



LCV VF – (:15 DIGITAL): “STAND UP” RESEARCH BACKUP

VISUAL	AUDIO	RESEARCH BACKUP
<p>B-Roll of Ron Johnson in committee. As he looks down, camera cuts to iPhone (with photo of the Koch Brothers on it, showing an incoming call from them). Johnson hand clicks on to receive the call.</p> <p>Senator Ron Johnson Washington, DC</p>	<p>When the oil billionaire Koch Brothers call, Senator Johnson answers.</p>	<p>Politico Reported That Sen. Ron Johnson Was Regarded As “Well-Liked By The Big-Spending Koch Brothers, Who Are Sure To Support His Reelection.” According to Politico, “That said, [Sen. Ron] Johnson’s best asset is his ability to self-fund a campaign. He’s also well-liked by the big-spending Koch brothers, who are sure to support his reelection. The well-honed political machine of newly reelected Republican Gov. Scott Walker could be a difference-maker too.” [Politico, 4/5/15]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Americans For Prosperity Announced That They Would Back Sen. Ron Johnson With Ads In 2016 Because They Were “Impressed With” His Work. According to the National Journal, “Americans for Prosperity, ‘the flagship group in Charles and David Koch’s network of politically active non-profits,’ laid out which senators it plans to ‘back with TV ads’ in 2016. AFP president Tim Phillips said the group has ‘been impressed with’ Sens. Ron Johnson (R-WI), Rob Portman (R-OH), Pat Toomey (R-PA), and Kelly Ayotte (R-NH). ‘But Sen. Mark Kirk (R-IL) is less likely to get air support next year.’ Phillips: ‘He does not have a record we’re excited about from an economic freedom perspective.’” [National Journal, 11/6/15]</p> <p>2014: Johnson Has “Gotten Fairly Close To The Kochs.” According to Slate Magazine, “Wisconsin Sen. Ron Johnson had actually gotten fairly close to the Kochs, dining with David Koch at the 2012 Republican National Convention and appearing at their donor conferences. ‘I think someone like David Koch, who’s donated a billion dollars to cancer research, I think someone like Charles Koch and the policies they’re primarily promoting, I think they are educating people on the free enterprise system, which just happens to be the best economic system,’ said Johnson after his RLC speech. ‘It’s the one that’s lifted more people out of poverty than any system in the history of the world. From what I know of the Koch brothers, that is what they’re trying to promote.” [Slate Magazine, 6/2/14]</p> <p>Op-Ed: Johnson Was Described At “As The Kochs’ Model Legislator.” In a Politico op-ed Kenneth P. Vogel wrote, “On the final full day of the seminar, I noticed Senator Johnson schmoozing two donors at a poolside cabana. I’d heard someone who attended these seminars describe Johnson as the Kochs’ ‘model legislator.’ Figuring I had to make my last few moments count, I walked over and sat down nearby. It was just me, the Kochs’</p>



		<p>model senator and the two wealthy backers he was talking to, identified by their name tags as Ned Diefenthal and Rob Ryan.” [Politico, 5/29/14]</p> <p>Johnson Is “A Favorite Of The Koch Brothers’ Donor Network.” According to Politico, “First-term Republican Sen. Ron Johnson won his seat in one of the biggest surprises of the 2010 tea party wave, beating Democratic Sen. Russ Feingold. A rematch could be in store. Johnson, a wealthy businessman who self-financed his first campaign, has not moved to the center during his term and a Marquette University poll last month had him with a worrisome 33 percent favorability rating. That could mean trouble in 2016. [...] But Johnson won’t be easy to beat: He spent \$9 million of his own money in the 2010 race, and there’s more where that came from. Plus, he’s a favorite of the Koch brothers’ donor network. Operatives tied to the groups say they are likely to spend heavily on his behalf.” [Politico, 11/12/14]</p>
<p>Images of Koch brothers and Senator Johnson</p> <p>Senator Johnson Votes with Koch Brothers 90% <i>AFP Scorecard, accessed 5/27/16; Senate Vote 63, 3/29/12; Think Progress, 3/29/12</i></p>	<p>Voting their way ninety percent of the time, and supporting special tax breaks.</p>	<p>Sen. Johnson Has A 90 Percent Lifetime Score From Americans For Prosperity. [AFP Scorecard, accessed 5/27/16]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Americans For Prosperity Is “Koch Brothers’ Main Political Arm.” In May 2014, Politico referred the Americans for Prosperity as the “Koch brothers’ main political arm.” [Politico, 5/9/14] <p>2012: Johnson Voted Against Repealing \$24 Billion In Tax Breaks For The Five Largest Oil Companies To Fund Extension Of Alternative Energy Tax Credits. In March 2012, Johnson effectively voted against a bill that would, according to the Evansville Courier and Press, “end several tax breaks worth \$24 billion over ten years for the five largest oil companies: BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Exxon Mobil and Shell. More than half of the savings would be allocated to deficit reduction, with the remaining \$11 billion used for tax credits to promote natural gas and propane as vehicle fuels, make U.S. homes more energy-efficient and spur the production of renewable and alternative fuels to reduce U.S. consumption of fossil fuels.” The vote was a motion to end debate on the bill, which failed 51 to 47. [Senate Vote 63, 3/29/12; Evansville Courier and Press, 4/1/12]</p> <p>Roll Call <u>Headline: “Senate Votes To Keep Oil And Gas Subsidies.”</u> [Roll Call, 3/29/12]</p> <p>Wall Street Journal <u>Headline: “Senate Rejects Attempt To End Oil Subsidies.”</u> [Wall Street Journal, 3/29/12]</p>



		<p>Think Progress Headline: “In 51-47 Vote, Senate Republicans Protect Big Oil Subsidies As Gasoline Profits Soar.” [Think Progress, 3/29/12]</p>
<p>Russ Feingold at town hall.</p> <p>Russ Feingold Strong For Wisconsin.</p>	<p>It’s why we need Russ Feingold. He’ll stand up to big oil polluters and fight for us.</p>	<p>Feingold Stood Up To The Koch Brothers For Influencing Senators Like Johnson To Obstruct The Supreme Court Nomination Process. In February 2016, WKOW reported, “Despite a new poll that shows 62 percent of Wisconsin voters want the vacant U.S. Supreme Court seat filled this year, Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wisconsin) told 27 News Wednesday he will continue to support a decision by Senate Republican leadership to block any new justice nominated by President Barack Obama ... ‘Sen. Johnson needs to do his job, not promise to obstruct a nominee that hasn’t even been named yet,’ wrote Michael Tyler, Feingold’s campaign spokesperson. ‘Washington insiders and the Koch Brothers may have given Senator Johnson marching orders to back their obstruction, but the people of Wisconsin expect him to his uphold his constitutional responsibility. Senator Johnson’s blind partisanship on this issue is bad for Wisconsin and bad for America.’” [WKOW, 2/24/16]</p> <p>Sen. Feingold Voted To Rescind Billions In Big Oil Subsidies, And Using The Savings To Invest In Energy Efficiency. In June 2010, Sen. Feingold voted for legislation that would “cut \$35 billion in subsidies for Bil [sic] Oil. \$25 billion of the savings would go toward reducing the deficit and \$10 billion would fund a grant program encouraging energy-efficient buildings.” The amendment failed 35-61. [S.Amdt.4318 to S.Amdt.4301 to H.R.4213, Vote 187, 6/15/10; Think Progress, 6/15/10]</p>
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