



## FROM THE OFFICE OF

Congressman /u/ProgrammaticallySun7 (R-SR)

As many of you undoubtedly know, Assemblywoman Tucklet recently announced her run for President of the United States. Being the intrepid reporters that we are, the staff at the Grand Old Paper is eager to document the Presidential Race. Ever since Tucklet released her Presidential Platform, I, especially, have been unable to do anything except read through her platform and debunk the sizable mass of false statements. It is my pleasure to present a thorough fact check of nearly all of the claims made in Tucklet's national platform. I have also included a number of humorous fact checks, though these will also be truthful. We have also included a truth-o-meter where 0 is completely false and 5 is completely true.

**Claim #1:** *"This was a good font color."*

Fact Check: **FALSE**

Tucklet's choice of font color is extremely jarring and distracts the reader. I struggle to fathom how this was a good idea, at all.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 0/5**

**Claim #2:** *"Working class Americans have it worse off than the past 3 generations."*

Fact Check: **FALSE**

Working class Americans have it better off than previous generations by [nearly every benchmark of human existence](#), making this claim extremely false. Still, in the spirit of fairness, maybe Tucklet is talking about the few areas where progress has stagnated or entirely disappeared. Let's take a look at her following statements: "Their tax rates seemingly go farther and farther up ... jobs are becoming more and more scarce". The bottom income tax brackets have largely stayed the same, [only fluctuating by 1-2% over the past 20 years](#). If we go backwards, before the 2001 tax change, we can see that tax rates have actually dropped for working class Americans. President Gunnz's budget request is set to cut tax rates even more for lower class Americans. This nonsense about tax rates is completely and unequivocally false. Have the tax rates on the rich fallen? Not really, not since 1980, that is. Since then, they've mostly stagnated, increasing and decreasing a tad, but largely staying around the same. Tucklet's claim about jobs becoming scarce is misleading. [Our total jobless rate had increased since the Great Recession and took a long time to recover](#), but that hardly means jobs are more scarce now. We just barely left the recovery period of the Great Recession, as the recession created a tremendous amount of debt, and debt based recessions take much longer to recover from. The constant slashing of interest rates by the Federal Reserve was sure to lengthen any recovery efforts, due to it encouraging reckless spending.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 1/5**

**Claim #3:** *"Even today, presidential candidates continue to spread bigotry and hatred"*

Fact Check: **MISLEADING**

Only one candidate for President thus far has ever expressed anti-lgbt+ sentiment in the past: Congressman Dexter Aamo. One candidate is not the same as several "candidates", like Tucklet mentioned.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 2/5**

**Claim #4:** *"As President, I will author and propose a bill that will ban political or racial gerrymandering across the entire nation."*

Fact Check: **NOT POSSIBLE/MISLEADING**

Like it or not, the Federal government does not have any explicit authority to interfere in the way that states hold their elections, provided that these don't deprive citizens of their constitutional rights or violate the principle of "one citizen, one vote". It would be possible to strike down the current Sierra districts as unconstitutional, given the egregious violation of one citizen, one vote, but this would not require a new law. It is already required for districts to have similar populations. Congress certainly does not have the authority to dictate strict rules for elections, beyond ones that uphold simple constitutional rights, so they would not be able to do anything significant about partisan gerrymandering unless especially egregious. Racial gerrymandering may be fought in the courts, but it is tough to prove.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 2.5/5**

**Claim #5:** *"The surveillance currently conducted violates the Constitution"*

Fact Check: **TRUE**

The program of mass, warrantless surveillance that is performed by the NSA is very unconstitutional. While supporters of the NSA have argued that the data you send to phone companies and web services isn't actually your property, therefore not supported by the 4th amendment, the 4th amendment is clear that the right to privacy does not just extend to your own home, it also extends to "papers, and effects", the 18th century equivalent of communications, personal data, and web cookies. The NSA's surveillance is especially egregious because they even compile system vulnerabilities and backdoors within operating systems and other tech software so that they might access your explicit property without a warrant. This cannot be defended by anyone under constitutional grounds.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 5/5**

**Claim #6:** *"Neither the Democrats or the Republicans have put forward any plan to [fund Social Security] ... in fact, they've widely ignored the issue."*

