

KEVIN MCCARTHY'S "UNTRUSTABLE" RECORD

"Everybody thought Hillary Clinton was unbeatable, right? But we put together a Benghazi special committee, a select committee. What are her numbers today? Her numbers are dropping. Why? Because she's untrustable [sic]. But no one would have known any of that had happened, had we not fought." –Kevin McCarthy

Buried not-so-deep in Kevin McCarthy's short political career are a series of gaffes, missteps, reversals, and policy positions that would sink most politicians. Some highlights:

- ✓ Referred to budget deficits as "cancer" and said that cuts which focused mostly on services to the poor and disabled were akin to a "painful" session of "chemo."
- ✓ Sponsored a bill in 2009 proposing that the federal wind Production Tax Credit (PTC) be extended through 2020, arguing it would help cut CO2 emissions and criticizing the "boom-and-bust cycle" of allowing PTCs to expire. In 2012, McCarthy said PTCs "have had their time."
- ✓ In California, McCarthy was an ardent opponent to his party's stance on abortion – twice trying to replace the state GOP chair with a pro-choice option, and arguing that the budget was "about numbers, not social issues." Earlier this year, McCarthy said the House should and would defund Planned Parenthood.
- ✓ After Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger cut vehicle license fees (VLFs), a major source of local government funding, on his first day in office, McCarthy sponsored a piece of legislation to restore the funding to the governments. After the legislation was scored as a tax increase, though, McCarthy dropped his own legislation, which primarily funded health care and elderly care for county and city governments. Officials said the effect would be "extremely devastating," noting that the funding was "basic core funding" which provided care for hundreds of thousands of children and the elderly.

Personal History

McCarthy Served As A Member Of The Kern Community College District Board Of Trustees Prior To Winning An Assembly Seat. According to the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, "[Kevin] McCarthy, 38, was first elected to the Assembly last year, representing a district that covers most of Kern County and a small portion of San Bernardino County. Before winning his Assembly seat, he was an aide for Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield, and a member of the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees." [Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, 9/8/03]

McCarthy "Created His First Business, A Delicatessen, Before He Was 21." According to the Sacramento Bee, "[Kevin] McCarthy, Cox's successor, is a fourth-generation Kern County resident and entrepreneur who created his first business, a delicatessen, before he was 21." [Sacramento Bee, 9/9/03]

McCarthy Won A \$5,000 Lottery Ticket And Used It To Start A Deli, Which He "Built Up And Sold For Enough Money To Complete His Education." According to the California Journal, "[Kevin] McCarthy thought he wanted to go into business when he grew up. He got a lucky start. The day after the California Lottery was launched with the sale of scratcher tickets in 1985, McCarthy and a friend stopped on their way to college classes in Bakersfield and bought a couple of them. One of his turned out to be a \$5,000 winner. He used the money to start a small deli, which he built up and sold for enough money to complete his education. But before finishing his studies at California State University, Bakersfield, he met Thomas and was persuaded to take a job on the congressman's staff. There he remained, rising to become Thomas' district director." [California Journal, 11/1/03]

- **McCarthy Opened "Kevin O's Deli," Which Served Subs "Hot Upon Request."** According to ABC News, "After winning the \$5,000, [Kevin] McCarthy opened up 'Kevin O's Deli,' a sandwich shop that was toasting subs 'hot upon request' before Subway caught on, according to the Orange County Register. McCarthy, who frequently

references his small business experience, used earnings from the shop to pay his way through school at California State University.” [ABC News, 9/28/15]

McCarthy Was Also Buying Cars In Auctions In LA And Selling Them At A Higher Price In Bakersfield. According to the Los Angeles Times, “Then 20 and a community college student, [Kevin] McCarthy invested his \$5,000 in stocks and quickly made more money. At the time, the young entrepreneur also was buying vehicles at an L.A. car auction and selling them in Bakersfield for a higher price. He took all his cash and parlayed it into the opening of a deli.” [Los Angeles Times, 11/3/03]

California Political History

CALIFORNIA YOUNG REPUBLICANS

While McCarthy Served As Chairman Of The California Young Republicans, “Conservatives Split Off” From The Group Due To Conflicts With Moderates. According to the California Journal, “In the 1980s and early '90s, as chairman of the mainstream California Young Republicans and later the national Young Republican group, [Kevin] McCarthy himself was at the center of the running battle between moderates and conservatives for control of the hearts and minds of Republicans. Within the California Young Republicans, feelings became so strained between the two groups that conservatives split off in 1993 and began organizing themselves into chapters of the Young Republican Federation of California.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

McCarthy’s Group Sued The Conservative Splinter Group For Using The Term “Young Republican.” According to the California Journal, “[Kevin] McCarthy and the Young Republicans sued to stop the new group’s use of the term “Young Republican.” They won in court initially, but the state Republican Party leadership stepped in with a threat to de-charter them if they didn’t drop the issue. They did, but the battle still rages on in Bakersfield. To this day, the Kern County Republican Central Committee - controlled by Thomas’ people - refuses to recognize the local young Republican splinter group.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

YOUNG REPUBLICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION

Kevin McCarthy Was The First Californian Elected Chairman Of The Young Republican National Foundation. According to the Fresno Bee, “He [Michael Mack] is, though, only the second Californian to be elected chairman of the Young Republican National Foundation in the organization’s 72-year history. The first, Kevin McCarthy, is now a Republican Assembly member from Bakersfield.” [Fresno Bee, 7/20/03]

WORK FOR CALIFORNIA GOP REP. BILL THOMAS

McCarthy Won His Seat In Congress In 2006 After His Old Boss, Rep. Bill Thomas, Retired. According to Roll Call, “When California Republican Bill Thomas, then-chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, announced in 2006 that he would retire, [Kevin] McCarthy - who had worked for Thomas - won his seat. He defeated two lesser-known candidates in the GOP primary and breezing past Democrat Sharon M. Beery in the general election with 71 percent of the vote. He has had only one Democratic opponent since then and won that 2014 race with 75 percent of the vote.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

1997: Kevin McCarthy Was Serving As District Director For Rep. Bill Thomas. According to the Los Angeles Times, “One proposal for congressional action calls for refunds to be held back until local payments are made, with the federal government getting the interest. Kevin McCarthy, district director for Rep. Bill Thomas (R-Bakersfield), said his boss, the state’s ranking Republican and a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, recently met with Schumacher for a brainstorming session.” [Los Angeles Times, 7/31/97]

January 2000: McCarthy Worked As District Director For Rep. Bill Thomas And Helped Fight To Keep Open A Flight School Offering Training To Foreign Military Pilots Against The State Department’s Wishes. According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, “The U.S. State Department has sent a letter ordering the National Test Pilot School to cease and desist from training foreign military pilots, company and congressional officials said Monday. [...] U.S. Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield, whose district includes Mojave, is trying to facilitate discussions between the State Department and the school, an

aide said. "We want to expedite the process," said Kevin McCarthy, district director for Thomas. "We want to make sure they keep training pilots." [Daily News of Los Angeles, 1/4/00]

- **The State Department Said The Company "Was Not Licensed By The Office Of Defense Trade Control And Is In Violation Of International Firearms-Trafficking Laws."** According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, "The U.S. State Department has sent a letter ordering the National Test Pilot School to cease and desist from training foreign military pilots, company and congressional officials said Monday. The letter states the company is not licensed by the Office of Defense Trade Control and is in violation of international firearms-trafficking laws. The order affects 15 of the 17 students about to start the company's latest one-year training course." [Daily News of Los Angeles, 1/4/00]

As Of June 2001, The Fresno Bee Reported That McCarthy Had Been On Rep. Thomas's Staff For 13 Years And Was His "Top Local Aide." According to the Fresno Bee, "Kevin McCarthy is the local top aide to Rep. Bill Thomas and has been on staff 13 years. He also is an elected member of the Kern Community College District. He owned a sandwich shop at age 19." [Fresno Bee, 6/3/01]

