



**Joseph (Jody) Barrett**

**March 24, 2025**



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# Top Hits

## Anti-School Choice

### Barrett Voted Against School Choice

**Barrett Voted With 22 Democrats Against HB 6004 Which Appropriates Public Funding To Provide Private School Vouchers To Students.** ([HB 6004](#), Passed 54-43, 1/30/25, Barrett Voted No)

- **Barrett Complained Not Being Given Time To Oppose The Bill In A Speech On The Floor.** (Tor Gessner, "Some Republican lawmakers silenced during Tennessee school voucher debate, they say," WJHL, 2/1/25)

### Barrett Joined Democrats In Trying To Add Amendments To The Bill

**Barrett "Joined Democrats In Voting Against Tabling The Amendment" For The School Choice Bill.** (Shannon Coan, "Local lawmakers split on public funding for private school tuition," Chattanooga Times Free Press, 1/31/25)

### Barrett Called The Voucher Plan An Entitlement Program

**Barrett Called Supporters Of The School Choice Bill The "DC Special Interest Mob."** (Vivian Jones, "How rural lawmakers could prove pivotal in Tennessee voucher debate," The Tennessean, 1/28/25)

**Barrett Called The Voucher Plan An Entitlement Program.** ("East Tennessee Republican feels heat to vote for vouchers," Tennessee Lookout, 1/28/25)

**Barrett Said It Was The Day "Rural Tennessee Was Sold Out" And Called it A "Handout To Private Schools."** ("Rural Schools, Special Education Advocates Raise Concerns Over Education Freedom Act," The McKenzie, Banner, 2/7/25)

### Barrett Opposed The Plan Even After Trump's Endorsement

**Tennessee Star Headline: Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill.** (Tom Papper, "Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill," [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

**Barrett Said He Would Still Oppose The School Choice Bill After Trump Endorsed It.** (Tom Papper, "Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill," [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

**"The Defiance Of Trump's Agenda Is Typical For Barrett."** (Tom Papper, "Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill," [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

**"Jody Barrett Is Widely Regarded As Among The Bottom Three GOP Legislators In Terms Of Effectiveness. Most Say His Only Service Is To His Own Ego, Not MAGA, The Conservative Cause, Or His Constituents,' The Source Stated."** (Tom Papper, "Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill," [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

## Trump

### Barrett Has Been Highly Critical Of President Trump

**Barrett Called Trump A "Joke."** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/17/16)

**Barrett Called Trump A "Total Fraud."** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/19/16)

**Barrett Called Trump A "Snake Oil Salesman."** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)

**Barrett Called Trump A "Douchebag."** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)

**Barrett Called Trump A "Small, Petty Man."** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/21/16)

**Barrett Called Trump A “Low Class Pig.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 3/24/16)

**Barrett Called Trump A “Con-Artist.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)

**Barrett Called Trump A “Spoiled Brat.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/16/16)

**Barrett Said Trump Winning The Primary Would “Amount To A Whole Bunch Of Nothing In November. Good Luck.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)

**Barrett Said “Anybody Except Trump” Would Beat Clinton.** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/28/16)

**Even After Trump’s 2016 Win, Barrett Said Trump Was Not A Conservative**

**Barrett Said “A Lot Of Conservatives Do Not Relate To Trump’s Lifestyle, Personal History, Or Approach?”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/12/16)

**Barrett Scolded People For Attacks That Prevented Cruz From Beating Trump And Saying If Cruz Won “We Would Have An Actual Conservative In The WH.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/2/17)

**Barrett Used The Hashtag #NeverTrump Numerous Times**

**Barrett Used The Hashtag #NeverTrump.** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16; [Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16; [Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16; [Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)

**Barrett Criticized President Trump’s Pick For Deputy Secretary Of The Department Of Education**

**Barrett Criticized President Trump’s Pick For Deputy Secretary Of The Department Of Education.** (Vivian Jones, “Hard-liners blast Trump education deputy pick; Schwinn seen as ‘woke,’” The Record Herald, 1/21/25)

## **Expulsion Vote**

**Barrett Hung Republican “Out To Dry” On Expulsion Vote**

**In 2023, Barrett Voted With Every Democrat Against HR 64 Which Requires Rep. Gloria Johnson Be Expelled From The State House Of Representatives.** ([HR 64](#), Failed 65-29, 4/6/23, Barrett Voted No)

**Barrett Was Blasted By The GOP Caucus For Not Voting To Expel Johnson With One Saying “You Hung Us Out To Dry.”** (Vivian Jones, “‘You hung us out to dry’: Leaked audio shows hot tempers inside GOP caucus after expulsion vote,” The Tennessean, 4/14/23)

- **“Republicans Told Barrett He ‘Hung Us Out To Dry.’”** (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

**Republicans Were “Lashing Out” At Barrett During The Meeting.”** (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

**One Rep. Said Barrett’s Vote “Brought Racism Into It Because You Didn’t Stay With Us.”** (Vivian Jones, “‘You hung us out to dry’: Leaked audio shows hot tempers inside GOP caucus after expulsion vote,” The Tennessean, 4/14/23)

**Majority Whip Said He Was “Shocked” When Barrett Told Him He Didn’t Want To Do Expel Johnson.** (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

# Ratings And Votes

## Barrett Has Been Scored Low On Some Limited Government Ratings

**In 2023, Barrett Received An Overall 80.25% Limited Government Rating From The Institute For Legislative Analysis.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

- **Barrett Received A 63.16% Rating On Tax And Fiscal Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)
- **Barrett Received A 78.57% Rating On Local And National Security Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)
- **Barrett Received A 71.43% Rating On Workforce And Labor Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)
- **Barrett Received A 50% Rating On Healthcare Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)
- **Barrett Received A 66.67% Rating On Regulations Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

## Barrett Has Joined Democrats On Some Votes

**In 2024, Barrett Voted With 21 Democrats Against SB 2103 Which Reduces State Franchise Tax.** ([SB 2103](#), Passed 69-23, 4/25/24, Barrett Voted No)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Against SB 894 Which Exempts A Person Under 18 Years Of Age From Paying For A Drivers License Or ID.** ([SB 894](#), Passed 68-13, 4/20/23, Barrett Voted No)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Against HB 7008 Which Requires A Qualified Mental Health Professional To Protect An Identified Victim When Under Threat Of Bodily Harm.** ([HB 7008](#), Passed 82-5, 8/28/23, Barrett Voted No)

# Global Warming

## Barrett Blasted Republicans And Defended Al Gore On Global Warming

**In 2007, Barrett Wrote A Letter To The Editor In *The Tennessean* Blasting Republican Views On Global Warming And Climate Change.** (Jody Barrett "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR." *The Tennessean*, 2/6/07)

- **Barrett Called It "Ironic" That Republican Leaders Calling Al Gore's "Global Warming Awareness Campaign" "Propaganda" Because A Coalition Of Scientists Confirmed Fossil Fuels Cause Global Warming.** "How ironic that Republican leaders like A. J. McCall are quoted in *The Tennessean* as suggesting that the science behind Al Gore's global warming awareness campaign is flawed and nothing more than propaganda less than 24 hours after an international coalition of scientists confirm that fossil fuels are causing global warming?" (Jody Barrett "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR." *The Tennessean*, 2/6/07)
- **Barret Says It's "Even More Ironic That Republicans Lambaste Gore For His 'Liberal Environmental Propaganda.'"** "Even more ironic that Republicans lambaste Gore for his 'liberal environmental propaganda' a week after President Bush, the leader of the Republican Party, calls for a 20 percent reduction in our gasoline use in his State of the Union address." (Jody Barrett "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR." *The Tennessean*, 2/6/07)
- **Barrett Ends By Sarcastically Mocking A Reader Who Called It "Pompous" To Think Humans Can Affect mother Nature By Saying It's "Pompous" Humans**

**Could Protect Animals And Might Be Able To “Save Ourselves.”** “One reader suggested it was ‘pompous’ to think that human beings could affect Mother Nature. I suppose it was ‘pompous’ to think human beings could protect hundreds of different species of animals from extinction, too. I guess it's probably ‘pompous’ to think we might just be able to save ourselves. Jody Barrett Dickson 37055” (Jody Barrett “LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.” The Tennessean, 2/6/07)

**In 2013, Barrett Offered His Home As Part Of A Tour To Show Off His “Eco-Friendly Home.”** “The Dickson County Soil and Water Conservation District hosted its 39th annual Dickson County Farm Tour on July 10 with 138 people taking part in the seven tour stops that represented the county's various agriculture industries. For the first stop, four buses carried participants to Jody and Holly Barrett's eco-friendly home. Jody Barrett shared information about their home including his dramatically lower utility bills due to the ventilation and structure of their home that allows them to use the HVAC system very minimally.” (“Tour touts county's agriculture,” The Tennessean, 7/26/13)



# Political Spending

## Federal

**In 2005, Barrett Contributed \$1,000.00 To Bob Corker For Senate.** ([FEC.gov](#), Accessed 3/18/25)

**In 2007, Barrett Contributed \$2,300.00 To Fred Thompson.** ([FEC.gov](#), Accessed 3/18/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Contributed \$1,000.00 To Mark Green For Congress.** ([FEC.gov](#), Accessed 3/18/25)

## State

Barrett State Contributions		
Recipient	Year	Amount
Davis, Elaine	2022	\$500
Vallejos Sr, Tommy J	2022	\$500
Poczobut, David Pozy	2022	\$500
Weaver, Terri Lynn	2022	\$1,000
Hurt, Chris	2024	\$1,500
Stevens, Robert	2024	\$1,250
Raper, Kevin D	2024	\$1,250
Davis, Elaine	2024	\$1,000
Burkhart, Jeff	2024	\$1,000
Bobo, Chad	2024	\$750
Richey, Bryan	2024	\$500
Rudd, Tim	2024	\$500
Grills, Rusty	2024	\$500
Capley, Kip	2024	\$500
Todd, Chris	2024	\$500
Ragan, John D	2024	\$250
Peltz, Jamie	2024	\$250

# **Background**

## **Family**

**Barrett Married His Wife Holly In Oxford Mississippi.** “The options were different for Jody and Holly Barrett, who spent months trying to pull their individual careers together. But the 26-year-old couple found strength in their time and distance apart before eventually reuniting in Oxford where they were married. ‘The biggest, or worst, problem with long-distance relationships is not knowing what the other person is doing,’ Jody says. ‘Time spent apart really makes some people worry. The 18 months we were apart while I was working for the (Tennessee) legislature answered any questions about how we feel about each other, though. ‘It built an amazing trust between us I don't know if we would have had so soon without being apart.’ Shortly after Jody started law school at the University of Mississippi, Holly found a job in horticulture with the university and the two were married. ‘I probably would have just found a job I could make do with until I find something that would work for me,’ Holly says. ‘In this line, it really depends on where you live - jobs are limited.’”  
(Snow Donnie, “Couples deal with whose career comes first,” Clarion-Ledger, 10/24/00)

