

# "Afford"

Americans United for Change  
September 20, 2007  
TV(:30)

<b>Script</b>	<b>Facts</b>
<p>What if one of your children was sick and you couldn't afford a doctor? It happens to many Kentucky families.</p> <p>Most of the senate – republicans and democrats – recently voted to help thousands of uninsured children in Kentucky to get the health care they need.</p> <p>Yet senator Mitch McConnell sided with the big insurance companies and voted no.</p> <p>Tell Mitch McConnell to stand up for the children in Kentucky, not the special interests in Washington.</p>	<p><b>FACT: McConnell voted against SCHIP reauthorization.</b></p> <p>In August 2007, Senator McConnell voted against legislation to reauthorize SCHIP. Passed by a vote of 68-31, R 18-31; D 48-0 (ND 43-0, SD 5-0); I 2-0. [HR 976, Vote# 307, 8/2/07]</p> <p><b>FACT: SCHIP will allow millions of children access to health insurance.</b></p> <p>SCHIP allows millions of children access to health insurance. "The Senate and the House have passed legislation that would dramatically increase funding and make it possible to sign up millions of new children for coverage." [Washington Post, 8/21/07]</p> <p><b>FACT: Kentucky has 98,000 uninsured children.</b></p> <p>According to the U.S. Census, as of 2006, Kentucky had 98,000 uninsured children. [US Census Bureau, August 28, 2007; Table HIA-5: Health Insurance Coverage Status &amp; Type of Coverage by State – Children Under 18: 1999 to 2006]</p> <p><b>FACT: McConnell has taken over \$120,000 from the health insurance industry.</b></p> <p>Senator McConnell has taken over \$120,000 from the health insurance industry. [CQ Moneyline, accessed 9/20/07, Center for Responsive Politics, accessed 9/20/07]</p> <p><b>FACT: Lexington editorial condemned McConnell for SCHIP position</b></p> <p><b>KY Editorial Condemned McConnell and Bush for Opposition to SCHIP Bill:</b> In a Lexington Herald editorial titled "<i>Democrats' health care victory; Changes in SCHIP, Medicare Advantage good for KY., Nation</i>", the paper criticized Senator McConnell's vote on SCHIP and his "scaled-down" legislative alternative.</p> <p><b>From the Lexington Herald:</b> "Meanwhile, in the Senate, a bipartisan plan to expand the successful health insurance program for kids, while leaving privatized Medicare untouched, was still too much for Sens. Mitch McConnell and Jim Bunning, who smelled socialized medicine in the air. McConnell touted a scaled-down alternative that he called Kids First (should have been Humana First.) But 18 Republicans deserted their leader, giving the expansion a large enough majority to withstand Bush's threatened veto. Bush and the Kentucky Republicans care more about protecting insurers from losing even a little business than they do about caring for families who can't afford health insurance. (The</p>

Lexington Herald Leader, 8/5/07)

**FACT: McConnell said he didn't want to discourage families from buying private insurance.**

In an op-ed to the Louisville Courier-Journal, McConnell said, "But I don't believe that raising taxes, discouraging families from buying private insurance or letting adults leech off a program designed for children should be part of the solution." [The Louisville Courier-Journal, 8/7/07]