

Date: August 3, 2007

Deplorable: Obstructionist-in-Chief Mitch McConnell Voted Against Providing Health Coverage for Thousands of Low-Income Kentucky Children

Standing with President Bush over Kentucky Families,

McConnell Stands Against Providing Health Coverage for 9.2 Million Children

Washington D.C. – Thousands of low-income children in Kentucky are one step closer to receiving the health care they deserve thanks to bipartisan legislation that passed in the U.S. Senate yesterday. The Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act reauthorizes the State Children’s Health Insurance Program to continue providing health coverage for 6 million children and to begin providing coverage for 3.2 million more low income children – reducing the number of uninsured children in America by fully one third over the next five years. Sadly, U.S. Mitch McConnell stood with President Bush and his health insurance industry backers over his most vulnerable North Carolina constituents – children.

“We understand that Obstructionist-in-Chief Mitch McConnell is never one to break ranks with President Bush, but when it comes to looking out for children who have absolutely no health coverage – we thought even he might make an exception,” said Brad Woodhouse, President of Americans United for Change. “Senator McConnell instead put his blind loyalty to the President and the financial interests of private insurance companies ahead of the basic health care needs of thousands of children in Kentucky.”

“When it comes to spending \$12 billion a month fighting an endless war in Iraq – Senator McConnell can find the money. When it comes to providing billions of dollars in giveaways to the big insurance companies – Senator McConnell can find the money. But when it comes to providing basic health coverage for nation’s most vulnerable citizens – our children – he just can’t spare a nickel. It sends a pretty sorry message to the families who pray each night that their children don’t get sick or hurt – a message that to him, protecting the bottom line of big insurance companies and protecting President Bush’s irresponsible agenda is just more important.”