**Barrett And His Wife Have Three Children.** ([VoteSmart](#), Accessed 3/20/25)

## **Businesses**

**Barrett Lists The Following Positions On His 2024 Statement Of Disclosure Of Interests:**

- **Dickson Title LLC President From Jan 2005 To Current**
- **Ramsey Thornton Barrett Osborn Plc Secretary From Jan 2005 To Current**
- **Crestview Properties LLC Member From Jun 2008 To Current**
- **Back Nine LLC Member From May 2018 To Current**
- **Amateur Players Tour LLC Member From Nov 2020 To Current**
- **Barrett Thornton Properties LLC Member From Jun 2019 To Current.** (Tennessee Ethics Commission, [Barrett Statement Of Disclosure Of Interests](#), 4/15/24)

## PPP Loans

**In 2020, Dickson Title LLC Received A \$77,206 Fully Forgiven PPP Loan.** ([PPP ProPublica](#), Accessed 3/18/25)

<b>DICKSON TITLE, LLC</b>			
<a href="#">? Why is my loan information here?</a>			
Loan Amount	Amount Forgiven	Location	Industry
<b>\$76,658</b>	<b>\$77,206</b> <i>Includes any accrued interest</i>	Dickson, TN Rural	Title Abstract and Settlement Offices
Where applicants said the money will go		Date Approved	Lender
		April 13, 2020 (First Round)	Bank of Dickson
Payroll	\$61,326	Jobs Reported 7	Business Type Limited Liability Company(LLC)
Utilities	\$7,666		
Mortgage Interest	\$0		
Health Care	\$0	Business Age Existing or more than 2 years old	Loan Status Forgiven
Rent	\$7,666		
Refinance EIDL	\$0		
Debt Interest	\$0		

([PPP ProPublica](#), Accessed 3/18/25)

**In 2020, Ramsey Thornton Barrett Osborn PLC Received A \$40,763 Fully Forgiven PPP Loan.** ([PPP ProPublica](#), Accessed 3/18/25)

<b>RAMEY THORNTON BARRETT OSBORNE PLLC</b>			
<a href="#">? Why is my loan information here?</a>			
Loan Amount	Amount Forgiven	Location	Industry
<b>\$40,540</b>	<b>\$40,763</b> <i>Includes any accrued interest</i>	Dickson, TN Rural	Offices of Lawyers
Where applicants said the money will go		Date Approved	Lender
		April 15, 2020 (First Round)	Traditions First Bank
Payroll	\$40,540	Jobs Reported 4	Business Type Limited Liability Company(LLC)
Utilities	\$0		
Mortgage Interest	\$0		
Health Care	\$0	Business Age Existing or more than 2 years old	Loan Status Forgiven
Rent	\$0		
Refinance EIDL	\$0		
Debt Interest	\$0		

([PPP ProPublica](#), Accessed 3/18/25)

## Other Positions

### **In 2011, Barrett Was The Dickson County Industrial Development Board's Attorney.**

"MetriCan will not pay any property taxes on the expansion area next year, then gradually pay a greater share of its tax bill for another six years, said Jody Barrett, the county industrial development board's attorney." (Duane Marsteller, "Dickson adds 60 auto jobs for Chattanooga Volkswagen contract," The Tennessean, 10/4/11)

### **In 2018, The Dickson County School Board Hired Alan Hall Over Jody Barrett Even Though He Had Previously Worked For The Board.**

"The Dickson County School Board recently approved for a new school board attorney, choosing a Franklin lawyer with ties to Dickson. The board chose Alan Hall, a Dickson native and Dickson County High graduate, from a three-firm candidate pool. Hall was chosen over Jody Barrett and Jordan Osborn; and Sam Jackson with Bone McAllester Norton of Nashville. Barrett, who had previously represented the board, and Osborn are partners in the same firm as Eric Thornton, a vocal opponent of the now underway Burns middle school. Before the vote, Schools Director Dr. Danny Weeks told the board the hiring is a "critical move for us.'" (Chris Gadd, "Dickson Co. School Board chooses new attorney Alan Hall," The Tennessean, 2/7/18)

## Campaign

### **Barrett Said His Education And Experience As A Lawyer Will Make Him A Strong Candidate For Office.**

"Why do you feel you are a strong candidate for State House District 69 First, my education and experience of more than two decades as an attorney practicing throughout the district has provided me with ample opportunities to "represent" folks in their time of need and assist them with navigating the legal or administrative processes to obtain a resolution or reasonable outcome to the issue, concern, or dispute that they require my assistance with. I don't always know the answer to every question off hand, but I know where to look to find the answers. I have been diligent and persistent at digging in and following through until I find the path that leads to a positive outcome for my clients. I will do the same for the constituents of the 69th District. My career has trained me to listen to people and ask the right questions to drill down beyond the surface of an issue to identify the true source of the matter at hand. This understanding and experience will equip me to cut through the smoke and filibuster that occurs in the State Capitol so I can focus on the real issues that affect our District and the people who live here. Moreover, my education in the law affords me a more comprehensive understanding of what effects, both positive and negative, might be caused by proposed legislation. This perspective will hopefully help me to prevent some unintended consequences that often comes with legislative action." (Q&A: TN House District 69 primary candidates talk background, beliefs," The Tennessean, 6/28/22)

**Barrett Said The Most Significant Issue In Tennessee Was Election Integrity.** "What do you feel are the most significant issues (if any) facing the State of Tennessee and why? Many of the issues facing our state arise from our relationship with the federal government in Washington, DC. The paramount concern of every state should be the integrity of our elections and the threat of complete disillusionment and apathy if we fail to take steps necessary to reinforce the public's faith in the security and accuracy of our ballots. Tennessee should be leading the charge to adopt and immediately incorporate all recommended measures to guarantee that our election results are accurate and reliable...even if that means terminating existing contracts with electronic ballot machine vendors and returning to currency-grade paper ballots. Perception is reality as they say. And the perception is that our election systems have been compromised. If we want the people to continue to be engaged in our democracy and believe that their vote counts, we must be vigilant in earning and keeping the people's trust in the system." (Q&A: TN House District 69 primary candidates talk background, beliefs," The Tennessean, 6/28/22)

# Education

## Barrett Was Supported By The American Federation For Children And Congratulated After His Win

**In 2022, The American Federation For Children Congratulated Their Supported Candidates Including Barrett.** “The American Federation for Children, the nation's voice for educational choice, congratulates all the candidates supported by the Tennessee Federation for Children PAC during Thursday's primary election. The TFC PAC invested more than \$300,000 in state races to support school choice proponents during the 2022 primary. The Tennessee General Assembly has passed and expanded several school choice programs in recent years, including expanding the state's Education Savings Account program to students with dyslexia. However, opponents of education freedom have blocked implementation of these programs from every possible angle.” (American Federation of Children, “American Federation for Children Congratulates Tennessee's School Choice Winners,” Press Release, 8/6/22)

## Voucher Plan

### Barrett Originally Said He Was Undecided On The Voucher Plan

**In December 2023, Barrett Said He Was Undecided On The Expanded Voucher Plan.** “Rep. Jody Barrett, R-Dickson, who was not yet in office during the 2019 vote, said he is also undecided, and awaiting further details from the governor's office. “I am certain this initiative will be heavily debated and the final product, if anything is passed, will look different than the original proposal released later today,” Barrett wrote in a social media post.” (Vivian Jones, “Lee doesn't have universal GOP support for expanded voucher plan,” Knoxville News-Sentinel, 12/4/23)

- **In December 2023, Barrett Was Still “Reeling” And “Trying To Rebound From The Hurt” Of The Johnson Vote.** “Barrett appears to be reeling - still - from his vote against expelling Rep. Gloria Johnson from the House for participating in a floor rally for gun control after The Covenant School shooting. House Republican leadership thought they had Barrett's vote wrapped up to get rid of Johnson until their goofball video showed her standing there twiddling her thumbs. Secretly-recorded audio displayed a GOP caucus in chaos, and Barrett is still trying to rebound from the hurt.” (Sam Stockard, “Stockard on the Stump: Lee Administration takes turn toward silence,” Tennessee Lookout, 12/15/23)

### Barrett Voted With 22 Democrats Against The School Voucher Program

**In January 2025, Barrett Voted With 22 Democrats Against HB 6004 Which Appropriates Public Funding To Provide Private School Vouchers To Students.** ([HB 6004](#), Passed 54-43, 1/30/25, Barrett Voted No)

### Barrett Had Joined Democrats In Supporting Amendments To The Bill

**In January 2023, Barrett “Joined Democrats In Voting Against Tabling The Amendment” For The School Choice Bill.** “A series of amendments put forward by house Democrats to increase accountability failed, including one by Hakeem that would have required annual audits for private schools that enroll grant recipients. Hakeem's concern, he said, was ensuring small private schools don't pop up and end up closing within a few years, leaving students high and dry. Two Republicans who later voted against the bill -- state Rep. Jody Barrett, of Dickson, and state Rep. Monty Fritts, of Kingston -- joined Democrats in voting against tabling the amendment. ‘Every school that would move forward to educate our children do not have the best intentions, and what we're asking is reasonable accountability,’ Hakeem said. ‘We should not assume that every school would do the right thing.’” (Shannon Coan, “Local lawmakers split on public funding for private school tuition,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 1/31/25)

## **Barrett Complained That He Wasn't Given Time To Debate The Bill**

**Barrett Complained Not Being Given Time To Oppose The Bill In A Speech On The Floor.** “Republican Rep. Jody Barrett (R-Dickson) has also openly opposed Gov. Lee's voucher plan based on feedback from his constituents and the fiscal analysis, which he said isn't fiscally conservative. Rep. Barrett told News 2 that just two of the 20-something Republicans who voted against the bill were given a total of four minutes to debate it on the House floor, and he wasn't one of them. ‘The rules that were put in place were really not designed to provide for any type of banter back and forth,’ Rep. Barrett said. ‘Essentially what we got was an infomercial where one side got 45 minutes to give their spiel about what they did not like about the bill, and the other side got 45 minutes to give their sales pitch as to why it was a good idea. Dividing 45 minutes among 24 [Democrats] is a lot easier than dividing it among 75 [Republicans].’” (Tor Gessner, “Some Republican lawmakers silenced during Tennessee school voucher debate, they say,” WJHL, 2/1/25)