Despite Running For An Assembly Seat, McCarthy Was Still Working For Rep. Thomas As Late As August 9, 2002. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, "Kevin McCarthy, Thomas' district director, said the congressman's press secretary contacted the Times' deputy managing editor after receiving the e-mail and being unable to make contact with Robin. 'We're thinking he's writing a story and wants to ask questions or something,' McCarthy said." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 8/9/02]

Rep. Thomas Attended McCarthy's Assembly Swearing-In Ceremony. According to the Fresno Bee, "During Monday's swearing-in ceremonies at the state Capitol in Sacramento, the mentors were out in force. Rep. Cal Dooley, D-Fresno, was on hand for Nicole Parra, his onetime district director, as she joined the Assembly. Fellow congressman Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield, was there for former district director Kevin McCarthy." [Fresno Bee, 12/7/02]

HISTORY OF NONCOMPETITIVE ELECTIONS

In McCarthy's Assembly District, Republicans Outnumbered Democrats By Nearly 50,000; He Won His First Election With 75.9% Of The Vote. According to the Sacramento Bee, "[Kevin] McCarthy won election to the Assembly in 2002 by capturing 75.9 percent of the vote in a San Joaquin Valley district where Republicans outnumber Democrats by nearly 50,000." [Sacramento Bee, 2/4/04]

McCarthy: "In Essence, I Could Probably Do Nothing And Still Be Elected For Six Years." According to the Sacramento Bee, "[Kevin] McCarthy won election to the Assembly in 2002 by capturing 75.9 percent of the vote in a San Joaquin Valley district where Republicans outnumber Democrats by nearly 50,000. 'In essence, I could probably do nothing and still be elected for six years - which is wrong - because of the way my district is drawn.'" [Sacramento Bee, 2/4/04]

McCarthy Won His Seat In Congress In 2006 With 71% Of The Vote, And Has Only Had One Democratic Opponent Since. According to Roll Call, "When California Republican Bill Thomas, then-chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, announced in 2006 that he would retire, [Kevin] McCarthy - who had worked for Thomas - won his seat. He defeated two lesser-known candidates in the GOP primary and breezing past Democrat Sharon M. Beery in the general election with 71 percent of the vote. He has had only one Democratic opponent since then and won that 2014 race with 75 percent of the vote." [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

McCarthy Raised "More Than \$1 Million" As Of Mid-October 2006, His Opponent Had Raised \$14,000. According to the San Luis Obispo Tribune, "McCarthy, a Bakersfield Republican who benefits from his leadership position in Sacramento, reported raising more \$256,000 in the quarter, bringing his total receipts for the campaign to more than \$1 million. McCarthy won the three-way Republican primary in June with 85 percent of the vote. The McCarthy campaign spent \$75,560 during the quarter, leaving it with a cash balance of more than \$473,000. [Sharon] Beery, an Arroyo Grande businesswoman, was unopposed in Democratic primary but still got fewer than half the votes that McCarthy drew in his contest. That disadvantage is reflected in her fundraising as well. Beery reported raising less than \$10,000 for the quarter, and just \$14,500 for the election cycle." [San Luis Obispo Tribune, 10/18/06]

2000 ELECTION

Praised Dick Cheney

McCarthy Praised George W. Bush's Choice Of Dick Cheney For Vice President, Saying Cheney's Role In Planning The Persian Gulf War "Shows The Type Of People George W. Will Have Around Him – People Who Get The Job Done." According to the Fresno Bee, "[Fred] Starrh, like many, said [Dick] Cheney would be strong on national defense. Cheney was defense secretary during the Persian Gulf War and part of the team that put together the allied coalition, said Kevin McCarthy, district director for Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield. "That shows the type of people George W. will have around him -- people who get the job done." [Fresno Bee, 7/26/00]

Only Speaker To Break With "No Negativism" Theme At 2000 Republican National Convention

McCarthy Served As A California Delegate To The Republican National Convention In 2000. According to the Fresno Bee, "The California delegation consists of homemakers and lawyers, farmers and businessmen, politicians and public servants. The only thing they all have in common is Republican politics. Overall, the state delegation will be 'as diverse as California and reflective of the commitment of Bush to be inclusive,' said Gerald Parsky, who heads the state Bush campaign. Parsky, however, can't say for sure. That's because the party does not believe in artificial quotas and did not ask the race of its delegates. Valley delegates are, for the most part, white and older than 50. There are certainly exceptions, especially in age: For example, Devin Nunes of Pixley is in his 20s; Der Manouel and Kevin McCarthy, district director for Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield, are in their 30s. And Abel Maldonado of Santa Barbara, a delegate and the son of immigrant laborers, will address the convention on Thursday -- in Spanish." [Fresno Bee, 7/29/00]

McCarthy Was Given The Opportunity To Speak To The Convention "For Three To 10 Minutes." According to the Fresno Bee, "Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield

Age: 35

Occupation: District director for Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield

Previous conventions: 1

Notable: McCarthy will address the convention for three to 10 minutes Monday" [Fresno Bee, 7/30/00]

McCarthy "Was Asked To Speak Briefly Because He Heads The National Young Republican Organization."

According to the Press Enterprise, "[Kevin] McCarthy, who works for GOP Congressman Bill Thomas, was asked to speak briefly because he heads the national Young Republican organization." [Press Enterprise, 8/1/00]

McCarthy Was The "One Speaker" Who Broke The "No Negativism" Theme And Attacked Vice President Al Gore.

According to the Press Enterprise, "Operating under a 'No negativism' theme, Republicans barely mentioned Al Gore in Monday's four-hour opening session. However, one speaker from California couldn't resist a little sarcasm at the vice president's expense. 'Ladies and gentleman [*sic*], I have an important announcement: Al Gore did not invent the Internet,' said Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield." [Press Enterprise, 8/1/00]

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Press Enterprise: "California Delegates, Who'd Been Deprived Of Rhetorical Red Meat For More Than Three Hours By The Time McCarthy Spoke, Roared With Delight" At His Attack Of Gore. According to the Press Enterprise, "California delegates, who'd been deprived of rhetorical red meat for more than three hours by the time [Kevin] McCarthy spoke, roared with delight." [Press Enterprise, 8/1/00]

STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER

McCarthy Was Elected To The California Assembly In 2002, And Became Minority Leader Within His First Term.

According to Roll Call, "[Kevin] McCarthy won election to the California Assembly in 2002, and became the minority leader halfway through his first term. He was included in California's 'Big 5,' an informal decision-making group that also counted as a member former GOP Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger." [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

2002 Election

McCarthy Announced In 2001 That He Would Run For The 32nd District Of The California Assembly After 13 Years As A Staffer For Rep. Bill Thomas. According to the Fresno Bee, “The 32nd Assembly District has an open seat next year because Assembly Member Roy Ashburn of Bakersfield is ‘termed out’ and can't seek re-election. The district includes large chunks of Visalia and Tulare, and all of Porterville. Yet the seat is centered in Kern County and Bakersfield, and that's the home territory of three people, all Republicans, who say they'll seek election to replace Ashburn. All three are high-profile figures who hold public office in Kern County or Bakersfield. Kevin McCarthy is the local top aide to Rep. Bill Thomas and has been on staff 13 years. He also is an elected member of the Kern Community College District. He owned a sandwich shop at age 19.” [Fresno Bee, 6/3/01]

McCarthy Said He Wanted To “Attack The ‘Ostrich-Style Management’ Of The Electricity Crisis In Sacramento” And Said He Could “Hit The Ground Running” Because He “Understands Government.” According to the Fresno Bee, “Kevin McCarthy is the local top aide to Rep. Bill Thomas and has been on staff 13 years. He also is an elected member of the Kern Community College District. He owned a sandwich shop at age 19. McCarthy said he wants to attack the ‘ostrich-style management’ of the electricity crisis in Sacramento, if elected. ‘I could hit the ground running in Sacramento’ because he understands government, he said.” [Fresno Bee, 6/3/01]

