

## Trump Indicted DeDoofus Punked

### DeDoofus Punked by Disney

*Michael K. Cantwell*

Like Icarus, Ron DeSantis flies too close to the sun. He runs Florida like his personal fiefdom, lashing out at anyone who criticizes him. Picking a fight with Disney may be his Waterloo, however.

Enraged by Disney's opposition to his homophobic "Don't Say Gay" bill, DeSantis tried to retaliate by directing his minions to pass a bill dissolving the Reedy Creek Special District, stripping Disney of its self-governing status, effective June 2023.

But that would have burdened taxpayers with over \$1 billion in debt taken on by Disney as well as funding the police and fire departments and other services previously provided by Disney.

So DeSantis wiped the egg off his face and directed his minions to pass a law reversing the dissolution, renaming the district, and giving him the right to appoint its board. Disney said nothing as DeSantis began bumptiously proclaiming that "a new sheriff is in town." They said nothing when he appointed a new board. That's because they had already disarmed DeSantis and his deputies.

The day before DeSantis named his board, the Disney-appointed board passed an agreement that gave Disney control over operations in the district for decades. DeSantis was too busy celebrating his victory in the culture wars to pay attention to the public notices of the meeting.

This means that DeSantis's board, including the former pastor who claims tap water can make people gay, has little power. But DeDoofus is not through embarrassing himself or wasting taxpayer money. He's hired four law firms (to the tune of up to \$795 an hour) to scrutinize the agreement.

He's warned Disney, "you ain't seen nothing yet," like some tough guy in a comic strip, But he's just the hick who's about to be humiliated again.

### Donald, Get Ready, There's a Trial A Comin'

*Michael K. Cantwell*

"If it be now, 'tis not to come. If it be not to come, it will be now. If it be not now, yet it will come—the readiness is all."

*Hamlet*

It *is* now, Donald, but it is also *to come*. Alvin Bragg is the first but will not be the last. Fani Willis and Jack Smith are waiting in the wings.

But being convicted or even going to the slammer may not be your biggest worry. Your legal woes are helping propel you to the Republican nomination once again, and that presents an existential threat to the Republican Party.

Of course, the Party of Big Lies is lining up behind you at this point because it has no choice. You already lead DeSantis by more than 30 points in the latest poll, and a substantial majority of Republican voters see no problem with a man under indictment (or even convicted) running for president (so long as that man is you). Clearly, you are the presumptive nominee, and I hope you get the nod.

Other than the wingnuts in the Freedom Caucus ("whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad"), most Republicans facing reelection will be considerably less sanguine about your third run. They understand the Hobson's choice that awaits them if you're their standard bearer.

They can distance themselves from you and lose the knuckle-dragging Neanderthal vote. Or they can repeat your Big Lies and lose everyone else.

Now, just imagine *you* ran a criminal enterprise and someone was threatening to destroy it. What would you do? That's what you should be worrying about.

And remember, Donald, the readiness is all.

## Thank a Democrat

1964 Civil Rights Act	Food Stamp Act	National Science Foundation Act
1965 Voting Rights Act	Freedom of Information Act	National Voter Registration Act (a.k.a) Motor Voter Act
Affordable Care Act	GI Bill of Rights	Social Security Act
AmeriCorps	Medicare and Medicaid	Unemployment Compensation Act
CDC	Minimum Wage Act	Workers Compensation Act
Family and Medical Leave Act	National Labor Relations Act	

### **American Rescue Plan Act, Signed March 11, 2021**

- Provided \$1400 to every taxpayer and each of his or her dependents
- Expanded coverage and reduced premiums under the Affordable Care Act for 9 million Americans.
- Expanded and extended unemployment benefits.
- Increased SNAP benefits
- Increased and expanded Child Tax Credit
- Made largest investment in child care assistance since World War II
- Increased the Earned Income Tax Credit for frontline workers who helped their communities through the COVID crisis
- Invested \$160 billion to provide supplies and vaccines to combat COVID's heavy toll
- Distributed \$360 billion in emergency funding for local governments to help keep front line public workers on the job and paid
- Provided emergency grants and loans to hard-hit small businesses
- Established a special sign-up period for the Affordable Care Act, adding 800,000 previously uninsured to the ranks of the insured.

### **Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Signed November 15, 2021**

- The largest federal investment in public transit
- Makes the largest federal investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak
- Makes the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the interstate highway system
- Makes the largest investment in clean drinking water and waste water infrastructure in American history, delivering clean water to millions of families
- Ensures every American has access to reliable high-speed internet
- Helps us tackle the climate crisis by making the largest investment in clean energy transmission and EV infrastructure in history; electrifying thousands of school and transit buses across the country; and creating a new Grid Deployment Authority to build a resilient, clean, 21st century electric grid

### **Inflation Reduction Act, Signed August 16, 2022**

- Invests \$369 billion in energy security and fighting climate change
- Invests \$64 billion to extend Affordable Care Act subsidies
- Authorizes Medicare to negotiate with drug companies and expands Medicare benefits, capping costs and out-of-pocket drug expenses
- Provides \$80 billion for tax modernization and enforcement, which is estimated to reduce the deficit by recovering as much as \$203.7 billion from tax cheats
- Closes tax loopholes by imposing a 15% minimum tax payment on companies with over \$1 billion of income and a 1% excise tax on stock buybacks
- Expands Medicare benefits: provides free vaccines (2023), caps insulin costs at \$35/month (2023) and caps out-of-pocket drug costs to an estimated \$4,000 or less in 2024, settling at \$2,000 in 2025
- Provides \$4 billion for drought resiliency in western states