- **Barrett Said The Bill Was Not An Emergency As Governor Lee Has Stated.** “Rep. Barrett believes lawmakers should've discussed the issue during the regular session where they had more time. ‘I know the governor disagrees, but this is not something in my opinion that was an emergency. That needed to be done in three days,’ Rep. Barrett said. ‘That's just no way for the people of the state to really have the opportunity to read the bill, to understand it, to chime in, to talk to their representatives, and it certainly didn't give us enough time to go back and talk to our constituents as the bill was evolving and amendments were being filed.’” (Tor Gessner, “Some Republican lawmakers silenced during Tennessee school voucher debate, they say,” WJHL, 2/1/25)

## **Barrett Called Supporters A Mob And The Plan An “Entitlement Program”**

**In January 2025, Barrett Called Supporters Of The School Choice Bill The “DC Special Interest Mob.”** “Rep. Jody Barrett, R-Dickson, posted on social media that he's received more than 500 emails supporting vouchers – with only one coming from inside his district. ‘This is what the DC special interest mob thinks about your elected reps who dare to listen to you and vote the way you tell us to vote,’ Barrett wrote of Lotfi's post.” (Vivian Jones, “How rural lawmakers could prove pivotal in Tennessee voucher debate,” The Tennessean, 1/28/25)

**Barrett Called The Voucher Plan An Entitlement Program.** “Rep. Jody Barrett, another House Republican from Dickson, said Monday that if the legislature approves the governor's voucher plan, the state will create an 'entitlement' program and eventually will run off a 'fiscal cliff.’” (“East Tennessee Republican feels heat to vote for vouchers,” Tennessee Lookout, 1/28/25)

## **Barrett Said Rural Tennessee Was “Sold Out”**

**After The Passage Of The Bill, Barrett Said It Was The Day “Rural Tennessee Was Sold Out” And Called it A “Handout To Private Schools.”** “Sen. Jody Barrett (R-69), who opposed the bill, issued a blunt statement condemning its passage. ‘History will look back on this moment as the day rural Tennessee was sold out. This is a handout to private schools that exist in metro areas, funded by the taxes of rural families who have no access to these options.’” (“Rural Schools, Special Education Advocates Raise Concerns Over Education Freedom Act,” The McKenzie, Banner, 2/7/25)

## **Trump Support Of Voucher Bill**

### **Barrett Voted Against The Bill Even After Trump Supported It**

**Tennessee Star Headline: Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill.** (Tom Papper, “Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill,” [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

**Barrett Said He Would Still Oppose The School Choice Bill After Trump Endorsed It.** “Barrett, who has publicly confirmed his opposition to the universal school choice bill, was asked by The Star on Tuesday whether Trump's support for the legislation put forward by Governor Bill Lee



and Republican leadership would influence his vote. The lawmaker, who has cited financial concerns in his arguments against school choice he posted to social media, said that Trump's endorsement did not change his analysis. Barrett told The Star, 'Unless President Trump can keep this from mushrooming to over \$1 billion per year in a decade or less, I will not be able to support it. Asked whether his opposition to the school choice bill means he is defying Trump's agenda on school choice, Barrett told The Star, 'I am representing my district.'" (Tom Papper, "Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill," [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

**"The Defiance Of Trump's Agenda Is Typical For Barrett."** "A source with intimate knowledge of the inner workings of the State House told The Star the defiance of Trump's agenda is typical for Barrett." (Tom Papper, "Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill," [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

**"Jody Barrett Is Widely Regarded As Among The Bottom Three GOP Legislators In Terms Of Effectiveness. Most Say His Only Service Is To His Own Ego, Not MAGA, The Conservative Cause, Or His Constituents,' The Source Stated."** (Tom Papper, "Ineffective GOP State Rep. Jody Barrett Defies President Trump's Support for Tennessee School Choice Bill," [The Tennessee Star](#), 1/28/25)

## Education Commissioner

**In 2024, Barrett Was Critical Of Governor Lee's Education Commissioner.** "Warner is not the only member of the Republican supermajority with questions about Reynolds' qualifications. 'Unfortunately as I understand the law, the governor has the right to appoint his commissioners free of any review or approval by the legislature,' Rep. Jody Barrett, R-Dickson, told The Tennessean in a text message. "There does not appear to be a mechanism under the law through which a commissioner can be removed by the legislature.' Barrett said that if a mechanism existed to remove a commissioner, he would "decline to take a position" on removing Reynolds until reviewing "all pertinent information" and hearing from Reynolds personally. 'That being said, questions continue to circulate around Commissioner Reynolds' qualifications and I hope those questions are addressed to the satisfaction of the citizens of Tennessee soon,' Barrett said." (Vivian Jones, "Republican lawmakers question Tennessee education commissioner's credentials," The Tennessean, 4/8/24)

## Loans

**In 2023, Barrett Voted For SB 781 Which Forces Taxpayers To Pay The Student Loans Of Healthcare Professionals.** ([SB 781](#), Passed 96-0, 4/19/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- "This bill sets up a loan repayment grant program for family medicine students who agree to work in rural areas after their training for a time. CPAC does not believe that taxpayers should be forced to help pay off other people's student loans and opposed this bill." ([American Conservative Union](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On HB 1281 Which Grows Government Central Planning By Forcing Taxpayers To Pay Off The Student Loan Debt Of Physicians In "Health Resource Shortage Areas."** ([HB 1281](#), Passed 96-0, 4/19/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- "This bill, the "Family Medicine Student Loan Repayment Grant Program" authorizes the Department of Health to cover up to \$200,000 of student loan debt for family medicine physicians who agree to practice in a "health shortage area" for at least 5 years following their residency training. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as the free market - not central planning by government bureaucrats - is the best mechanism to determine the need and distribution of physician across the state. Taxpayers in urban areas should not be forced to subsidize the amenities of individuals who choose to locate in rural or other portions of the state where doctors are not as accessible." ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

# Trump

## Barrett Criticized Trump's Pick For Deputy Education Secretary

**Barrett Criticized President Trump's Pick For Deputy Secretary Of The Department Of Education.** "Schwinn approved an \$8million state contract in 2021 with a New York-based company her husband worked for, drawing criticism from lawmakers who said the contract constituted a conflict of interest. Schwinn had disclosed the conflict, and the contract was approved through the state's central procurement office. Hard-line conservatives criticized the pick. In a social media post on Saturday, Rep. Jody Barrett, R-Dickson - a Trump supporter - called the pick a bad one." (Vivian Jones, "Hard-liners blast Trump education deputy pick; Schwinn seen as 'woke'," The Record Herald, 1/21/25)

## Name Calling

### Barrett Was Highly Critical Of Trump On Twitter And Called Him Numerous Names

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted "Trump Is A Joke. Put Up Or Shut Up, Donald."** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/17/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/17/16)

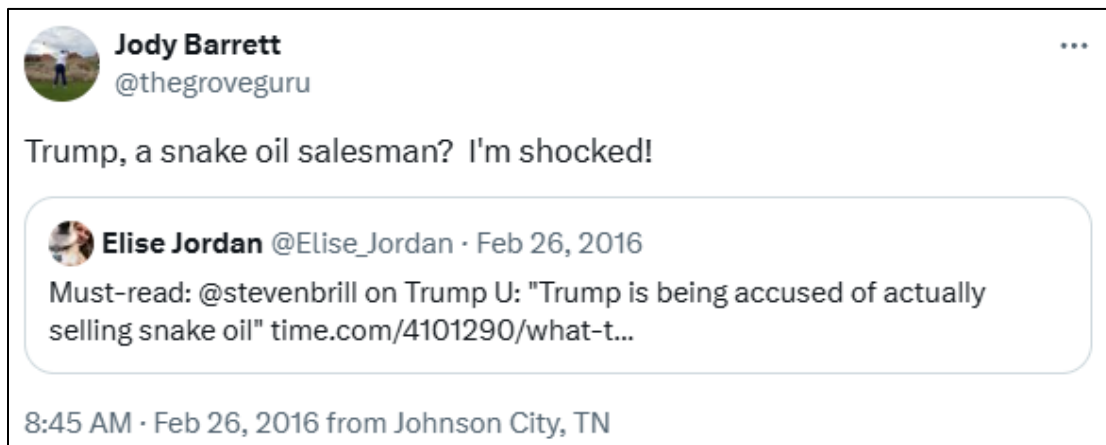
**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted "Trump Is A Total Fraud."** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/19/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/19/16)

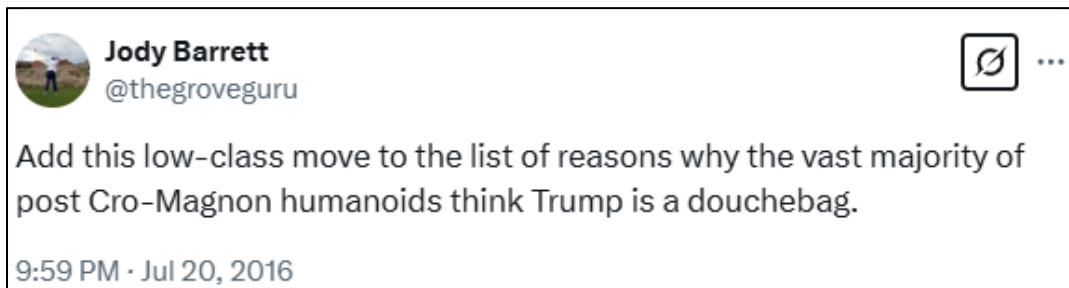


**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “Trump, A Snake Oil Salesman? I'm Shocked!”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)