One Of McCarthy’s Opponents, Mike Maggard, Said He’s A “Nice Fella... But He’s Clearly An Insider.” According to the Fresno Bee, “Another certain candidate is Mike Maggard, a Bakersfield City Council member and a self-employed CPA for 20 years. ‘I have a conservative bent,’ Maggard said. ‘I'm looking forward to bringing [to Sacramento] some views from the business world.’ McCarthy is a ‘nice fella,’ Maggard said, ‘but he's clearly an insider. I enjoy being an outsider.’” [Fresno Bee, 6/3/01]

The Race “Turned Into A Two-Way Slugfest” Between McCarthy And Maggard. According to the California Journal, “With incumbent Republican Roy Ashburn termed out, the Republican primary has turned into a two-way slugfest between two factions of Central Valley politics. On one side sits Kevin McCarthy, district director for U.S. Rep. Bill Thomas. On the other, Dave Maggard, a conservative Bakersfield city councilman. Both had aggressive and successful fund-raising campaigns in the last quarter of 2001, but McCarthy goes into the final phase with nearly twice as much money in the bank (\$202,000 to \$114,000). That is important in a sprawling district that extends from Ridgecrest in the east to Taft in the west and includes nearly all of Bakersfield. TV is cheap in the lower Central Valley, and much of the campaign may be fought out over the airwaves, with targeted mail reinforcing the message.” [California Journal, 2/1/02]

Maggard “Built An Interesting Coalition Of Supporters” Including “The California Federation Of Labor, Firefighters And Law Enforcement Groups” Which Could “Provide McCarthy With Ammo To Call Into Question Maggard’s Republican Loyalties.” According to the California Journal, “[Kevin] McCarthy was the early favorite, thanks to the Thomas connection, but Maggard has built an interesting coalition of supporters, from conservatives such as Howard Ahmanson and the Howard Jarvis organization to the California Federation of Labor, firefighters and law enforcement groups. If labor can provide volunteers and manpower, it may offset McCarthy's financial advantage. It also can provide McCarthy with ammo to call into question Maggard's Republican loyalties. Maggard's elective base in Bakersfield does contain more than half the district's registered voters, but the Thomas name and clout carry a lot of weight in this region, potentially giving McCarthy the wherewithal to coast comfortably toward the finish line.” [California Journal, 2/1/02]

McCarthy Attacked Maggard’s Labor Support And “Blanket[ed] The Region With Billboards And Media Advertising.” According to the California Journal, “When he chooses to engage, Kevin McCarthy's boss has plenty of weight to throw around in the lower Central Valley. In this contest, U.S. Rep. Bill Thomas backed his district director with money and endorsements, which allowed McCarthy the running room to defeat Bakersfield City Councilman Mike Maggard in a hard-fought and close primary. McCarthy used his bigger campaign treasury to blanket the region with billboards and media advertising, and to question Maggard's Republican credentials because of strong support from labor.” [California Journal, 4/1/02]

McCarthy Received 50% Of The Primary Vote To Maggard’s 43%. According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, “Assembly Dist. 32 Bakersfield
Michael A. Shea D 18,268 100%
Kevin McCarthy R 24,523 50%
Mike Maggard R 21,010 43%

Sam Thomas R 3,425 7%” [San Diego Union-Tribune, 3/7/02]

Despite Running For The Assembly Seat, McCarthy Was Still Working For Rep. Thomas As Late As August 9, 2002.

According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Kevin McCarthy, Thomas' district director, said the congressman's press secretary contacted the Times' deputy managing editor after receiving the e-mail and being unable to make contact with Robin. ‘We're thinking he's writing a story and wants to ask questions or something,’ McCarthy said.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 8/9/02]

McCarthy Contributed Funds To Voter Registration Efforts In Neighboring District 30 To Defeat Nicole Parra, A Former Aide To Rep. Cal Dooley Because He Did Not Have A “Competitive” Race. According to the Fresno Bee, “Is the 30th Assembly District among those? The district is drawn for a Latino Democrat. The Democrats are taking steps to ensure Nicole Parra, a Latino Democrat, wins. [...]Republicans are working hard to paint Parra -- Rep. Cal Dooley's top aide in the Valley -- as a liberal. And Gardner is lucky he's got three Republicans around him who don't have competitive races and can afford to be generous with their campaign funds. Bill Maze and Kevin McCarthy, two Republican Assembly candidates, and state Senate candidate Roy Ashburn -- who is unchallenged -- are contributing money for voter registration efforts in the district.” [Fresno Bee, 9/28/02]

McCarthy Received 75.7% Of The Vote In His District. According to the Press Enterprise, “32nd District Kern and San Bernardino counties results

467 of 467 precincts reporting

(v)Kevin McCarthy (R) 72,696 75.7

Michael Shea III (D) 23,413 24.3” [Press Enterprise, 11/7/02]

A Conservative Assemblyman Appointed McCarthy’s Primary Opponent, Mike Maggard, To A Position,

“Predictably Infuriating McCarthy.” According to the California Journal, “After last year's election, conservative freshman Assemblyman Bill Maze (R-Visalia) appointed McCarthy's 2002 primary election opponent, conservative Bakersfield Councilman Mike Maggard, to the Thomas-controlled Kern County central committee, predictably infuriating [Kevin] McCarthy.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

2002 Term

McCarthy Was One Of Nine Republicans Named To The Health Committee. According to the Visalia Times-Delta, “[Bill] Maze was also named to the 24-member Health Committee, which is in charge of bills related to health care, Medi-Cal, mental health licensing of health and health-related professionals and long-term health care facilities. He is one of nine Republicans on the committee, including Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy of the neighboring 32nd Assembly District in Bakersfield.” [Visalia Times-Delta, 12/24/02]

McCarthy Called For “A Legislative Committee To Help California’s Military Bases Survive A New Round Of Base Closures.” According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, “A legislative committee to help California's military bases survive a new round of base closures is being sought by Assemblywoman Sharon Runner, R-Lancaster, and Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield. The two Assembly members wrote a letter Thursday calling on Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson to form an Assembly Select Committee on Military Base Retention. In the letter, Runner and McCarthy said that the committee was needed to ‘create a level playing field for California in Washington, D.C.’” [Daily News of Los Angeles, 3/21/03]

McCarthy Said GOP-Produced Shirts Mocking The Democrats’ “Save California Tour” Which Read “Democrats Tax & Spend Tour” Were “Hotter Than Harry Potter... All The Democrats Are Bugging Me For Them.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “You Can Quote Me ‘This is hotter than Harry Potter.... All the Democrats are bugging me for them.’ Allowing for enthusiastic hyperbole, and the fact that in Sacramento in the summer ANYTHING is hotter than Harry Potter, Bakersfield Republican Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy crows about the bipartisan popularity of souvenir T-shirts from the GOP's answer to the Democrats' two-day ‘Save California’ tour -- its black, white and red T-shirts mocking the ‘Democrats Tax & Spend Tour, Summer 2003.’” [Los Angeles Times, 6/30/03]

McCarthy Was Named Vice-Chair Of The New Assembly Select Committee On National Defense Tech. And Jobs, Chaired By Nicole Parra. According to the California Journal, “Democrat Assm. Nicole Parra was named chair of the new Assm. Select Comm. on National Defense Tech. and Jobs. Republican Kevin McCarthy was named vice-chair.” [California Journal, 7/1/03]

McCarthy Voted Against The 2003 Budget Deal. [San Francisco Chronicle, 7/30/03]

McCarthy Then Criticized Gov. Gray Davis For Not Entering The Assembly Chamber To Help Pass A Budget.

