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McConnell is the right man for the Senate

For 24 years, Mitch McConnell has served with energy and distinction in the United States Senate.

As a measure of esteem by GOP colleagues, McConnell has served as minority whip and had Republicans held the Senate in 2006, he would have been majority leader.

Since that election, he has served as Senate minority leader.

McConnell has effectively used his seniority and leadership positions to bring millions of our tax dollars back to Kentucky.

Late last month, his office announced the senator had provided \$73.6 million in funding for Kentucky in the defense bill. This included \$6 million to continue the development of technology defense systems at Western Kentucky University. This recent announcement is no more than the tip of the iceberg.

Bruce Lunsford, McConnell's opponent, would take years to achieve the clout to bring the kind of funds McConnell brings back to our state each year.

McConnell has derailed some of the really bad ideas of the Democrats, such as the windfall profits tax on oil company profits, which was highly discredited several decades ago.

Another bad idea that McConnell helped defeat was the ill-named Employee Freedom of Choice Act, which would take away an employee's right to cast secret ballots to determine whether they want a union in their workplace.

The idea of secret ballot elections are sacred to most Americans, but obviously not to the union bosses who covet new members and the dues they provide.

Presidential candidate Barack Obama has promised to sign this bill within 100 days if he is elected president and McConnell's leadership will be needed to stop this misguided and un-American idea.

McConnell's opponent has hammered the senator for voting for the economic bailout while sidestepping how he would have voted.

Lunsford indicates that he would have been "hard pressed" to vote for it. His weasel words ignore the fact that the bill passed the Senate with large bipartisan majorities, including Sens. McCain and Obama.

McConnell counters that, "Credit, the life blood of our economy, began to dry up, threatening to undermine the livelihood of countless Kentuckians."

The package also included tax relief for 135,000 Kentucky families who would be hard hit by the alternative minimum tax.

Would Lunsford have been "hard pressed" to spare them from this fate?

Something that is also very telling about Lunsford is that he has actually contributed funds to McConnell's campaigns in the past.

This could leave one to believe that Lunsford, who has run unsuccessfully for two statewide offices, thinks that McConnell was doing a good job in the Senate and believed in his ideals.

Now he says that McConnell is part of the problem in Washington.

Bruce, you couldn't be any more wrong.

People like you and your liberal buddies in Washington, D.C., are the problem.

McConnell has proved to be a worthy advocate for Kentucky over the past 24 years in the Senate. He understands the needs and wants of his constituents and he delivers.

We want to continue to move our state and nation forward, and Mitch McConnell is doing that and will continue to do that when he is re-elected. As the old saying goes, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it

Mitch isn't broke and we see no need for a junior, left-wing senator to take the place of someone with the character, courage and morals of a man like Senator McConnell.

That is why we are endorsing U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell for re-election to the United States Senate.

Please get out and vote for Mitch McConnell on Nov. 4. He will continue fighting as he always has for Kentuckians.