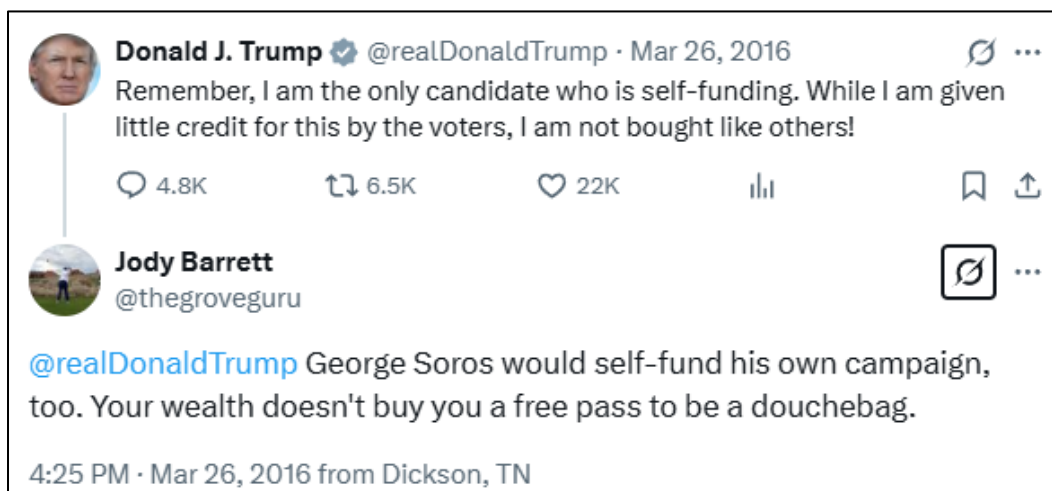
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “Add This Low-Class Move To The List Of Reasons Why The Vast Majority Of Post Cro-Magnon Humanoids Think Trump Is A Douchebag.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted In Reply To Trump “Your Wealth Doesn't Buy You A Free Pass To Be A Douchebag.”** “@realDonaldTrump George Soros would self-fund his own campaign, too. Your wealth doesn't buy you a free pass to be a douchebag.” ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 3/26/16)



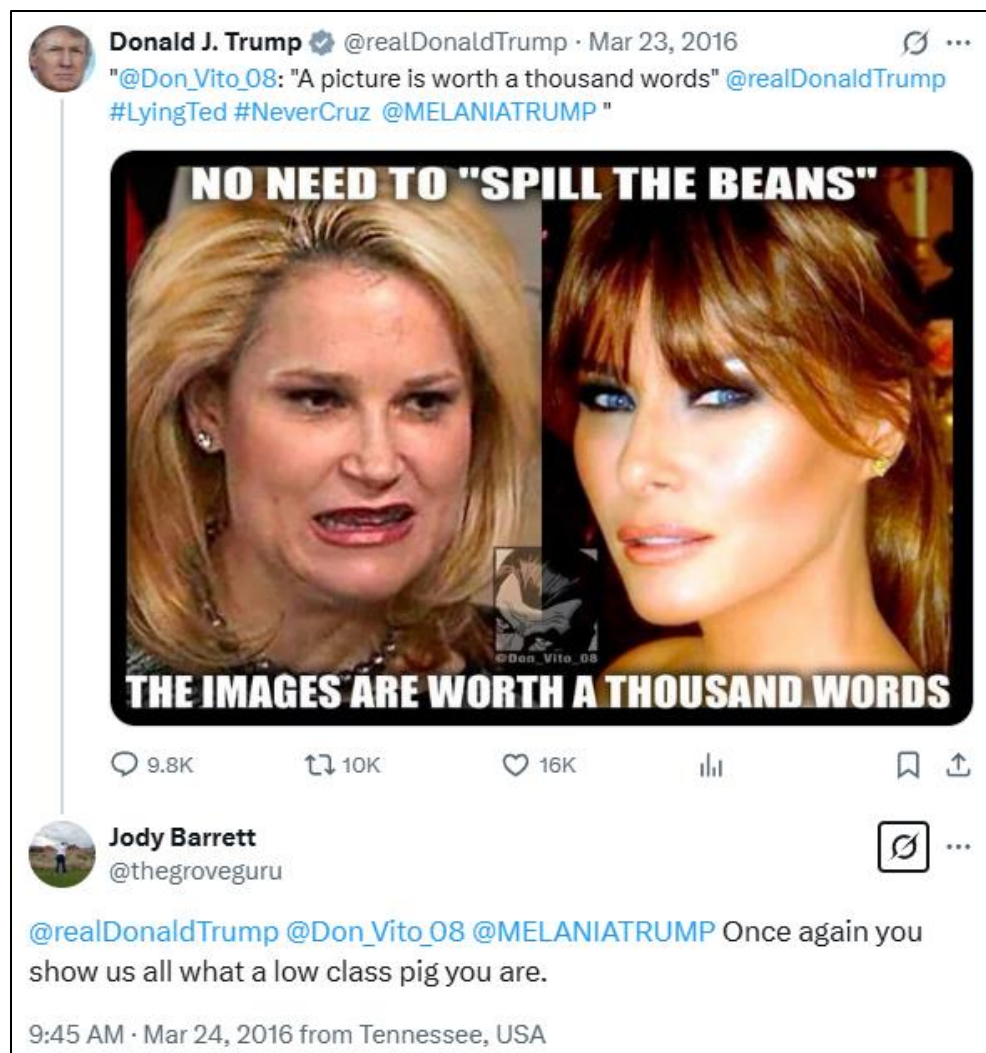
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 3/26/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Replied To A Donald Trump Tweet Saying “You Are A Small, Petty Man.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/21/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/21/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump @Don\_Vito\_o8 @MELANIATRUMP Once Again You Show Us All What A Low Class Pig You Are.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 3/24/16)



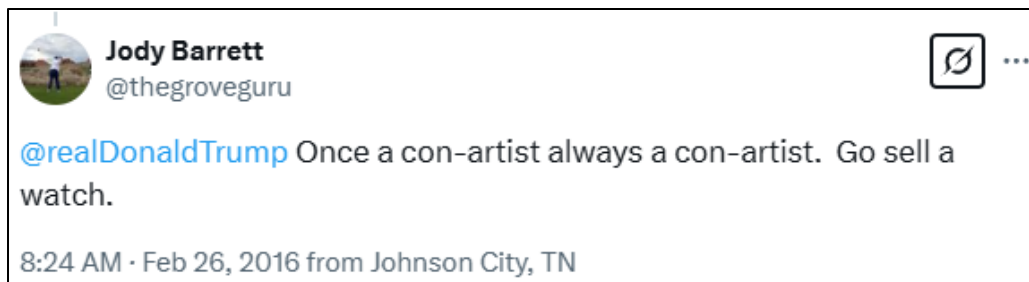
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 3/24/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump Yeah, We Can All Tell By Your Actions And Words” In Response To Trump Saying He Respects Women.** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 3/26/16)



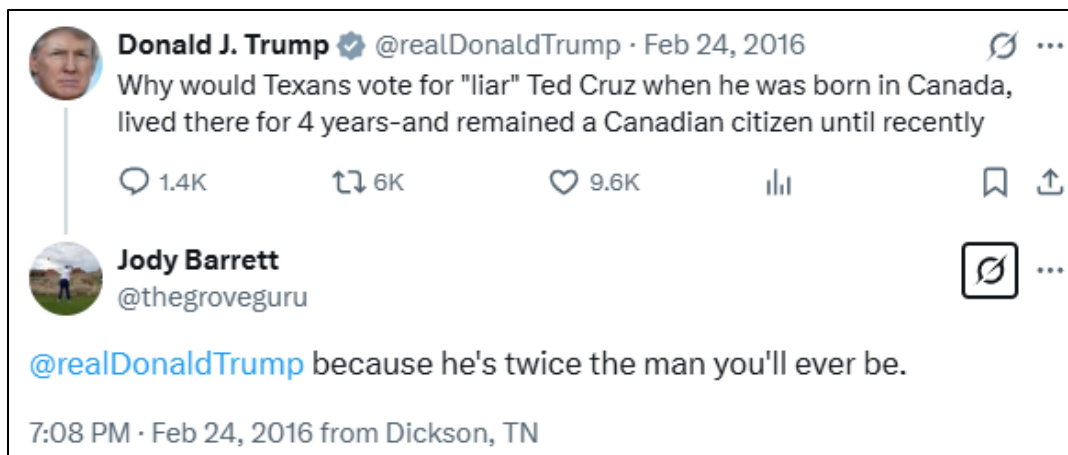
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 3/26/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump Once A Con-Artist Always A Con-Artist. Go Sell A Watch.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)



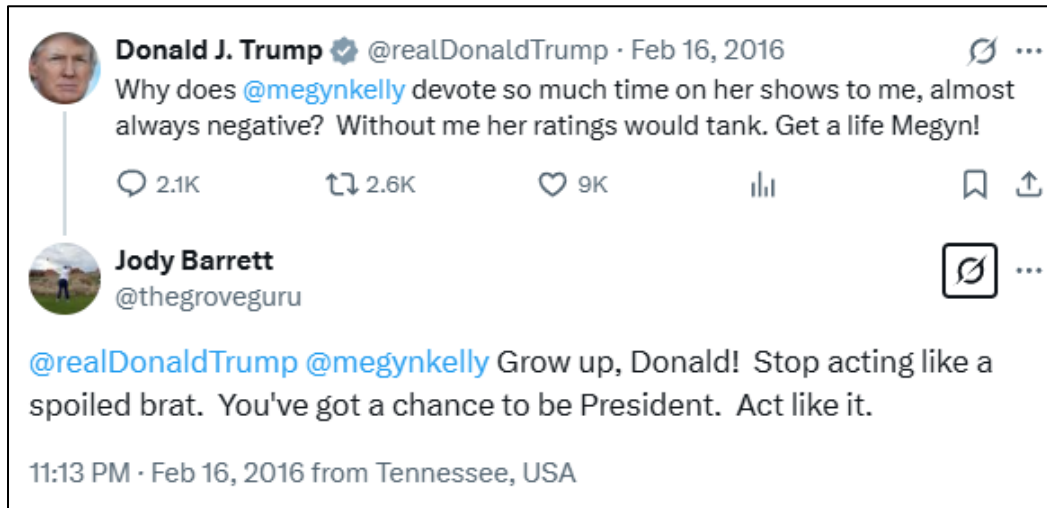
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump Because He's Twice The Man You'll Ever Be.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/24/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/24/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump @Megynkelly Grow Up, Donald! Stop Acting Like A Spoiled Brat. You've Got A Chance To Be President. Act Like It.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/16/16)

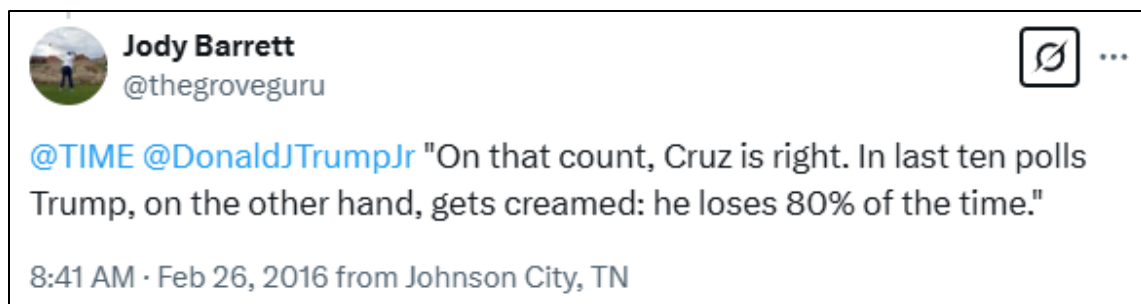


([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/16/16)

