



LCV VF – (:30 DIGITAL): “STRONG” 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).</p> <p>Senator Ron Johnson Washington, DC</p> <p>Johnson’s hand clicks on to receive the call.</p> <p>“Charles and David Koch, released a \$2 million” campaign supporting Johnson <i>The Hill, 5/2/16</i></p>	<p>Voiceover Announcer: When the Oil Billionaire Koch Brothers call.</p> <p>Senator Johnson answers.</p> <p>They’re spending millions supporting Johnson.</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"> • 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 nonprofits,’ 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>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’ 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</p>



		<p>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>May 2016: Freedom Partners Action Fund, A Koch-Backed Group, Launched \$2 Million Ad Buy Attacking Feingold. In May 2016, Freedom Partners Action Fund announced that it was "launching an approximately \$2 million television and digital ad buy in Wisconsin highlighting how former U.S. Senator Russ Feingold ignored a brewing scandal at a local Department of Veterans Affairs medical center during his time in office." According to Politico, Freedom Action Fund is a super PAC "spearheaded by the Koch brothers." [Freedom Partners Action Fund, 5/2/16; Politico, 6/17/14]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hill: Koch-Backed Super-PAC "Released A \$2 Million TV And Digital Ad Buy." In May 2016, The Hill reported, "Freedom Partners Action Fund, a super-PAC that spearheads the conservative donor network helmed by billionaire industrialists Charles and David Koch, released a \$2 million TV and digital ad buy in Wisconsin..." [The Hill, 5/2/16] <p>August 2016: Koch-Backed Groups Have Already Spent Nearly \$2.3 Million On Wisconsin Senate Race. In July 2016, The Hill reported, "Freedom Partners, a conservative group tied to billionaires Charles and David Koch's donor network, canceled \$2.3 million in airtime they had reserved in the beginning of August ... Americans for Prosperity, another group tied to the Koch network, has spent nearly \$1 million on ads opposing Feingold. The Club for Growth spent more than \$500,000, and Freedom Partners had already dropped \$1.3 million into the state." [The Hill, 7/20/16]</p>
<p>Images of Koch brothers and Ron Johnson</p> <p>Senator Johnson Votes with Koch Brothers 90% <i>AFP Scorecard, accessed 5/27/16</i></p> <p>"Senate Republicans Protect Big Oil Subsidies"</p>	<p>And Johnson voted their way ninety percent of the time – and supported special tax breaks for big oil polluters.</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</p>



<p><i>Senate Vote 63, 3/29/12; Think Progress, 3/29/12</i></p>		<p>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 Headline: “Senate Votes To Keep Oil And Gas Subsidies.” [Roll Call, 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. Footage of wind, solar, and biofuels.</p> <p>Russ Feingold End Special Tax Breaks for Big Oil Polluters <i>WKOW, 2/24/16; Senate Vote 187, 6/15/10</i></p>	<p>It’s why we need Russ Feingold. He’ll stand up to the Koch Brothers and big oil polluters.</p> <p>End their special tax breaks.</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>
<p>Russ Feingold Create Clean Energy Jobs <i>Washington Post, 6/5/06</i></p> <p>Russ Feingold Strong For Wisconsin.</p>	<p>And invest in a clean energy future – creating jobs in wind, solar, and biofuels.</p> <p>Russ Feingold. Standing Strong. For Wisconsin.</p>	<p>Feingold: Alternative Energy Is A “Win-Win Situation” That “Would Be Great For The Environment, And It Would Be Great For Jobs.” During a June 2006 interview with the Washington Post, Feingold said, “People don’t understand why we don’t have a real alternative energy program. They know this is the real win-win situation of all times. If we go with biodiesel, if we go with ethanol, if we go with fuel cells, if we go with renewable energy portfolios, if we go with wind energy, if we put resources behind it, they know you can get away from dependence on a number of countries that are not necessarily our</p>



		<p>best friends, that it would be great for the environment, and it would be great for jobs.” [Washington Post, 6/5/06]</p> <p>Sen. Feingold Voted For Legislation Extending Several Clean Energy Tax Credits. In July 2008, Sen. Feingold voted to advance to a bill that would “extend a 30 percent investment-tax credit for solar energy and fuel cells – as well as a 10 percent investment tax credit for microturbines – for eight years, and would allow public utilities, which are currently excluded, to claim these credits. It would extend the residential solar credit for eight years, double the annual cap from \$2,000 to \$4,000, and allow small-wind projects and geothermal heat pumps to also receive the credit. Among other provisions, the bill would extend production tax credits for wind facilities for one year and for biomass, geothermal, ocean energy and a few other technologies for three years, and it would provide \$2 billion in bonds to finance projects using those same technologies. It also would provide \$1.5 billion in tax credits for carbon-capture and -sequestration demonstration products.” The cloture motion was rejected 51-43. [S.3335, Vote 192, 7/30/08; Green Tech Media, 7/29/08]</p> <p>Sen. Feingold Voted For The “Strongest Global Warming Bill Ever To Make It To The Senate Floor,” Which Would Unleash A Clean Energy Economy That Created Jobs. In June 2008, Sen. Feingold voted to advance to the “strongest global warming bill ever to make it to the Senate floor ... Lieberman-Warner, like any cap-and-trade bill, would increase the cost of energy derived from fossil fuels while giving clean, alternative energies an enormous boost. In other words, it would drive up gasoline prices and coal-powered electricity rates in the short term (though by smaller amounts than the doomsayers were claiming last week) while delivering far greater energy savings over the long term — by unleashing a clean energy economy that creates jobs and helps free the U.S from dependence on foreign oil.” The motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed was rejected 52-44. [H.R.6049, Vote 150, 6/17/08; TIME, 6/9/08]</p>
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