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, where President Biden secured narrow victories in 2020. In Pennsylvania, where Biden's margin of victory was 80,000 votes, the report estimated that a Reparations Commission could garner an additional 55,000 Black votes in 2024. Likewise, in Wisconsin, where Biden won by 20,000



AP Images
Sheila Jackson Lee



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votes, the commission could add 100,000 additional Black votes.

A reparations commission is a “unique opportunity to not only address historical injustices but also to mobilize black voters in key battleground states,” spokesman Kamm Howard said. “President Biden stands to benefit significantly from prioritizing reparative justice, as evidenced by the overwhelming support among infrequent black voters surveyed.”

The group’s news release [also quoted](#) Lee:

Simply put, reparations can drive black voter turnout to transformative levels.

“The sums are eye-watering — black lawmakers in Washington seek at least \$14 trillion for a federal scheme to ‘eliminate the racial wealth gap’ between black and white Americans,” the [Mail explained](#):

Critics say payouts to selected black people will inevitably stoke divisions between winners and losers, and raise questions about why American Indians and others don’t get their own handouts.

Beyond that, critics such as the late columnist [Walter Williams argued](#) that reparations would be unfair for myriad reasons. For one thing, of course, no American alive today was a slave, and no American alive today was a slave owner.

Then again, “a large percentage, if not most, of today’s Americans — be they of European, Asian, African or Latin ancestry — don’t even go back three or four generations as American citizens,” he continued:

Their ancestors arrived on our shores long after slavery. What standard of justice justifies their being taxed to compensate blacks for slavery?

Two other issues arise that reparations advocates avoid: free blacks who owned slaves, and the African nations that sold the slaves to white slave traders.

Williams called reparations “another hustle.”

Battleground States

How much the radical idea might help Biden is unclear. The black-voters collective simply assumes only a positive effect from Biden’s creating such a commission. But Biden’s doing so might also energize apathetic white, Asian, and Hispanic voters who see the scheme as manifestly unfair and openly racialist politicking.

That’s not something Biden can afford if the RCP average of polls show anything.

In the general election average, [Trump leads Biden](#) 44.8 to 44.5, a slim 0.3 percent margin.



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2024 General Election: Trump vs. Biden (5-Way)

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Presidential Betting Odds

Battleground States: Arizona | Nevada | Wisconsin | Michigan | Pennsylvania | North Carolina | Georgia

This Day In History: April 17, 2020: Biden +5.5 | April 17, 2016: Clinton +9.9

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	3/27 - 4/22	—	—	44.8	44.5	Trump +0.3
Quinnipiac	4/18 - 4/22	1429 RV	2.6	46	46	Tie
Morning Consult	4/19 - 4/21	9791 RV	1.0	43	44	Biden +1
Emerson	4/16 - 4/17	1308 RV	2.6	46	43	Trump +3
Marist	4/16 - 4/18	1047 RV	3.6	48	51	Biden +3
NBC News	4/12 - 4/16	1000 RV	3.0	46	44	Trump +2
Daily Kos/Civiqs	4/13 - 4/16	1161 RV	3.0	45	44	Trump +1
Yahoo News	4/11 - 4/15	1171 RV	—	44	44	Tie
NY Times/Siena	4/7 - 4/11	1059 LV	3.5	47	46	Trump +1
Reuters/Ipsos	4/3 - 4/7	833 RV	4.0	37	41	Biden +4
I&I/TIPP	4/3 - 4/5	1265 RV	2.8	40	43	Biden +3
Rasmussen Reports	3/31 - 4/2	1099 LV	3.0	49	41	Trump +8
Data for Progress (D)**	3/27 - 3/29	1200 LV	3.0	46	47	Biden +1

That’s not much, but Biden is behind in all seven battleground states except Pennsylvania, where [he leads](#) by a slim 0.4 points, 46.7 to 46.3.

But the RCP averages don’t look good for Biden across the six other key states that could send Trump back to the White House:

Arizona: [Trump leads](#) by 5 — 49.3-44.3

2024 Arizona: Trump vs Biden (5-Way)



Battleground States: Arizona | Nevada | Wisconsin | Michigan | Pennsylvania | North Carolina | Georgia

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	3/7 - 4/13	—	—	49.3	44.3	Trump +5.0
Bloomberg/MrnConsult	4/8 - 4/13	801 RV	3.0	49	42	Trump +7
Wall Street Journal	3/17 - 3/24	600 RV	4.0	47	42	Trump +5
The Hill/Emerson	3/12 - 3/15	1000 RV	3.0	52	48	Trump +4
FOX News	3/7 - 3/11	1121 RV	3.0	49	45	Trump +4

Georgia: [Trump leads](#) by 4 — 49.7-45.7



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2024 Georgia: Trump vs Biden (5-Way)



Battleground States: Arizona | Nevada | Wisconsin | Michigan | Pennsylvania | North Carolina | Georgia