## **Trump Can't Win**

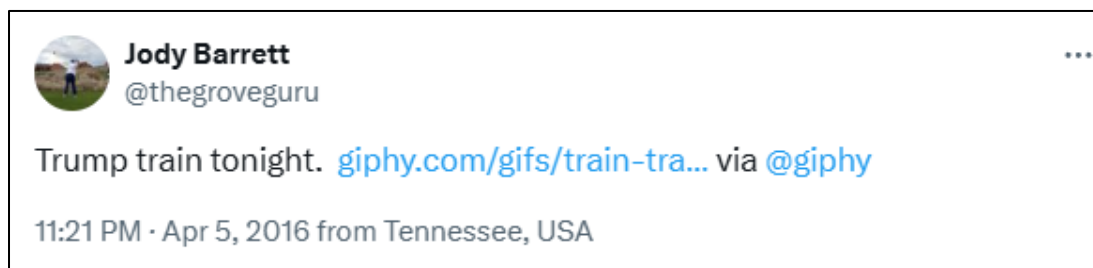
**Barrett Was A Cruz Supported And Alluded That Trump Couldn't Win The Election**

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted A Quote From An Article Saying “In The Last Ten Polls Trump, On The Other Hand Gets Creamed: He Loses 80% Of The Time.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/26/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “Trump Train Tonight” And Included A GIF Of A Train Driving Off A Cliff.** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 4/5/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 4/5/16)



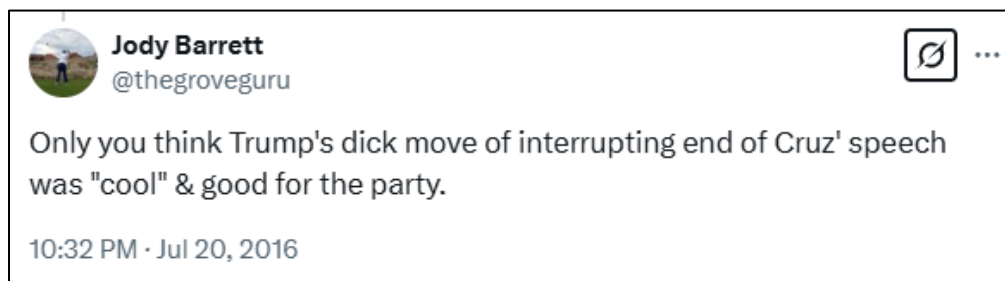
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 4/5/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Defended Ted Cruz For Not Endorsing Trump.** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “Only You Think Trump's Dick Move Of Interrupting End Of Cruz' Speech Was "Cool" & Good For The Party.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Said Trump Winning The Primary Would “Amount To A Whole Bunch Of Nothing In November. Good Luck.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/20/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Said “Anybody Except Trump” Would Beat Clinton.** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/28/16)

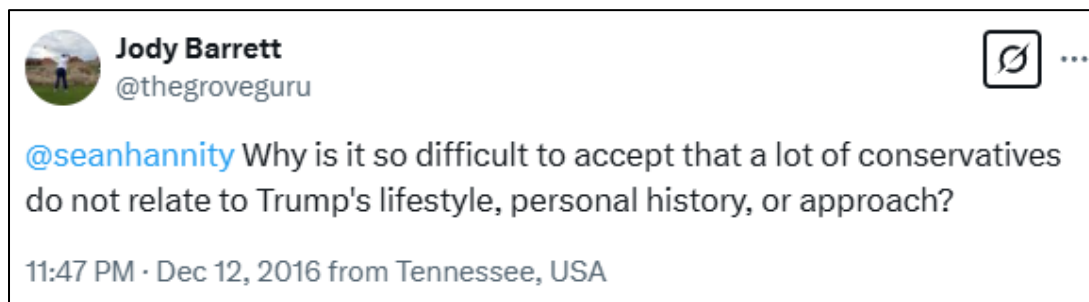


([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/28/16)

## **Not A Conservative**

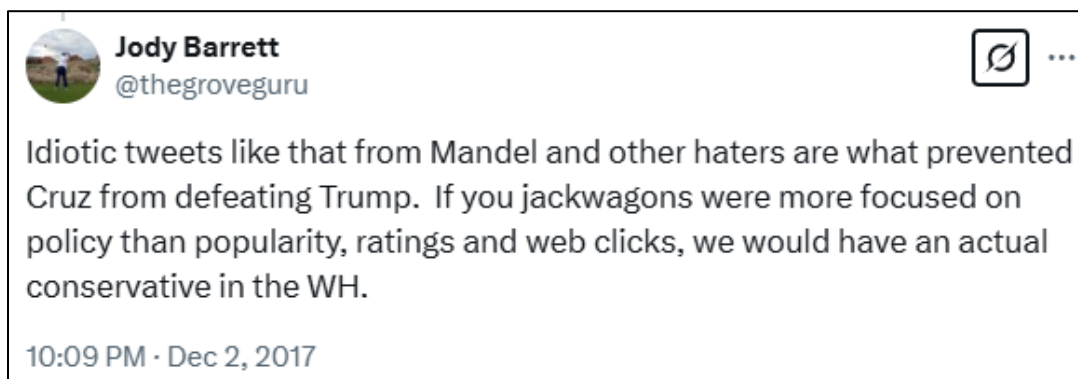
### **Barrett Questioned Trump’s Conservative Credentials Numerous Times**

**In December 2016, Barrett Said “A Lot Of Conservatives Do Not Relate To Trump’s Lifestyle, Personal History, Or Approach?”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/12/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/12/16)

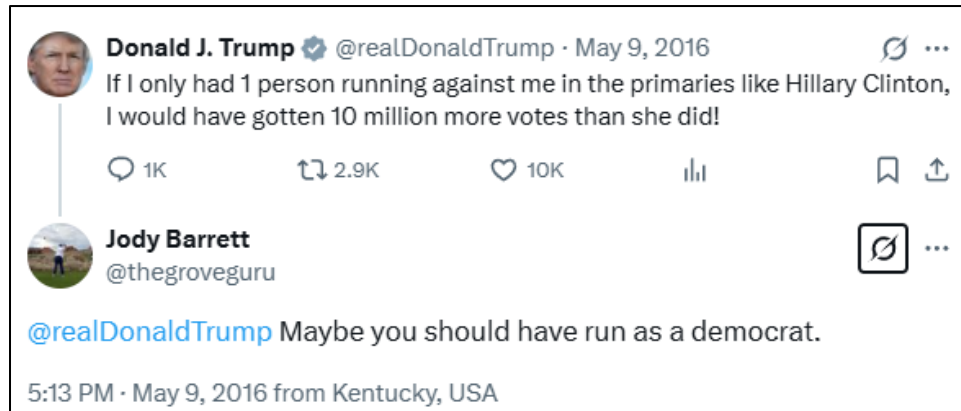
**In 2017, Barrett Scolded People For Attacks That Prevented Cruz Form Beating Trump And Saying If Cruz Won “We Would Have An Actual Conservative In The WH.”** “Idiotic tweets like that from Mandel and other haters are what prevented Cruz from defeating Trump. If you jackwagons were more focused on policy than popularity, ratings and web clicks, we would have an actual conservative in the WH.” ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/2/17)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/2/17)



**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump Maybe You Should Have Run As A Democrat.”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 5/9/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 5/9/16)

## **#NeverTrump**

**Barrett Used The Hashtag #NeverTrump Numerous Times**

**In 2016, Barrett Used The Hashtag #NeverTrump.** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump By Self-Funding Your Campaign You Are Also Beholden To No One But Yourself And Your Own Self Interests. #Nevertrump”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump You Sound Just Like Obama: "Look, I'm Not The Only One Saying This...Many Experts Are Saying..." #Nevertrump #Politician”**

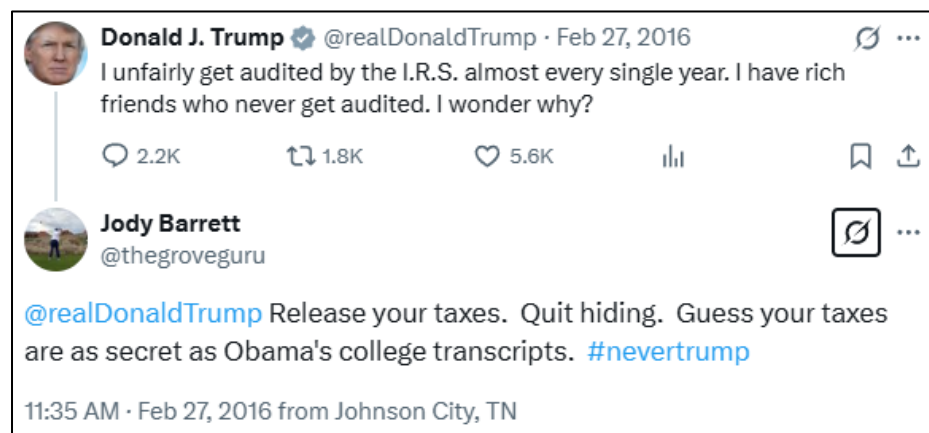
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)

**In 2016, Barrett Tweeted “@Realdonaldtrump Release Your Taxes. Quit Hiding. Guess Your Taxes Are As Secret As Obama's College Transcripts. #Nevertrump”**

([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/27/16)

## **Post Win Criticism**

### **Barrett Was Critical Of Trump After His Victory**

**In 2017, Barrett Tweeted “Heavy-Handed And Clumsy Rollout Of Temporary Travel Ban Emblematic Of Common Concerns About A Trump Presidency.”**

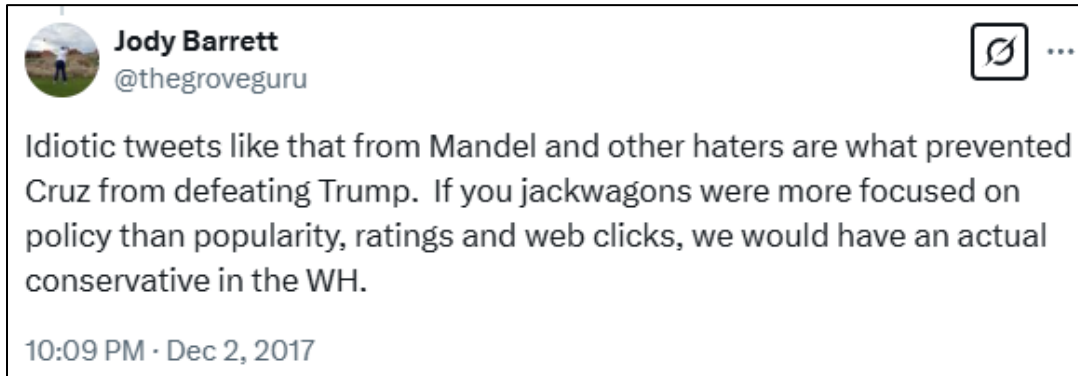
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 1/30/17)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 1/30/17)