Fact Check: **PANTS ON FIRE/HYPOCRISY**

This is completely and unequivocally false. Republicans have been hard at work raising awareness about Social Security's doomed future. Republican Senator PrelateZeratul authored the Social Security Adjustment Act to rectify this issue. While the bill was extremely moderate in its content, Democrats and Socialists sunk the bill. In addition, half of the Republican candidates for Senate in the past midterm election emphasized the need for Social Security reform during their campaigns. The Democrats may be ignoring the issue, but we Republicans are not.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 0.5/5**

**Claim #7:** *"Our current President tried to hurt the poor further by introducing the worst forms of taxation possible: A flat tax."*

Fact Check: **FALSE**

While President Gunnz promised a flat tax, he has yet to deliver on that front. His budget proposal contains a very progressive tax, even more so than the one passed by Democratic President GuiltyAir. Furthermore, a flat tax does not "hurt the poor" if effort is taken to remove tax loopholes. Is there something wrong with the poor paying their [fair share](#) (Note, both of these are extremely conservative estimates)?

**Truth-o-meter rating: 1/5**

**Claim #8:** *"Almost every modern country has adjusted their minimum wage based on inflation"*

Fact Check: **FALSE/MISLEADING**

Most European countries have minimum wages that are set by collective bargaining agreements. These minimum wages are not all-encompassing, rather, they are sector-wide and they are not strictly indexed to inflation. In my very thorough research, I could not find a significant amount of countries that had [minimum wages indexed to inflation](#).

**Truth-o-meter rating: 1/5**

**Claim #9:** *"When most people cross the border they aren't seeking to sell drugs, or rape, as many Republicans claim."*

Fact Check: **FALSE/MISLEADING**

Many Republicans, really? There may be 1 or 2, but that is hardly “many” Republicans. I ask Tucklet to name 5 individual Republicans who accused illegal immigrants of seeking to sell drugs or rape Americans during the 2020 midterm election.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 1.5/5**

**Claim #10:** *“The fact is, our current healthcare system is not working for any middle class or poor Americans. ”*

Fact Check: **MISLEADING**

This statement alone is true. Our current government intertwined healthcare system only works for government bureaucrats and patent trolls. Tucklet’s claim that Gunz’s healthcare plan (the status quo) is bad is true, but her further claims that his opponent’s healthcare plans are worse are completely false. We need to get the government out of healthcare and limit patent abuse to lower healthcare prices. Repealing the ACA, allowing private certification companies to compete with the FDA, and passing right to try laws will all improve healthcare in the nation. Tucklet further states “We need to limit the prices drug companies can set on medicine ...”. She clearly missed her econ 101 class when the teacher explained why price controls fail every time. Price ceilings mess with the natural resource allocation of the market, lowering both the quality and the quantity of the resources provided. [this would have the effect of making quality treatment scarce](#), if not outright impossible to find inside of the legal market altogether. This is extremely dangerous rhetoric that will endanger thousands of Americans.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 2.5/5**

**Claim #11:** *“Free college and university is too big a burden on our government”*

Fact Check: **MISLEADING/HYPOCRISY**

Free college, a program that would only cost maybe 100 billion a year is supposedly too much for our government to handle, but universal healthcare, expected to cost 3+ trillion a year is perfectly manageable, according to Tucklet. Yeah, *right*. Student debt relief, which Tucklet proposes, would also cost

another 1.6+ trillion dollars. In my perfectly honest opinion, all 3 are too big of a burden for our government, but Tucklet is clearly grasping at straws here.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 1/5**

**Claim #12:** *“Our public schools have ... less funds than their charter school counterparts.”*

Fact Check: **PANTS ON FIRE**

There’s not much to debunk here. Charter schools receive less funding per student (and overall) compared to public schools. In fact, [despite receiving 60% of the funding](#), they have [better overall academic performance](#).

Furthermore, Tucklet pushes for abolishing all charter school funding, a tough ask since most of the funding is handled by the states.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 0/5**

**Claim #13:** *“No SuperPAC, no corporation, and no billionaire should have more sway over how an election goes than the people going to the polls and voting for the candidates.”*

Fact Check: **HYPOCRISY**

Except for tazerPAC, huh?

**Truth-o-meter rating: 0/5**

**Claim #14:** *“As it currently stands, the President is allowed to simply subvert his equally powerful colleagues in Congress and authorise military operations without their approval.”*

Fact Check: **TRUE**

Congress has largely been left out of the realm of authorization of military force over the past years. As Tucklet herself says: “The US Constitution made things quite clear: [Use of force without congressional approval] is not allowed”. It’s not like she ever cared about the constitution though.

**Truth-o-meter rating: 4.5/5**