

# What was Joe on? GOP figures slam Biden's fierce and fiery State of the Union speech and compare it to his recent confused and bumbling recent performances that have sparked worries over his cognitive decline

By Paul Farrell For Dailymail.Com 04:00 EST 08 Mar 2024 , updated 04:06 EST 08 Mar 2024



- **Biden laid out his case for re-election in a speech that accused Donald Trump of threatening democracy, kowtowing to Russia and torpedoing a bill to tackle U.S. immigration woes**

President [Joe Biden fiery State of the Union address](#) Thursday earned plaudits from most sections of the media but [many have pointed](#) that the 81-year-old's fiery speech was in stark contrast to his recent bumbling and gaffe-laden remarks.

Biden laid out his case for re-election in a [speech that accused Donald Trump](#) of threatening democracy, kowtowing to [Russia](#) and torpedoing a

bill to tackle U.S. immigration woes.

In a 68-minute address to [Congress](#), the president drew sharp contrasts with his Republican rival and gamely challenged Trump's supporters in the chamber during a speech that was watched as much for the president's performance as it was for his policy proposals.

As the speech wore on, the word 'Adderall,' a pharmaceutical stimulant used to treat [ADHD](#) and narcolepsy, became a trending topic on [Twitter](#).

MAGA influencer Carter Hughes joked: 'How many milligrams of adderall did Joe Biden take tonight?' Another wrote: 'Joe Biden is on the most adderall I've ever seen anyone ever be on.'



Biden laid out his case for re-election in a speech that accused Donald Trump of threatening democracy, kowtowing to Russia and torpedoing a bill to tackle U.S. immigration woes



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As Biden delivered his remarks, the word 'Adderall' became a trending topic on Twitter



**Mollie** ✓

@MZHemingway

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Plot twist: It was Joe Biden's cocaine in the White House!

2:54 AM · Mar 8, 2024 · 149.3K Views

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**Tim Phares**

@phares\_tim



There is an adderall shortage in DC. Joe Biden consumed it all tonight.

4:56 AM · Mar 8, 2024 · 27 Views

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**Insurrection Barbie** ✓

@DefiantlyFree



Joe Biden needs Archie Bunker reruns and a glass of Ovaltine not 60 mg of adderall and a national audience.

3:20 AM · Mar 8, 2024 · 8,000 Views

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**anna**

@twtrlssanna



Joe Biden is on the most adderall I've ever seen anyone ever be on

2:33 AM · Mar 8, 2024 · 1,494 Views

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**Carter Hughes** ✓

@itscarterhughes



How many milligrams of adderall did Joe Biden take tonight?

5:33 AM · Mar 8, 2024 · 3,239 Views

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Right-wing figures on X had a field day, accusing Biden of taking pharmaceuticals

In recent months, Biden speeches have become synonymous with gaffes as he mixed up names and places while also appearing lost when being asked to move.

[DailyMail.com earlier reported](#) that Biden spent the past five days preparing for his address, trying to cover all the possibilities: drinking tea to keep his throat smooth, reading a print out of his remarks - with giant type - in case the teleprompter goes out, and hours of practice sessions.

Another right-wing figure, Insurrection Barbie tweeted: 'Joe Biden needs Archie Bunker reruns and a glass of Ovaltine not 60 mg of Adderall and a national audience.'

'There is an Adderall shortage in DC. Joe Biden consumed it all tonight,' joked another person.

Taking a step further, The Federalist editor-in-chief and Fox News contributor Mollie Hemingway said: 'Plot twist: It was Joe Biden's cocaine in the White House!,' an apparent reference to the small amount of cocaine that was found in the West Wing in 2023.

In more standard remarks, former presidential candidate Sen. Ted. Cruz, whose wife was called 'ugly' by Donald Trump in 2016, told Sean Hannity: 'Joe Biden was angry, he was bitter, he was screaming the entire night. He was radical and extreme.'

The [official GOP response](#) saw Alabama Republican Senator Katie Britt call Biden 'diminished.'

Britt, a 42-year-old rising star in the Republican party, delivered the speech from her kitchen.

'Right now, our commander in chief is not in command. The free world deserves better than a dithering and diminished leader. America deserves leaders who recognize that secure borders, stable prices, safe streets and a strong defense are actually the cornerstones of a great nation,' she said in part.

It's the third year in a row that Republicans have picked a woman to speak to the nation after Biden leaves the podium — and Britt's remarks echo the same dark vision for the future under Biden and Democrats laid out by Arkansas Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders in 2023 and Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds in 2022.

'For years, the left has coddled criminals and defunded the police — all while letting repeat offenders walk free,' Britt said in her response.

'The result is tragic but foreseeable — from our small towns to America's

most iconic city streets, life is getting more and more dangerous.'

She criticized Biden's foreign policy, including his chaotic 2021 withdrawal from Afghanistan and talk of a renewed nuclear deal with Iran.

She did not directly mention Ukraine's war with Russia, as Biden has aggressively pushed the Republican-led House to take up a Senate-passed aid package.

She did not mention Trump, the front-runner for the Republican presidential nomination, whom Britt endorsed in December.

But she said the country is at a crossroads, and 'I know which choice our children deserve – and the choice the Republican Party is fighting for.'

Many on the left were unhappy with Biden labeling the killer of Georgia nursing student Laken Riley an 'illegal.'

Authorities have arrested on murder and assault charges Jose Ibarra , a Venezuelan man who entered the U.S. illegally and was allowed to stay to pursue his immigration case. He has not yet entered a plea to the charges.

That was disappointing to Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., the chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. 'I wish he hadn't engaged with Marjorie Taylor Greene and used the word illegal,' she told the AP after the speech.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif, the speaker emeritus, said afterward on CNN, 'Now he should have said 'undocumented,' but it's not a big thing.'

Greene had handed out the buttons earlier in the day. Biden also looked up to the gallery where many guests were seated, but Riley's parents were not there.

**Rep. Mike Collins, a Georgia Republican, said this week that he had invited Riley's parents to the State of the Union address, but they had 'chosen to stay home as they grieve the loss of their daughter.'**