**In 2017, Barrett Scolded People For Attacks That Prevented Cruz From Beating Trump And Saying If Cruz Won “We Would Have An Actual Conservative In The WH.”** “Idiotic tweets like that from Mandel and other haters are what prevented Cruz from defeating Trump. If you jackwagons were more focused on policy than popularity, ratings and web clicks, we would have an actual conservative in the WH.” ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/2/17)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 12/2/17)

## **Trump Boulevard**

**In 2023, Barrett Called A Proposal To Change Rep John Lewis Way To President Trump Boulevard “A Silly Waste Of Time.”** “Personally I think the bill proposing to change Rep John Lewis Way to President Trump Blvd is silly waste of time, but let’s not forget that Metro has been poking the Tiger with a stick for years. Nobody should be surprised that some have had enough & have decided to poke back.” ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/5/23)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/5/23)

# Johnson Expulsion

## Barrett Voted With Every Democrat Against Expelling Gloria Johnson From The House

**In 2023, Barrett Voted With Every Democrat Against HR 64 Which Requires Rep. Gloria Johnson Be Expelled From The State House Of Representatives.** ([HR 64](#), Failed 65-29, 4/6/23, Barrett Voted No)

## Barrett Was Blasted By The Republican Caucus For His Vote

**In 2023, Barrett Was Blasted By The GOP Caucus For Not Voting To Expel Johnson With One Saying “You Hung Us Out To Dry.”** “In the recording, high-ranking GOP leaders vocally expressed their frustration, hurling accusations at Reps. Jody Barrett, R-Dickson and Bryan Terry, R-Murfreesboro for breaking with the caucus and voting against Johnson’s expulsion, saying “you hung us out to dry.” (Vivian Jones, “You hung us out to dry’: Leaked audio shows hot tempers inside GOP caucus after expulsion vote,” The Tennessean, 4/14/23)

- **“Republicans Told Barrett He ‘Hung Us Out To Dry.’”** (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

**“Tempers Boiled Over” In The Caucus Meeting After The Vote.** “Leaked audio shows tempers boiled over during a Tennessee House Republican caucus meeting this week after GOP members fell one vote short of expelling Rep. Gloria Johnson, a white Democrat from Knoxville, while ejecting two Black Democrats in action that drew national attention. Republicans did expel Democratic Reps. Justin Jones of Nashville and Justin Pearson of Memphis, both of whom are Black, for the March 30 protest they led in the wake of the March 27 mass shooting at a private Nashville elementary school that left six people, including three children, dead.” (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

**Republicans Were “Lashing Out” At Barrett During The Meeting.”** “The audio from the Monday meeting, posted by The Tennessee Holler, a progressive news and advocacy site, reveals Republicans lashing out at Reps. Jody Barrett, R-Dickson, who was in the meeting, as well as Bryan Terry, R-Murfreesboro, who was not present.” (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

## Barrett’s Vote Allowed For Republicans To Be Called Racist

**Republicans Said Barrett’s Vote Allowed Democrats To Label Republicans As Racists.** “Rep. Jason Zachary, R-Knoxville, said Black Democrats have ‘trashed us as racists. ‘I’ve never had anybody call me a racist, and in the last three days, all I have heard from them is how this is the most racist place’ with ‘white supremacists,’ Zachary continued. ‘Good Lord, we have to realize they are not our friends. They destroy the republic, the foundation of who we are while we preserve it.’” (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

**One Rep. Said Barrett’s Vote “Brought Racism Into It Because You Didn’t Stay With Us.”** “‘Dear God, we were called — you brought racism into it because you didn’t stay with us,’ Rep. Jason Zachary, R-Knoxville, can be heard on the recording. “I don’t want to hear why there wasn’t preponderance of the evidence as an attorney — I need to know why you flipped your vote at the last minute.” (Vivian Jones, “You hung us out to dry’: Leaked audio shows hot tempers inside GOP caucus after expulsion vote,” The Tennessean, 4/14/23)

**Barrett Said His Expulsion Votes “Had Absolutely Nothing To Do With Race.”** “JODY BARRETT: I am a member who voted for the expulsion of the two younger gentlemen and did not vote for the expulsion of Ms. Johnson, and it had absolutely nothing to do with race. AILSA CHANG: Barrett and other Republican leaders insisted that the expulsion was about a breach of decorum on the House floor. Former Representative Justin Jones told NPR he saw the matter quite differently.” (Mary Louise Kelly, “Expelled Tennessee Lawmaker Could Be Back In State House Soon,” NPR, 4/10/23)

**Barrett Said It Was A Disgusting To Suggest He Voted To Expel The Two Others Because They Were Black.** “Barrett voted for the expulsion of Rep. Justin Jones, D-Nashville and Rep. Justin Pearson, D-Memphis, who ultimately were expelled by state House lawmakers. Johnson, D-Knoxville, was not expelled during the vote. Johnson, Jones and Pearson all faced expulsion after they approached the House podium between bills during the session without being recognized, breaking chamber rules. Jones and Pearson used a megaphone to lead protesters in chants for gun reform. ‘After the vote Rep. Johnson went to the media outside the House Chamber and suggested that perhaps she was not expelled due to the color of her skin. That is a preposterous and baseless allegation that is illustrative of the political climate in our country today,’ said Barrett in a press release. ‘It is disgusting, untrue, and highly offensive.’” (Chris Gadd, “Why a Middle TN lawmaker voted not to expel state Rep. Johnson,” [The Tennessean](#), 4/14/23)

### **Barrett Apparently Changed His Vote Last Minute**

**Republicans Demanded To Know Why Barrett Changed His Vote Last Minute.** “Zachary also demanded Barrett explain why he changed his vote at the last minute. Barrett, who is an attorney, said, ‘I know what she did. I know that she did break the rules. I know that she deserved to be expelled, but we've got to do it right, and that wasn't right. I went back to my desk. I sat there and had my internal debate on what to do. The bell rings, I am concerned that I am going to vote yes on a resolution I know is wrong.’” (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

**Majority Whip Garrett Said He Was “Taken Aback” When Barret Asked To Question Johnson.** “House Majority Whip Johnny Garrett, R-Goodlettsville, can be heard on the audio saying he was “taken aback” by Barrett’s request to ask questions of Johnson during the hearing, “as if that would have made a difference.”” (Vivian Jones, “‘You hung us out to dry’: Leaked audio shows hot tempers inside GOP caucus after expulsion vote,” The Tennessean, 4/14/23)

**Majority Whip Said He Was “Shocked” When Barrett Told Him He Didn’t Want To Do It.** “House Majority Whip Johnny Garrett, a Goodlettsville Republican and an attorney, said he had been dismayed by Barrett's decision not to vote to oust Johnson. ‘We had the jury already. This obviously wasn't a trial -- but I knew every single one of your vote counts. I knew that we did not have to convince you all,’ Garrett says in the audio. ‘When you came up to me with about 2 minutes left of Gloria's final closing and said you didn't want to do it, I was shocked.’” (Andy Sher, “Audio: Tennessee House Republicans furious with member who refused to oust Democrat Johnson over floor disturbance,” Chattanooga Times Free Press, 4/15/23)

### **Barrett Said He Originally Would Vote To Expel All Three Members**

**Barrett Said He Originally Planned On Voting To Expel All Three.** “Barrett, who represents District 69 which includes Hickman and Lewis County and half of Dickson County, said his initial plan was to vote for expulsion of all three legislators. ‘In fact, I personally called for their expulsion after the events of March 30,’ Barrett said. However, he said Johnson’s legal counsel ‘created concern in my mind.’” (Chris Gadd, “Why a Middle TN lawmaker voted not to expel state Rep. Johnson,” [The Tennessean](#), 4/14/23)

**Barrett Said “She Deserved To Be Expelled” But It “Wasn’t Right” To Expel Her.** “In the audio, Barrett defends his vote, arguing that leadership had failed to prove claims against Johnson as laid out in the expulsion resolution. ‘I know what she did. I know that she did break the rules. I know that she deserved to be expelled, but we’ve got to do it right, and that wasn’t right,’ Barrett argues in the audio. ‘I went back to my desk. I sat there and had my internal debate on what to do. The bell rings, I am concerned that I am going to vote yes on a resolution I know is wrong.’” (Vivian Jones, “‘You hung us out to dry’: Leaked audio shows hot tempers inside GOP caucus after expulsion vote,” The Tennessean, 4/14/23)

**Barrett Said He Voted Against Johnson’s Expulsion Because Of Factual Inaccuracies In The Resolution.** “First-year state Rep. Jody Barrett, a Republican and attorney in Dickson, said he voted against the expulsion of state Rep. Gloria Johnson due to her attorneys pointing out “factual


inaccuracies in the resolution that was under consideration” before the expulsion vote April 6.” (Chris Gadd, “Why a Middle TN lawmaker voted not to expel state Rep. Johnson,” [The Tennessean](#), 4/14/23)

**Barrett Said He Didn’t Know If He Would Support The Two Expelled Members Returning To Their Seats If Reappointed.** “AILS CHANG: Now local officials in the districts that had been represented by Justin Jones and Justin Pearson will vote on what happens next with their vacant seats. Mary Louise asked Representative Barrett if he would allow the two expelled lawmakers to retake their seats if that is what their districts decided. JODY BARRETT: I don't know. I mean, as evidenced by my vote, I try to take everything as it comes and make the right decision or what - or do what I think is right based on the evidence that's before me. I will have to think long and hard about that.” (Mary Louise Kelly, “Expelled Tennessee Lawmaker Could Be Back In State House Soon,” NPR, 4/10/23)

# Limited Government Ratings

**In 2023, Barrett Received An Overall 80.25% Limited Government Rating From The Institute For Legislative Analysis.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

Rep. Jody Barrett  
Republican - TN - 69th district



[View Historical Data](#)