According to the San Jose Mercury News, "Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, characterized Davis as an absentee governor on the budget. Not once during the climatic 29 1/2-hour, July 28-29 Assembly session to pass a state budget plan, McCarthy said, did Davis set foot in the Assembly chamber to help grease the wheels. 'We slept in that chamber, and he didn't spend 10 minutes,' McCarthy said. 'He didn't show leadership.'" [San Jose Mercury News, 8/31/03]

McCarthy Did Not Vote On A Bill Which Would Require Businesses To Disclose When They Share Confidential Information Of Customers For Marketing Purposes Which Faced Little Opposition In The Senate.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, "SEN. LIZ FIGUEROA, D-Fremont, figured her Senate Bill 27 was straightforward and modest enough that it would encounter little opposition. It simply would require businesses to disclose -- upon customer request -- where they have shared confidential information for 'direct marketing purposes.' Figueroa's SB27 sailed through the Senate on a 26-13 vote and even cleared the industry-friending Assembly Banking and Finance Committee on a 10-0 vote. [...]Not voting (30) [...]Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield." [San Francisco Chronicle, 8/25/03]

Megan's Law

McCarthy And Republicans Pushed An Alternative To A Bill Requiring A Database Of Sex Offenders, Which Would Require The Database To Be Online And To Include Home Addresses Of Offenders.

According to the San Jose Mercury News, "The Assembly voted, 78 to 0, to renew the law through 2007 and to require colleges and universities to notify their communities about sex offenders living or working on campus, or enrolled in classes. Gov. Gray Davis, who had urged the Legislature to return, said he would sign the bill as soon as it reaches his desk. The Senate has already voted to renew. 'Every citizen of this state has a right to know whether or not a sexual predator has moved into his or her community,' Davis said in a statement after the vote. But Republican lawmakers and some Democrats said that the measure does not go far enough to fix inconsistencies in the database. Setting up a debate when the Legislature reconvenes in January, the Assembly sent a separate Republican-backed measure to committee that would eliminate the law's expiration date, post the database on the Internet and include the home addresses of sex offenders instead of just ZIP codes. 'We may pass this today, but this is not the end,' Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, said to Democrats. 'If Megan's Law means that much to you, we can make real changes.'" [San Jose Mercury News, 9/30/03]

Vehicle License Fees

McCarthy Supported A Constitutional Amendment To Ban Vehicle License Fees Which Would Cost An Estimated \$6 Billion Annually.

According to the Orange County Register, "No. 996: Elimination of vehicle license fees Would eliminate vehicle license fees by constitutional amendment. It would compensate local governments for the loss of revenue with state sales tax that now goes into the general fund. Gov.-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger plans only to reduce the fee by two-thirds. Proponents: Republican Sen. Tom McClintock launched the effort. Other backers include Republican Assemblymen Jim Brulte, Kevin McCarthy, Ken Maddox and John Campbell, and GOP state Sen. Dick Ackerman. Opponents: The Democrat-controlled Legislature opposed the proposal in the past because of the loss of an estimated \$6 billion annually." [Orange County Register, 10/24/03]

Drivers Licenses For Undocumented Immigrants

McCarthy On An Initiative Overturning A Law Allowing Undocumented Immigrants To Get Drivers Licenses: "I Don't Think Democrats Want That Being On The Ballot At The Same Time Someone Can Vote For Or Against Them."

According to the Los Angeles Times, "Republican lawmakers say they believe enough Democrats will vote to repeal the law, in part because they don't want it to be a campaign issue in March. 'I don't think Democrats want that being on the ballot at the same time someone can vote for or against them,' said Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield), who will become Republican leader of the lower house in January." [Los Angeles Times, 11/16/03]

Assembly Leadership

There Was Speculation That McCarthy Was Using A Budget Impasse To Make A Play For The Minority Leader Position, Which McCarthy Denied.

According to the Los Angeles Times, "The Republicans at first produced just 4 votes in support of the budget. That led to speculation that GOP members might be preparing to dump caucus Chairman Dave Cox

of Fair Oaks. [Hannah-Beth] Jackson said she was intrigued by a gathering of Republicans at the front of the chamber. A constant presence was Cox's heir apparent, Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield). 'What you see more and more today is Mr. McCarthy standing right there, far more than I've seen him in the past,' Jackson said. 'It looks like he's making his move.' McCarthy denied that was the case. 'Minority leader has nothing to do with this vote tonight,' said McCarthy. 'When Dave Cox is termed out, I'll look at running for leader, but that has nothing to do with today.'" [Los Angeles Times, 7/30/03]

McCarthy Was Unanimously Elected As Leader To Succeed Dave Cox, Who Was Termed Out, Starting In January 2004. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, "Assembly Republicans unanimously elected a freshman legislator as their new leader on Monday. Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield will succeed Assemblyman Dave Cox of Fair Oaks as Assembly minority leader when lawmakers begin their 2004 session in January, Cox and McCarthy said in an announcement. Cox is termed out of the Assembly at the end of 2004 and is planning to run for the state Senate next year." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 9/8/03]

California Journal: "Insiders Say" McCarthy's Predecessor As Minority Leader Dave Cox "Initially Resented McCarthy's Efforts To Pressure Him To Step Down Before His Term Ends." According to the California Journal, "Cox now praises McCarthy as a 'bright, articulate young man,' but insiders say he initially resented McCarthy's efforts to pressure him to step down before his term ends next year. However, that apparently evaporated when Senator Rico Oller (R-San Andreas) decided to run for Congress, opening the way for a potential Senate campaign for Cox next year, when he is termed out." [California Journal, 11/1/03]

As Minority Leader, McCarthy Referred To Himself Instead As "Republican Leader." According to the Los Angeles Times, "Get used to the name Kevin McCarthy. He's the Legislature's newest leader and one thing already can be said about him without argument: The man's lucky. Freshman Assemblyman McCarthy (R-Bakersfield), 38, soon will become the Assembly minority leader, replacing termed-out Assemblyman Dave Cox, 65, of Sacramento County. But McCarthy won't call himself minority leader. He'll be the Republican leader. He thinks the tweak of semantics will make the GOP sound and act more relevant." [Los Angeles Times, 11/3/03]

McCarthy On Being In The Minority: "We Are More Than Willing To Work Together, More Than Willing To Debate. All We Ask Is Let The Idea Come To The Floor." According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, "[Kevin] McCarthy said Republicans would try to create a more bipartisan spirit in the often combative Assembly. 'We are more than willing to work together, more than willing to debate. All we ask is let the idea come to the floor,' he told the Assembly's 48 Democrats." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 1/5/04]

Assemblyman Bill Maze: McCarthy Was "A Very Weak Leader... One That Plays Strong Politics And Is Weak In The Areas Of Policy And Long-Term Decisions That Are Good For Business And People." According to the Fresno Bee, "Just after the November election, Assembly Republicans re-elected Kevin McCarthy as their leader. There was one 'no' vote. Multiple Sacramento political insiders say Assembly Member Bill Maze of Visalia cast the vote. Maze neither confirms nor denies it, but it's clear he believes McCarthy isn't qualified for the position. 'He's a very weak leader,' Maze says. 'One that plays strong politics and is weak in the areas of policy and long-term decisions that are good for business and people.'" [Fresno Bee, 1/22/05]

2004

In Budget Negotiations, Democratic Assembly Members Complained That McCarthy Was Doing "Little Else" Beyond Blaming Democrats For Obstructionism. According to the Los Angeles Times, "'Republicans have done nothing to hold this budget up,' said Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy. 'It's been the Democrats. They are the majority party here. They run this place. If we were in charge, we would have the budget done.' The Bakersfield Republican denied that he has plotted to place blame on the other side of the aisle. Some Democrats, however, say McCarthy is doing little else." [Los Angeles Times, 7/8/04]

Praised Gov. Schwarzenegger for Negotiating with Democrats Despite Conservative Anger

San Bernardino Sun: "To The Growing Dismay Of Fellow Republicans, The Governor Has Made A String Of Compromises With Democratic Lawmakers." According to the San Bernardino Sun, "To the growing dismay of fellow Republicans, the governor has made a string of compromises with Democratic lawmakers, including backing off from some

cuts for local animal services, the developmentally disabled and health and human services, as well as diluting a plan to trim pension benefits for state workers and achieving fewer cuts in prison guard salaries.” [San Bernardino Sun, 7/11/04]