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	3/4 - 4/16	—	—	49.7	45.7	Trump +4.0
Bloomberg/MrnConsult	4/8 - 4/13	802 RV	3.0	49	43	Trump +6
FOX News	4/11 - 4/16	1128 RV	3.0	51	45	Trump +6
Wall Street Journal	3/17 - 3/24	600 RV	4.0	44	43	Trump +1
Marist	3/11 - 3/14	1171 RV	3.7	51	47	Trump +4
CBS News	3/4 - 3/11	1126 LV	3.9	51	48	Trump +3
The Hill/Emerson	3/5 - 3/7	1000 RV	3.0	52	48	Trump +4

Michigan: [Trump leads](#) by 3 — 47.4-44.4

2024 Michigan: Trump vs Biden (5-Way)



Battleground States: Arizona | Nevada | Wisconsin | Michigan | Pennsylvania | North Carolina | Georgia

Michigan This Day in History: April 17, 2020: Biden +4.5 | April 17, 2016: Clinton +10.0

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	3/8 - 4/16	—	—	47.4	44.4	Trump +3.0
Bloomberg/MrnConsult	4/8 - 4/13	803 RV	3.0	45	47	Biden +2
FOX News	4/11 - 4/16	1126 RV	3.0	49	46	Trump +3
MRG	4/8 - 4/11	600 LV	4.0	42	36	Trump +6
Wall Street Journal	3/17 - 3/24	600 RV	4.0	48	45	Trump +3
The Hill/Emerson	3/14 - 3/18	1000 RV	3.0	50	50	Tie
MIRS/Mitchell Research	3/15 - 3/16	627 LV	3.9	47	44	Trump +3
CNN	3/13 - 3/18	1097 RV	3.6	50	42	Trump +8
Quinnipiac	3/8 - 3/12	1487 RV	2.5	48	45	Trump +3

Nevada: [Trump leads](#) by 4.8 — 48.8-44



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2024 Nevada: Trump vs Biden (5-Way)



Battleground States: Arizona | Nevada | Wisconsin | Michigan | Pennsylvania | North Carolina | Georgia

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	2/27 - 4/13	—	—	48.8	44.0	Trump +4.8
Bloomberg/MrnConsult	4/8 - 4/13	450 RV	5.0	51	43	Trump +8
Wall Street Journal	3/17 - 3/24	600 RV	4.0	48	44	Trump +4
The Hill/Emerson	3/12 - 3/15	1000 RV	3.0	51	49	Trump +2
Noble Predictive Insights	2/27 - 3/5	829 RV	3.4	45	40	Trump +5

North Carolina: [Trump leads](#) by 4.8 — 48.8-44

2024 North Carolina: Trump vs Biden (5-Way)



Battleground States: Arizona | Nevada | Wisconsin | Michigan | Pennsylvania | North Carolina | Georgia

North Carolina This Day in History: April 17, 2020: Trump +1.3 | April 17, 2016: Clinton +2.0

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	2/14 - 4/13	—	—	48.8	44.0	Trump +4.8
Bloomberg/MrnConsult	4/8 - 4/13	703 RV	4.0	51	41	Trump +10
Mason-Dixon	4/9 - 4/13	635 RV	4.0	49	43	Trump +6
Quinnipiac	4/4 - 4/8	1401 RV	2.6	48	46	Trump +2
High Point University	3/22 - 3/30	829 RV	3.7	45	42	Trump +3
Wall Street Journal	3/17 - 3/24	600 RV	4.0	49	43	Trump +6
Marist	3/11 - 3/14	1197 RV	3.6	51	48	Trump +3
WRAL-TV/SurveyUSA	3/3 - 3/9	598 LV	4.9	50	45	Trump +5
The Hill/Emerson	2/14 - 2/16	1000 RV	3.0	47	44	Trump +3

Wisconsin: [Trump leads](#) by 2 (49-47).



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2024 Wisconsin: Trump vs Biden (5-Way)



Battleground States: Arizona | Nevada | Wisconsin | Michigan | Pennsylvania | North Carolina | Georgia

Wisconsin This Day in History: April 17, 2020: Biden +2.7 | April 17, 2016: Clinton +10.0

POLLSTER	DATE	SAMPLE	MOE	TRUMP (R)	BIDEN (D)	SPREAD
RCP Average	3/14 - 4/16	—	—	49.0	47.0	Trump +2.0
Bloomberg/MrnConsult	4/8 - 4/13	803 RV	3.0	48	44	Trump +4
FOX News	4/11 - 4/16	1198 RV	3.0	48	48	Tie
Marquette	4/3 - 4/10	814 RV	4.8	51	49	Trump +2
Wall Street Journal	3/17 - 3/24	600 RV	4.0	46	46	Tie
The Hill/Emerson	3/14 - 3/18	1000 RV	3.0	52	48	Trump +4



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