2023 ▼

Limited Government Rating  
**2023: 80.23%**

([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

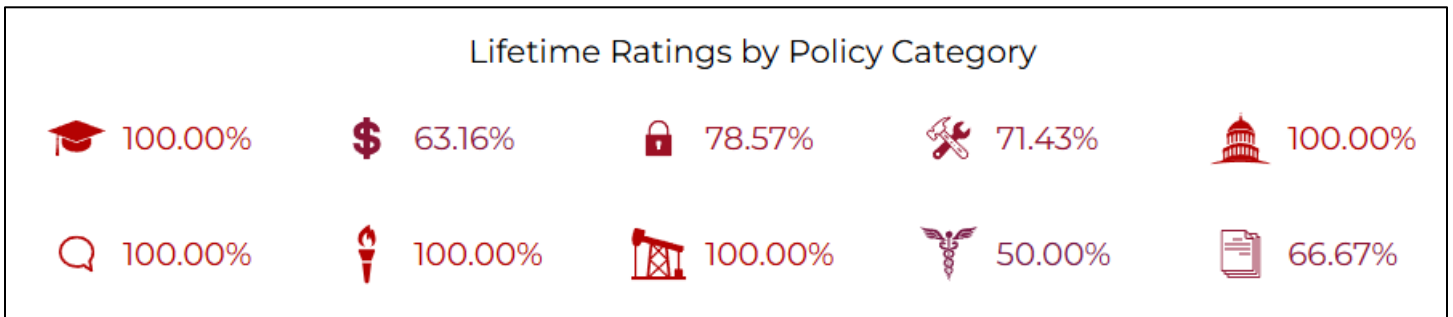
**Barrett Received A 63.16% Rating On Tax And Fiscal Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**Barrett Received A 78.57% Rating On Local And National Security Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**Barrett Received A 71.43% Rating On Workforce And Labor Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**Barrett Received A 50% Rating On Healthcare Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**Barrett Received A 66.67% Rating On Regulations Policy.** ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)



([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

# Issues

## Taxes And Fees

**In 2024, Barrett Voted With 21 Democrats Against SB 2103 Which Reduces State Franchise Tax.** ([SB 2103](#), Passed 69-23, 4/25/24, Barrett Voted No)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Against SB 894 Which Exempts A Person Under 18 Years Of Age From Paying For A Drivers License Or ID.** ([SB 894](#), Passed 68-13, 4/20/23, Barrett Voted No)

## Healthcare

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On HB 1309 Which Drives Up Life Insurance Premiums By Prohibiting Insurers From Requesting Genetic Data Or Testing As A Condition Of Coverage.** ([HB 1309](#), Passed 95-1, 3/20/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill prohibits life insurance companies from requesting that policy applicants or existing customers provide genetic data or take a genetic test as a condition of receiving or continuing coverage. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as there may be a role for government to require a disclosure or certain protections for existing policy holders, however, there is certainly no role for government to impose a blanket ban on the consideration of genetic data for future policy offerings. Such government interference in the marketplace limits the ability of insurers to accurately assess and price risk, which ultimately drives up life insurance premiums.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On HB 355 Which Hikes Health Insurance Premiums By Mandating Policies Provide Additional Mammogram Diagnostic And Supplemental Screenings Without Any Co-Pay Or Deductible.** ([HB 355](#), Passed 92-0, 4/21/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill establishes a new health insurance mandate concerning mammograms which requires insurers to cover additional diagnostic imaging and supplemental breast screening services without any co-pay or cost-sharing by the patient. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as each and every health insurance mandate or price control on co-payments prevents an individual from selecting a plan with just basic or customized coverages to fit their specific needs. As a result, health insurers are forced to only offer costly plans loaded with coverages that most individuals do not need. This can result in lower-income or younger individuals choosing to purchase no insurance plan at all due to the high cost.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On SB 1275 Which Hikes Health Insurance Premiums By Imposing New Coverage Mandates For Medical Laboratory Services.** ([SB 1275](#), Passed 93-0, 4/21/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill establishes a new health insurance mandate which requires all healthcare policies offered in the state to allow any licensed medical laboratory to be a participating provider under the same terms and conditions as any other medical laboratory. Under the bill, insurers also may not prohibit individuals from selecting the participating laboratory of their choice, and must apply the same deductible, coinsurance, or copayment for an employee group to all laboratory services. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as this mandate infringes the right to contract and imposes significant additional costs onto insurers by weakening the ability for insurers to negotiate prices with medical laboratories. These costs are then passed onto all consumers through higher health insurance premiums.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)



## **Budget**

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On HB 1545 Which Fuels Out-Of-Control Spending Through A \$56.2 Billion Budget (6.5% Increase) With Countless Provisions That Further Grow The Size And Scope Of Government.** ([HB 1545](#), Passed 94-5, 4/19/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill, the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget, represents a 6.5% increase over the prior year's budget. Some of the major new and increased spending initiatives within the bill include \$2.7 billion in higher education subsidies, \$350 million for Memphis sports facilities, \$200 million for a performing arts center, \$340 million in FastTrack economic development, and \$288 million for additional government parks and nature areas. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as the budget is chock-full of wasteful and unnecessary spending initiatives (as mentioned above) which directly violate limited government principles and far exceed the basic and necessary functions of government. For example, instead of forcing taxpayers to further subsidize things like the career paths of select individuals and woke college campuses, lawmakers could have made the state much more economically competitive by lowering the corporate tax rate. The state must pursue every available avenue to reign in its out-of-control spending, as, when coupled with the over \$185 trillion federal liabilities, represents the greatest existential threat facing this country.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment**

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Against SB 7085 Which Requires Safety Storage Training Be Added To Future Firearm Training Courses.** ([SB 7085](#), Passed 77-9, 8/28/23, Barrett Voted No)

## **Criminal Justice**

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Against HB 7073 Which Requires A Juvenile Court Impose A Blended Sentence On Certain Adjudicated Delinquents For Certain.** ([HB 7073](#), Passed 64-4, 8/28/23, Barrett Voted No)

## **Occupational Licensing**

**In 2023, Barrett Voted For SB 394 Advancing Government Overreach Through The Creation Of A Committee To Propose New Regulations And Licensing Mandates On Doulas.** ([SB 394](#), Passed 72-15, 4/20/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill creates an advisory committee to propose the creation of additional regulations and occupational licensure requirements for individuals providing doula services. The committee is also directed to study providing doula services to welfare recipients under TennCare and recommend reimbursement rates for providers of the service. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as further government mandates and regulations merely restrict competition and drive-up costs for receiving doula services. Additionally, the state's Medicaid welfare program already costs taxpayers over \$14 billion annually - or 20% of the entire state budget. The state must pursue every available avenue to reign in its out-of-control spending, as, when coupled with the over \$185 trillion federal liabilities, represents the greatest existential threat facing this country.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On SB 93 Which Enriches Cosmetology Schools And Restricting Competition By Forcing Individuals Who Provide "Eyelash Extension Services" To Undergo 300 Hours Of Classroom Training, Examination And Licensure.** ([SB 93](#), Passed 67-15, 4/10/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill requires anyone who provides "eyelash extension services" in the state to become licensed, pay a fee, undergo examination, and attend a cosmetology school with at least 300 hours of classroom instruction. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as the state's draconian Department of Cosmetology - which should be eliminated entirely - represents one of the very worst forms of cronyism and government overreach. This government entity merely exists to restrict competition and enrich cosmetology schools through outrageous occupational licensure requirements for services which present little to no risk to consumers. For example, to merely provide haircuts, an individual must obtain a cosmetology license and complete 1,500 hours of classroom training. In comparison, to become an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in Tennessee an individual must undergo roughly 150 hours of training - which is in line with the national average.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

## Other

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Against HB 7008 Which Requires A Qualified Mental Health Professional To Protect An Identified Victim When Under Threat Of Bodily Harm.** ([HB 7008](#), Passed 82-5, 8/28/23, Barrett Voted No)

**In 2024, Barrett Voted Against SB 2968 Which Establishes The East Bank Development Authority For The Metropolitan Government Of Nashville And Davidson.** ([SB 2968](#), Passed 59-18, 4/25/24, Barrett Voted No)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted For SB 555 Which Sticks The Government’s Influence Into Even More Tourist Projects.** ([SB 555](#), Passed 92-0, 3/20/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill expands the list of projects that may be funded under the Tourism Development Authority Act.” ([American Conservative Union](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted For SB 60 Which Extends The Life Of The Corn Promotion Board.** ([SB 60](#), Passed 96-0, 2/13/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill extends the sunset date on the corn promotion board to 2028. CPAC believes that taxpayer resources should not be used to promote corn and opposed this bill.” ([American Conservative Union](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On HB 254 Which Hikes Tax Burdens On Tennesseans By Further Expanding A Welfare Program Which Reimburses Property Taxes To Certain Homeowners.** ([HB 254](#), Passed 88-0, 4/21/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill further expands a program which provides property tax reimbursements to homeowners who are low-income and age 65 and older or disabled. Under existing law, the value limit for which the subsidies are calculated is \$27,000 (\$31,700 with the inflation adjustment). This bill increases the value limit to \$40,000. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as this bill further grows one of Tennessee's many welfare spending programs. The state must pursue every available avenue to reign in its out-of-control spending, as, when coupled with the over \$185 trillion federal liabilities, represents the greatest existential threat facing this country.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted For SB 276 Forcing Taxpayers To Provide Excessive Paid Leave Benefits To Certain State Employees.** ([SB 276](#), Passed 75-19, 4/3/23, Barrett Voted Yes)

- “This bill provides staff who work within the executive or judicial branch of government with 6 weeks of paid family leave following the birth or adoption of a child. The bill also provides the staff with an additional 6 weeks of unpaid leave, with the 12 weeks being in addition to all other sick, annual, and other leave benefits provided to state employees. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as these generous leave benefits exceed what is provided to most private-



sector employees. Additionally, such benefits are unneeded to attract staff to executive and judicial branch roles, as such positions are highly sought after due to the experience, connections and influence that is received - additional benefits that typically propel staff to distinguished careers.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

**In 2023, Barrett Voted Yes On SB 626 Which Hikes Tax Burdens On Tennesseans Through A Crony Cap On Aviation Fuel Taxes Which Enriches Fedex And Other Airlines.** ([SB 626](#), Passed 76-13, 4/21/23, Barrett Voted Yea)