San Bernardino Sun: “Critics Say Schwarzenegger’s Budget Strategy And Tactics Have Also Betrayed Some Of The Principles He Espoused During The Recall Campaign.” According to the San Bernardino Sun, “But critics say Schwarzenegger's budget strategy and tactics have also betrayed some of the principles he espoused during the recall campaign, when he attacked government by secret deal-making and bowing to special interests.” [San Bernardino Sun, 7/11/04]

Associated Press: “The Governor’s Biggest Issue May Still Be With His Fellow Republicans.” According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Even as talks appear to be back on track, signs remain that the governor's biggest issue may still be with his fellow Republicans, who said they don't like the current state of the budget plan and want Schwarzenegger to sweeten it for them.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 7/13/04]

Ventura County Star: “As A Budget Agreement Appeared Close Two Weeks Ago, Republican Lawmakers Began To Seethe. Schwarzenegger Was Making Concessions To Democrats... They Saw Themselves Being Cut Out Of The Process.” According to the Ventura County Star, “As a budget agreement appeared close two weeks ago, Republican lawmakers began to seethe. Schwarzenegger was making concessions to Democrats to provide additional spending on higher education and healthcare programs for the disabled. They saw themselves being cut out of the process.” [Ventura County Star, 7/14/04]

San Diego Union-Tribune: “Some Republicans Are Suggesting Privately That Schwarzenegger Got Little If Anything In Return From Democratic Legislators, Making A Rookie Mistake As He Negotiated His First Budget.” According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, “Since Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger first proposed a budget last January he has made tentative agreements that would increase spending by more than \$3 billion. Now some Republicans are suggesting privately that Schwarzenegger got little if anything in return from Democratic legislators, making a rookie mistake as he negotiated his first budget.” [San Diego Union-Tribune, 7/20/04]

McCarthy: “I Have Not Seen Him Change His Philosophy, But One Thing I’ve Seen Is He Lives In Reality.” According to the San Bernardino Sun, “Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy said he has not seen the governor back off his core principles, but any compromises he has made have come from dealing with a Democratic Legislature. ‘I have not seen him change his philosophy, but one thing I've seen is he lives in reality,’ said McCarthy, R-Bakersfield.” [San Bernardino Sun, 7/11/04]

Flap Over Honoring Asian-American Scientist

Assemblywoman Judy Chu & The Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Planned To Honor Nuclear Scientist Wen Ho Lee For Having “Overcome Discrimination To Become A Leader In The Community.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “To the Asian American legislators in the state Assembly, nuclear scientist Wen Ho Lee had overcome discrimination to become a leader in the community -- a man worthy of an honor. [...] The clash headed off plans by the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus to introduce a resolution praising Lee for his ‘tremendous courage’ in remaining steadfast through his yearlong prosecution.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 6/9/04]

SF Chronicle: “Lee Was Held For Nine Months After Being Accused Of Illegally Downloading Nuclear Secrets... The Government’s Original 59-Count Indictment Gradually Fell Apart.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “Lee was held for nine months after being accused of illegally downloading nuclear secrets from the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The government's original 59-count indictment gradually fell apart, and in 2000 Lee pleaded guilty to a single felony count of mishandling classified material and was sentenced to time served.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 6/9/04]

SF Chronicle: “Upon Lee's Release From Prison, Judge James Parker Apologized To Him, Saying The Government's Handling Of The Case ‘Embarrassed Our Entire Nation And Each Of Us Who Is A Citizen Of It.’” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “Upon Lee's release from prison, Judge James Parker apologized to him, saying the government's handling of the case ‘embarrassed our entire nation and each of us who is a citizen of it.’” [San Francisco Chronicle, 6/9/04]

Former GOP Assemblyman Howard Kaloogian Said That “Asian American Lamakers Should Consider Whether Lee Was A Domestic Enemy And To Remember They Had Taken Oaths To Defend Against Foreign And

Domestic Foes.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “On Friday, group chairman Howard Kaloogian, a former assemblyman and onetime U.S. Senate candidate, was quoted as saying Asian American lawmakers should consider whether Lee was a domestic enemy and to remember they had taken oaths to defend against foreign and domestic foes.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 6/9/04]

SF Chronicle: “Richard Mercero, Policy Director Of The Assembly Republican Caucus, Told Pam Chueh, A Senior Consultant At The Asian Caucus, That It Would Be Inappropriate For The Assembly To Pay Tribute To A Convicted Felon.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “Then, Richard Mercero, policy director of the Assembly Republican Caucus, told Pam Chueh, a senior consultant at the Asian caucus, that it would be inappropriate for the Assembly to pay tribute to a convicted felon, Chueh said.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 6/9/04]

McCarthy's Spokesperson "Said The GOP Caucus Had No Official Objection To Honoring Lee. Instead, Mercero Was Simply Advising The Asian Caucus That There Could Be Potential Disagreement." According to the San Francisco Chronicle, "Tiffany Moffatt, spokeswoman for Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield, said the GOP caucus had no official objection to honoring [Wen Ho] Lee. Instead, [Richard] Mercero was simply advising the Asian caucus that there could be a potential disagreement, she said." [San Francisco Chronicle, 6/9/04]

2005

As Assembly Leader, McCarthy Participated In Spanish Lessons “Meant To Help GOP Lawmakers Communicate With Latino Voters.” According to the Modesto Bee, “More than a dozen Assembly Republicans met Thursday for a weekly Spanish lesson, but there were a few phrases they didn't learn: ‘Can't we all get along?’ ‘Let's pass a budget.’ ‘Stop the bickering.’ Thursday's hourlong session in a Capitol hearing room was part of an eight-lesson program meant to help GOP lawmakers communicate with Latino voters who speak no English. Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy -- labeled ‘jefe,’ or chief -- took a good-natured stab after class at the Spanish phrase for a projected \$8 billion budget deficit when the year began. ‘Ocho biliano?’ he guessed. Not quite, but close. ‘Ocho billon.’ The middle-aged class of GOP ‘asambleistas’ -- Assembly members -- focused on the simplest of Spanish phrases, but their message was politically sophisticated and reinforced by inviting the media. One word at a time -- from ‘hola’ to ‘buenos dias’ -- Republicans hope to convey that they care about the Latino community and are willing to do whatever is necessary to serve it.” [Modesto Bee, 3/4/05]

McCarthy Cosponsored A Bill To Allow Oral Surgeons To Perform Elective Cosmetic Surgery Without Being Licensed Medical Doctors Or Plastic Surgeons. According to the Orange County Register, “They want to remove the saggy skin from under your eyes. Plump up those wispy lips. Even give you a face-lift. They're not licensed medical doctors, and they aren't certified plastic surgeons. The folks pushing hard for legal permission to perform these procedures are surgeons who hold dental licenses. An Orange County Register investigation in 1999-2000 showed that oral and maxillofacial surgeons throughout California were performing elective cosmetic surgery procedures in violation of state law. The state Dental Board, which hadn't cracked down on the practice to that point, took a stand against it after the Register series ran. And since then, oral surgeons have been pushing to change state law to let them do elective surgeries. This year, Sen. Carole Migden, D-San Francisco, and Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield are carrying Senate Bill 438, which would do just that. To make their point at a Senate committee hearing this week, the two lawmakers played a videotaped segment from ‘Extreme Makeover,’ an ABC television show, featuring an oral surgeon's work on a Stanton woman.” [Orange County Register, 4/22/05]

