

Kamala Hood

September 13, 2024

American politics is largely devoted to the grand task of taking from some and giving to others, a sort of Robin Hood mania that has nothing to do with giving back to taxpayers what was taken from taxpayers (as in the legend) — or doing much of anything for the poor — but, instead, to ostentatiously give to some and quietly take from as many people as possible.

Nevertheless, that giving is not always ostentations. Sometimes it is surreptitious.

Or at least not ballyhooed.

Kamala Harris has taken up an old Democratic Party stalking point: *soak the rich!* Though she tries not to mention just how much money she and her fellow Biden Administration insiders have been

giving to a few big corporations.

"Despite Harris' rhetoric of fighting for the middle class," <u>writes</u> Jack Salmon at *Reason*, "her policies have disproportionately benefited the wealthy and large corporations while leaving middle- and lower-income Americans behind. Far from soaking the rich, Harris' legacy has been one of feeding them."

Corporate subsidies have "exploded," explains Mr. Salmon, going from a ten-year budget allocation of \$1.2 trillion in 2021 to now surpassing \$2 trillion.

Nearly doubled!

"The beneficiaries of this largesse are extremely concentrated," Salmon notes, most of it going to "just 15 large corporations, seven of which are foreign." Of course, a lot of this is under cover of "saving the planet" and fighting "climate change": "Wind turbine manufacturers like General Electric, Vestas, and Siemens/ Gamesa—who collectively produce 79 percent of all turbines—are among the biggest winners."

Robbing from the few and giving to the many makes neither for good mathematics or a winning political strategy. Robbing from the many and giving to the few is what usually works. But if your appeal is to "the left," you have to pretend to grab most from the super-rich few.

Your pals.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.