- “This bill further lowers the aviation fuel tax cap, thus reducing the amount of taxes that FedEx and other corporations are required to pay - which helps cover the costs of the state airports which they utilize. In 2015 the legislature established a \$21.375 million cap on the amount of aviation fuel taxes a company had to pay, then lowered the cap to \$5 million. This bill continues to reduce the cap annually until it reaches only \$1 million in 2024. The loss revenue required to cover the airport operational costs will come from the general fund. Oppose is the Limited Government Position as the aviation fuel tax serves as a user fee, ensuring that companies which utilize state airports and the associated government services are responsible for a portion of the costs they impose on the state. This cronyism enriches FedEx and other corporations who utilize the airports at the expense of everyday Tennesseans who will now face higher tax burdens to make up for this corporate welfare.” ([The Institute For Legislative Analysis](#), Accessed 2/25/25)

# Global Warming

## Barrett Wrote An LTE Blasting Republicans Over Global Warming

**In 2007, Barrett Wrote A Letter To The Editor In *The Tennessean* Blasting Republican Views On Global Warming And Climate Change.** (Jody Barrett "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR." *The Tennessean*, 2/6/07)

## Barrett Defended Al Gore's "Global Warming Awareness Campaign"

**Barrett Called It "Ironical" That Republican Leaders Calling Al Gore's "Global Warming Awareness Campaign" "Propaganda" Because A Coalition Of Scientists Confirmed Fossil Fuels Cause Global Warming.** "How ironical that Republican leaders like A. J. McCall are quoted in *The Tennessean* as suggesting that the science behind Al Gore's global warming awareness campaign is flawed and nothing more than propaganda less than 24 hours after an international coalition of scientists confirm that fossil fuels are causing global warming?" (Jody Barrett "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR." *The Tennessean*, 2/6/07)

**Barrett Says It's "Even More Ironical That Republicans Lambaste Gore For His 'Liberal Environmental Propaganda.'" "Even more ironical that Republicans lambaste Gore for his 'liberal environmental propaganda' a week after President Bush, the leader of the Republican Party, calls for a 20 percent reduction in our gasoline use in his State of the Union address."** (Jody Barrett "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR." *The Tennessean*, 2/6/07)

**Barrett Ends By Sarcastically Mocking A Reader Who Called It "Pompous" To Think Humans Can Affect mother Nature By Saying It's "Pompous" Humans Could Protect Animals And Might Be Able To "Save Ourselves."** "One reader suggested it was 'pompous' to think that human beings could affect Mother Nature. I suppose it was 'pompous' to think human beings could protect hundreds of different species of animals from extinction, too. I guess it's probably 'pompous' to think we might just be able to save ourselves. Jody Barrett Dickson 37055" (Jody Barrett "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR." *The Tennessean*, 2/6/07)

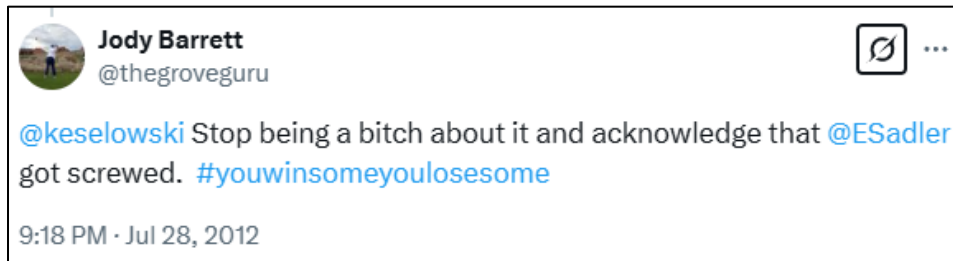
## Barrett Offered His Home As Part Of A Tour To Show Off His "Eco-Friendly Home"

**In 2013, Barrett Offered His Home As Part Of A Tour To Show Off His "Eco-Friendly Home."** "The Dickson County Soil and Water Conservation District hosted its 39th annual Dickson County Farm Tour on July 10 with 138 people taking part in the seven tour stops that represented the county's various agriculture industries. For the first stop, four buses carried participants to Jody and Holly Barrett's eco-friendly home. Jody Barrett shared information about their home including his dramatically lower utility bills due to the ventilation and structure of their home that allows them to use the HVAC system very minimally." ("Tour touts county's agriculture," *The Tennessean*, 7/26/13)

## Other Tweets

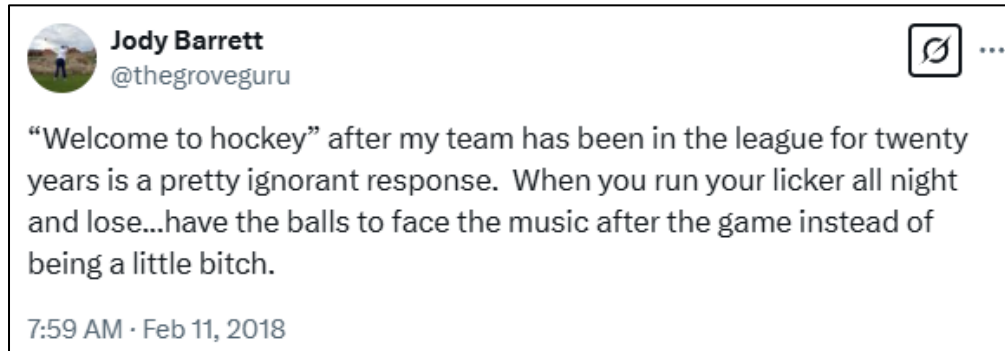
### Barrett Has Used Name Calling Against Others On Twitter

**In 2012 Barrett Tweeted “@Keselowski Stop Being A Bitch About It And Acknowledge That @ESadler Got Screwed. #Youwinsomeyoulosesome”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/28/12)



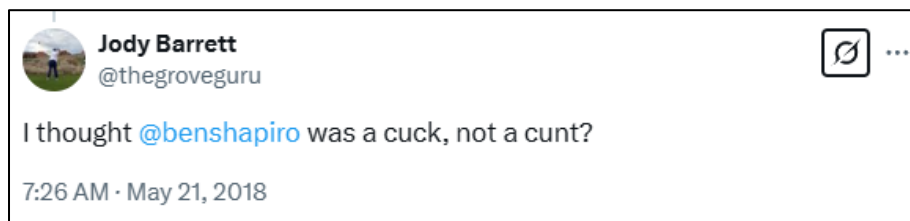
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 7/28/12)

**In 2018, Barrett Tweeted In Part “Have The Balls To Face The Music After The Game Instead Of Being A Little Bitch.”** ““Welcome to hockey” after my team has been in the league for twenty years is a pretty ignorant response. When you run your licker all night and lose...have the balls to face the music after the game instead of being a little bitch.” ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/11/18)



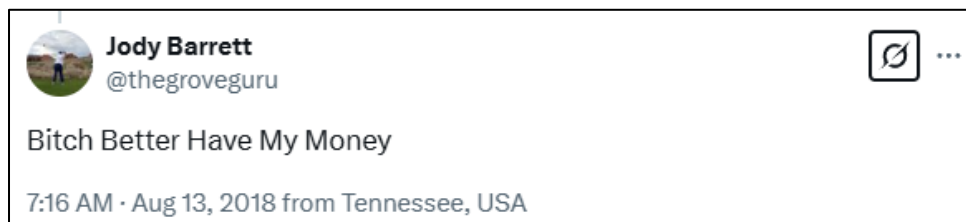
([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/11/18)

**In 2018, Barrett Tweeted “I Thought @Benshapiro Was A Cuck, Not A Cunt?”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/11/18)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 2/11/18)

**In 2018, Barrett Tweeted “Bitch Better Have My Money”** ([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 8/13/18)



([Jody Barrett Twitter](#), 8/13/18)

# **2008 Presidential Campaign**

## **Barrett Was A Supporter Of Fred Thompson's 2008 Presidential Campaign**

**In 2007, Barrett Was A Supporter Of Fred Thompson's Presidential Campaign.** "Fred Thompson is planning a trip to Dickson County, according to Jody Barrett, a local attorney and supporter of Thompson for president. Barrett attended a fundraiser for Thompson, the former United States senator from Tennessee and Republican presidential candidate Monday in Chattanooga." (Patricia Lynch Kimbro, "Fred Thompson coming to Dickson," The Tennessean, 9/14/07)

**Barrett Has Connection's To Country Music Star John Rich Of Big & Rich.** "Barrett's attendance at the event was at the request of John Rich, member of country music duo Big & Rich and entertainment ambassador for Friends of Fred Thompson. While there, Barrett met Thompson and his wife, Jeri. Rich, a 1992 graduate of Dickson County High School, contacted Barrett to ask him to lead a fundraising campaign for Thompson at the local level in Dickson County. 'I have been told that a presidential campaign has not been in Dickson County since Richard Nixon ran for the office the first time in 1960,' said Barrett, who is looking for local volunteers and funds for Thompson." (Patricia Lynch Kimbro, "Fred Thompson coming to Dickson," The Tennessean, 9/14/07)

**Barrett Planned A Fundraiser For Thompson In Dickson.** "Barrett said he and local businessmen, Larry Redden and William 'Spook' Spann, met with Phil Martin, national chairman for Friends of Fred Thompson, and discussed planning a fundraising event in Dickson County that would be attended by the candidate. Barrett said he is working with Martin and Rich to set a date that works for all parties involved. Rich has pledged to attend and perform at the event and bring other well-known performers such as Gretchen Wilson of 'Redneck Woman' fame and Cowboy Troy, Barrett added." (Patricia Lynch Kimbro, "Fred Thompson coming to Dickson," The Tennessean, 9/14/07)

**Barrett Said He Voted For Mike Huckabee After Thompson Dropped Out.** "But it's a long time between now and November, said Jody Barrett, a Fred Thompson supporter who voted for Mike Huckabee after the former Tennessee senator bowed out of the campaign. 'I voted for Huckabee because he shares more of the conservative values that Thompson did. I think McCain's voting history shows he has a tendency to jump party lines and be more liberal on certain social issues, such as immigration. I feel McCain changes his position on issues just to get votes,' Barrett said." (Patricia Lynch Kimbro, "Clinton runs away with primary vote in Dickson County," The Tennessean, 2/13/08)

## **Barrett Said Dickson Support For Hillary Wasn't Surprising**

**Barrett Said Dickson Support For Hillary Wasn't Surprising But Obama Had Raised More Money.** "He said the local support behind Clinton wasn't surprising. 'However, the biggest tell-tale sign is fundraising and Obama has raised twice as much money as Hillary in the last two months. That's a good indication of support. I'd say Obama has a good shot at being the nominee. But it's not over by any means,' Barrett said. It's weird, Barrett said, but he believes people are looking for 'a little bit of each candidate and sew them together, that's what people are looking for in a candidate.' Barrett said he doesn't feel Huckabee has enough delegates to win." (Patricia Lynch Kimbro, "Clinton runs away with primary vote in Dickson County," The Tennessean, 2/13/08)