2006

McCarthy Opposed A National Popular Vote Resolution Because He Said “Those Who Are Running For President... Are Going To Talk To Los Angeles And San Francisco” And Ignore Rural Areas. According to the Los Angeles Times, “If Schwarzenegger signs the bill -- AB 2948 by Assemblyman Tom Umberg (D-Anaheim) -- California will be the first state to embrace the ‘national popular vote’ movement, though legislation is pending in five other states: New York, Illinois, Missouri, Colorado and Louisiana.[...] Many Republicans spoke against the legislation, arguing that it was an ‘end run’ around the U.S. Constitution and would drive presidential candidates to campaign in big cities and ignore rural areas. ‘Those who are running for president,’ said Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield), ‘are going to talk to Los Angeles and San Francisco.’” [Los Angeles Times, 8/31/06]

Gov. Schwarzenegger's Chief Of Staff, Susan Kennedy, Was Recorded Saying She Was “Glad He's Running For Congress” Of McCarthy, And Schwarzenegger Called Him A “Pissed Off... Bakersfield Boy.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “On the recording, [Susan] Kennedy and [Arnold] Schwarzenegger review an exchange between Kennedy and

[Kevin] McCarthy, the Central Valley lawmaker who was then the lead negotiator for the Assembly's Republicans. 'You really pissed him off,' Schwarzenegger said. 'But you know something? You pissed him off because it hit home. That's why it pissed him off. People always get irritated; always when you hit something that is the truth, that's when people flame out.' [...] But he says to Kennedy: 'Anyway, so you hit him, you hit Bakersfield boy hard today,' referring to McCarthy, who had warned against upsetting the Legislature's minority Republicans. [...] Kennedy then says that McCarthy, who is leaving the Assembly this year, ignored the governor's specific requests on transportation funding. 'He doesn't care. There's no price,' Kennedy says. 'Anyway, don't get me started again. I am glad he's running for Congress.'" [Los Angeles Times, 9/8/06]

The Fresno Bee Gave A "Thumbs Down" To McCarthy And Other Legislators For Helping Defeat A Bill That Would Have Given Cities, Including Bakersfield, A Seat On The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Governing Board. According to the Fresno Bee, "Thumbs down to Valley Assembly members who helped defeat a bill that would have made useful changes in the governing board of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. They are: Dave Cogdill, R-Modesto; Barbara Mathews, D-Stockton; Bill Maze, R-Visalia; Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield; Nicole Parra, D-Bakersfield; and Mike Villines, R-Fresno. Only Juan Arambula, D-Fresno, who carried SB 999 in the Assembly, voted for the measure. The bill would have given Fresno, Bakersfield and Stockton permanent seats on the district's governing board. The opponents -- including most of those who represent those cities -- voted for a status quo dominated by agriculture and rural interests at the expense of the Valley's largest cities." [Fresno Bee, 9/9/06]

Speaker Fabian Nunez Revealed After Being Blamed By GOP Assemblyman Ray Haynes For Two Years For Removing Him From The Rules Committee, That He Was Removed At The Request Of McCarthy. According to the Press Enterprise, "As the clock ticked down on the legislative session Aug. 31, Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, offered brief tributes to the 35 lawmakers leaving the Assembly. When he came to Assemblyman Ray Haynes, R-Murrieta, though, Nunez also spilled the beans on a legislative move more than two years ago. In 2004, Haynes was removed from the influential Assembly Rules Committee with no explanation. Haynes angrily blamed Nunez at the time. But during last month's remarks, Nunez revealed that it was really Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy, then the GOP leader, who wanted Haynes off the rules panel." [Press Enterprise, 9/11/06]

Spending Habits

CALIFORNIA

McCarthy Spent \$38,618 In Campaign Funds On Travel Expenses In 2003, More Than All But One Other Member Of The California Assembly. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, Kevin McCarthy spent \$36,618 in campaign funds on travel expenses in 2003. Only one other legislature, Ron Calderon, spent more (\$45,507). [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 2/19/04]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Los Angeles Times via Roll Call: "McCarthy, Through His Reelection Campaign And Leadership PAC, Spent \$140,000 On Steakhouses Alone." According to Roll Call, "Along the way to the top, [Kevin] McCarthy spent and raised serious money for his party, according to his home-state newspaper the Los Angeles Times. 'In the two years leading up to last fall's election, McCarthy, through his reelection campaign and leadership PAC, spent \$140,000 on steakhouses alone.' That spending and fundraising have fueled one of the fastest rises to power in congressional history,' the newspaper wrote in June." [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

Los Angeles Times via Roll Call: McCarthy "Paid \$426,000 To Companies That Charter Private Jets, Covering 46 Trips." According to Roll Call, "Along the way to the top, [Kevin] McCarthy spent and raised serious money for his party, according to his home-state newspaper the Los Angeles Times. 'In the two years leading up to last fall's election, McCarthy, through his reelection campaign and leadership PAC, spent \$140,000 on steakhouses alone. He paid \$426,000 to companies that charter private jets, covering 46 trips.' [...] That spending and fundraising have fueled one of the fastest rises to power in congressional history,' the newspaper wrote in June." [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

Sunlight Foundation: McCarthy's PAC "Spends More Like A Vehicle For Fêting Other Members." According to the Sunlight Foundation, "House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy's MC [Majority Committee] PAC, meanwhile, spends more like a vehicle for fêting other members, a key component of McCarthy's new role. MC PAC's most expensive disbursements

over the past three months include chartered airfare, lodging, catering and the services of fundraising consultants. An invitation from the Political Party Time archive for a fundraiser in May of last year asked for contributions of up to \$42,000 at a joint party in Costa Mesa, Calif. for the Majority Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee.” [SunlightFoundation.com, [10/21/14](#)]

McCarthy’s Leadership PAC “Spent Nearly \$100,000 On Charter Flights In 2013.” According to Al Jazeera America, “These PACs in recent years have earned a reputation for financing lavish trips and extravagant soirees with lobbyists and other high-dollar political contributors. Rep. Kevin McCarthy’s leadership PAC, Majority Committee, for instance, spent nearly \$100,000 on charter flights in 2013.” [America.Aljazeera.com, [2/27/14](#)]

McCarthy Off The Cuff

McCarthy Claimed To Be “Let Down By The Republican Leadership When In Fact He Has Been In The Republican Leadership Since Republicans Took Control Of The House In 2011.” According to the New York Times, “Curiously, Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy now also takes the position that he was let down by the Republican leadership when in fact he has been in the Republican leadership since Republicans took control of the House in 2011.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

McCarthy: “I’ve Played Monopoly Before, But I’ve Never Given Anyone A Get-Out-Of-Jail-Free Card.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “Nuez’s [*sic*] indication that Shelley could sidestep a public grilling with a resignation fell flat with Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield. ‘I would never agree to that,’ McCarthy said. ‘I think he needs to testify whether he resigns or not, and the hearings need to continue. I’ve played Monopoly before, but I’ve never given anyone a get-out-of-jail-free card.’” [San Francisco Chronicle, 2/4/05]

McCarthy: “If I Could Murder One Member, I’d Never Have To Worry About Another Vote.” According to the Daily Pilot, “[Kevin] McCarthy also joked about Kevin Spacey calling him to do research for the TV show “House of Cards,” on which Spacey plays a Democratic majority whip. ‘I’ll say this about Spacey, I actually liked him — philosophically we’re different — but do you know why? I believe if Spacey made 100 bucks a week acting he’d still act,’ McCarthy said. ‘He does what he believes in; he does what he likes. He portrays this person with all the wrong things you hear about Washington. He literally murders one member. If I could murder one member, I’d never have to worry about another vote.’” [Daily Pilot, [8/7/13](#)]

McCarthy: The VA Is Failing Returning Veterans “Who Fought To The Death In Ramadi.” According to an opinion by columnist Dana Milbank for the Washington Post, “[Kevin] McCarthy called for ‘an effective politically strategy to match the military strategy,’ and he lamented that ‘we have isolated Israel while bolding places like Iran.’ He blamed President Obama’s White House for ‘putting us in tough decisions for the future,’ but he voiced hope that a ‘safe zone would create a stem the flow of refugees.’ And he scolded the Department of Veterans Affairs for failing to assist returning servicemen ‘who fought to the death in Ramadi.’” [Dana Milbank – Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

Salon Headline: “Kevin McCarthy Is A Total Dope: This Bumbling Yahoo Is About To Be Second In Line To The Presidency.” [Salon.com, [10/5/15](#)]

Salon Writer Bob Cesca: McCarthy “Shouldn’t Have Been Allowed Anywhere Near Congress, Much Less A Leadership Post.” According to an opinion by Bob Cesca for Salon, “Enter Kevin McCarthy. The Bakersfield, California Republican is the most likely conservative white-guy to ascend into John Boehner’s post as Speaker of the House. And he shouldn’t have been allowed anywhere near Congress, much less a leadership post. By now, we’re all aware of McCarthy’s admission that the congressional select committee investigating the 2012 Benghazi attacks is almost exclusively designed to undermine Hillary Clinton’s presidential aspirations. They say gaffes are merely the truths spoken out loud. This was certainly the case with McCarthy. By the way, we should underscore at this point how McCarthy isn’t just another ambitious member of Congress. He’s the House Majority Leader. So, yes, the House Majority Leader accidentally spilled the beans on one of the longest running scams in congressional history.” [Bob Cesca – Salon.com, [10/5/15](#)]

McCarthy: “I Have Visited Poland, Hungria, Estonia.” According to an opinion by columnist Dana Milbank for the Washington Post, “I have been tracking the California Republican’s valiant but often unsuccessful struggles with the English language for some time now, and I was alarmed to watch him lose another round on Monday during a foreign-policy speech to the John Hay Initiative, a new outfit of the neo-conservative bent. [...] ‘I have visited Poland, Hungria, Estonia,’ he said, and also ‘visited in our, uh, the allies in the Arab Gulf.’” [Dana Milbank – Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

Orange County Register: “Six Democrats Totaling 1,150 Pounds Bet Nine Republicans Weighing 1,450 Pounds That They Could Shed More Weight In 30 Days.” According to the Orange County Register, “He and Maldonado got 13 other lawmakers to join their challenge, boarding them on a truck outside the Capitol for a group weigh-in. Six Democrats totaling 1,150 pounds bet nine Republicans weighing 1,450 pounds that they could shed more weight in 30 days. The losing party buys the others a dinner.” [Orange County Register, 4/30/04]

- **Orange County Register: “What Was Supposed To Be A ‘Bipartisan Weigh-Off’ Ended Tuesday With A Typical Partisan Dispute.”** According to the Orange County Register, “What was supposed to be a ‘bipartisan weigh-off’ ended Tuesday with a typical partisan dispute.” [Orange County Register, 5/26/04]
- **OC Register: “But Did Six Democrats Or Nine Republicans Lose More?... The Problem: It Was Impossible To Calculate How Much Weight Was Lost By Members Of Each Party, Because Some Weighed In As Individuals And Others Weighed In As A Group.”** According to the Orange County Register, “But did six Democrats or nine Republicans lose more? A lunch was riding on the outcome. The problem: It was impossible to calculate how much weight was lost by members of each party, because some weighed in as individuals and others weighed in as a group.” [Orange County Register, 5/26/04]
- **McCarthy: “I Think We Won... If You Looked At The Democrats And The Republicans, You Know They Couldn’t Have Lost As Much Weight As Us Because We Were So Much Bigger To Begin With.”** According to the Orange County Register, “I think we won,’ said [Kevin] McCarthy, who dropped 3 pounds. ‘If you looked at the Democrats and the Republicans, you know they couldn't have lost as much weight as us because we were so much bigger to begin with.’” [Orange County Register, 5/26/04]

Washington Post’s Dana Milbank: McCarthy’s Verbal Blunders Were “Surprising, Because He Is A Native English Speaker... His Words Come Out As If They Have Been Translated By Google From A Foreign Language.”

According to an opinion by Dana Milbank for the Washington Post, “Watching McCarthy at these weekly stakeouts (he has been majority whip the past three years) can be a nail-biting event. It’s surprising, because he is a native English speaker and he speaks fluently in private or in small groups. But put him in front of a crowd and his words come out as if they have been translated by Google from a foreign language.” [Dana Milbank - Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

Milbank: “Republicans Had Better Hope McCarthy Masters Speaking Before Becoming Speaker.” According to an opinion by Dana Milbank for the Washington Post, “Republicans had better hope McCarthy masters speaking before becoming speaker.” [Dana Milbank - Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

McCarthy On Justice Being Blind: “You Can See The Statue Sitting There, Blinded In The Process With The Weights In-Between.” According to Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “On justice being blind: ‘One of the most important I think that can happen today, Lynn Jenkins’s bill, an idea of fairness, the idea that when you look across the street from the Capitol, you see the Supreme Court, you see the statue sitting there, blinded in the process with the weights in-between.’” [Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

McCarthy On Healthcare.gov: “He Only Totes The 8 Million... How Can We Fall As We Go Forward?” According to Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “On HealthCare.gov: ‘He only totes the 8 million. But the insurers are saying many of that is duplicate, that people inside the Web site that we all know did not — wasn’t successful. . . . How many have paid the premiums? How many will continue? How many are duplicates? How can we fall as we go forward?’” [Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

McCarthy On California’s Droughts: “This Has Gone Beyond The Point.” According to Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “On his home state of California: ‘We are suffering through one of the worst droughts in a century. It’s even worse based upon the regulations that we have. . . . Unfortunately, like many of our bills, we sent it to the Senate, the Senate refused to act on it, let no one act on what is their policy for a drought in California? This has gone beyond the point.’” [Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

McCarthy On A Charter School Bill: “This Is A Great Strength Of A Change Making An Equalizer Inside For Economy Throughout.” According to Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “On a charter-school bill: ‘This is a great strength of a change making an equalizer inside for economy throughout.’” [Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

McCarthy On The Government Shutdown: “Senior White House Administration Says It Doesn’t Matter How Long We’re Shut Down.” According to Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “On last year’s government shutdown: ‘As the speaker laid out, senior White House administration says it doesn’t matter how long we’re shut down.’” [Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

Relationship to GOP

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Steve Samuelian

Fresno Bee On McCarthy And Fellow Assemblyman Steve Samuelian: “To Say These Two Guys Are Mortal Enemies Is An Overstatement. But Not By A Lot.” According to the Fresno Bee, “Fate, it seems, just won't let go of Kevin McCarthy and Steve Samuelian. If it had, the two freshman Assembly members wouldn't be sitting next to one another in the state Capitol. But they are. To say these guys are mortal enemies is an overstatement. But not by a lot.” [Fresno Bee, 1/25/03]

Fresno Bee: “McCarthy... And Samuelian... Have Been Feuding For Well Over A Decade.” According to the Fresno Bee, “Fate, it seems, just won't let go of Kevin McCarthy and Steve Samuelian. If it had, the two freshman Assembly members wouldn't be sitting next to one another in the state Capitol. But they are. To say these guys are mortal enemies is an overstatement. But not by a lot. McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, and Samuelian, R-Clovis, have been feuding for well over a decade.” [Fresno Bee, 1/25/03]

Fresno Bee: “It Started When They Were On The California College Republicans State Board In The Late ‘80s. Conflict Arose Over Whom To Endorse And What Direction To Take The Organization.” According to the Fresno Bee, “It started when they were on the California College Republicans state board in the late '80s. Conflict arose over whom to endorse and what direction to take the organization.” [Fresno Bee, 1/25/03]

McCarthy, “Who Shares A Desk In The Chamber With Samuelian, Stayed Away Throughout The Brief Session.” According to the Fresno Bee, “[Steve] Samuelian arrived on the Assembly floor several minutes before Tuesday's session convened, sat at his desk and spoke quietly with lawmakers. Bakersfield Republican Kevin McCarthy, who shares a desk in the chamber with Samuelian, stayed away throughout the brief session. Samuelian kept his back turned to television cameras trained on him.” [Fresno Bee, 2/12/03]

Duf Sundheim

McCarthy Supported Silicon Valley Lawyer Duf Sundheim Over California GOP Vice Chair Bill Back For The California Party Chairmanship. According to the Fresno Bee, “Delegates will select a party chairman to replace Shawn Steel, which may explain why party activists are starting to joke about the ‘circular firing squad.’ Indeed, it seems the state GOP spends more time attacking each other than taking on Democrats. Here in the Valley, most people are backing Silicon Valley lawyer Duf Sundheim over Bill Back, the party's vice chairman. Among Sundheim's supporters are GOP strategist Michael Der Manouel Jr., Assembly Members Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, and Steve Samuelian, R-Clovis; Reps. Devin Nunes, R-Visalia, Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield, and George Radanovich, R-Mariposa; and party activists such as Carol Chandler and Tal Cloud.” [Fresno Bee, 2/8/03]

McCarthy Supported Duf Sundheim For Party Chair, Who Pledged To Remove An Anti-Abortion Plank From The State Party Platform. According to the California Journal, “Last year, the battle lines between conservatives and moderates became somewhat blurred during the contest for the party chairmanship between Duf Sundheim and Bill Back. Back was endorsed by the conservative California Republican Assembly, although Sundheim was considered at least as conservative as Back. When Sundheim won, he pledged to try to make the party more attractive to women and moderates without offending conservatives by removing the anti-abortion plank from the party's official platform. For the record, [Kevin] McCarthy supported Sundheim.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

Tony Strickland

Tony Strickland Announced He Had McCarthy's Support To Challenge Sen. Barbara Boxer For Her Seat. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, "Assemblyman Tony Strickland, the No. 2 Republican in the California Assembly, announced his candidacy Wednesday for the GOP nomination to run against U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer next year. Strickland, R-Moorpark, formed an exploratory committee in August to consider a run against Boxer, a Democrat who is expected to seek a third term in 2004. Strickland, chairman of the Assembly Republican caucus, said he had the support of 19 of the Legislature's 47 Republicans, including Assembly Minority Leader Dave Cox, R-Fair Oaks, and Cox's designated successor, Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 10/15/03]

Ted Costa

McCarthy Worked With "Anti-Tax Crusader Ted Costa" On A Ballot Initiative For Redistricting Reform. According to the San Jose Mercury News, "Emboldened by the success of his recall initiative, anti-tax crusader Ted Costa said Tuesday he plans to go back to the voters with a ballot measure to break incumbents' grip on California's Legislature and congressional delegation. Proponents of redrawing the state's political map have tried before to overhaul the redistricting process, which is controlled by the Legislature and in 2001 protected its Democratic majority and incumbent Republicans. [...]Costa, the father of the petition drive to oust Gov. Gray Davis, is collaborating with incoming Republican Assembly Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield and U.S. Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Visalia, to put an initiative on the ballot in November 2004." [San Jose Mercury News, 10/15/03]

Costa Said That The Initiative Was "Drawn Up In Conjunction With" McCarthy. According to the Desert Sun, "Ted Costa, who started the recall drive that bounced Gov. Gray Davis from office, filed an initiative Thursday with the attorney general for a new redistricting system that would force legislators to share the job with retired judges and voters. If approved, the plan could produce new state and federal districts as soon as 2006. Costa argued a new plan is needed as soon as possible to replace the current bipartisan plan, which resulted in safe districts for most incumbents. 'I think the time is right now for redistricting (reform) to go over the top,' said Costa, who heads a self-styled reform group called People's Advocate. Costa said his redistricting initiative was drawn up in conjunction with U.S. Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Visalia, and incoming Assembly GOP leader, Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield." [Desert Sun, 11/2/03]

McCarthy Provided Costa With Tickets To Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's Swearing-In Ceremony. According to the Los Angeles Times, "Ted Costa, the anti-tax activist who drew up the original recall petition and has been critical of Schwarzenegger, praised the new governor for 'saying the magic words, that he works for the people.' Costa was born in Sacramento and has lived much of his life here, but said he had never before attended an inaugural. He did not initially receive an invitation to the invitation-only swearing in, but was told over the weekend that he would get tickets. When he came to the swearing-in headquarters to pick them up, they weren't there. Frustrated, Costa decided to attend anyway, using tickets provided by the incoming Assembly minority leader, Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield)." [Los Angeles Times, 11/18/03]

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

McCarthy Served On Gov.-Elect Arnold Schwarzenegger's Transition Committee. According to the Associated Press State and Local Wire, "Gov.-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger's transition committee: [...]Kevin McCarthy, Republican Assemblyman from Bakersfield." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 10/9/03]

McCarthy: Schwarzenegger "Brings New People To The Table Who Haven't Been In Politics But Politics Is Involved In Their Lives." According to the Fresno Bee, "Also on the team are former Secretary of State Bill Jones of Fresno; Assembly Member Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield; former state Sen. James Nielsen, who has a small cattle ranch in Sanger; Bill Pauli, president of the California Farm Bureau Federation; and former Assembly Member Dean Andal of Stockton. [...] McCarthy, the Assembly's incoming Republican leader, said the team's diversity is an opportunity for Valley residents to have a bigger say in state business. He said he will talk with potential nominees who 'might not even know they're in my mind.' 'He brings new people to the table who haven't been in politics but politics is involved in their lives,' McCarthy said. 'He will listen to all sides, and in the end, he will make the decision. He will try to find the brightest people in the industries.'" [Fresno Bee, 10/10/03]

McCarthy: Schwarzenegger "Will Listen To All Sides, And In The End, He Will Make The Decision. He Will Try To Find The Brightest People In The Industries." According to the Fresno Bee, "Also on the team are former Secretary of State Bill Jones of Fresno; Assembly Member Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield; former state Sen. James Nielsen, who has a small cattle ranch in Sanger; Bill Pauli, president of the California Farm Bureau Federation; and former Assembly Member

Dean Andal of Stockton. [...] McCarthy, the Assembly's incoming Republican leader, said the team's diversity is an opportunity for Valley residents to have a bigger say in state business. He said he will talk with potential nominees who 'might not even know they're in my mind.' 'He brings new people to the table who haven't been in politics but politics is involved in their lives,' McCarthy said. 'He will listen to all sides, and in the end, he will make the decision. He will try to find the brightest people in the industries.'" [Fresno Bee, 10/10/03]

McCarthy On Schwarzenegger: "I Think He's Doing A Tremendous Job, Actually Very Professional. You See That He's Prepared To Govern From Day 1." According to the Los Angeles Times, "Kevin McCarthy Incoming Assembly minority leader. At 38, a conservative Republican from Bakersfield and a businessman from a long line of cattle ranchers; replaces Dave Cox as minority leader in January; a relatively unknown freshman in the Capitol; a member of Schwarzenegger's transition team. On Schwarzenegger: 'I think he's doing a tremendous job, actually very professional. You see that he's prepared to govern from Day 1. He's putting the team together, and I think he's got a mandate and agenda to move forward to bring California working again.'" [Los Angeles Times, 10/23/03]

McCarthy On Schwarzenegger: "Just His Presence – You Can See People Are Moved By Him." According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, "Before he came into office, many lawmakers expected Schwarzenegger to be at best a caricature of his bodybuilding and movie roles, or at worst a pampered prima donna. But in the day-to-day work of government, his charismatic personality and appetite for Armani suits, expensive cigars and gas-swilling Hummers has left legislators by turns awed, cajoled, confounded. 'Just his presence - you see people are moved by him,' said the Assembly Republican leader, Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield, who has twice been a guest on one of the private jets Schwarzenegger uses to get around the state." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 3/6/04]

McCarthy Said That Assembly Republicans Needed To "Be An Arm Of Arnold That Would Take His Vision Forward." According to the San Francisco Chronicle, "Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield said their goals were to prioritize and fund the top issues for Californians. He said they would work closely with Schwarzenegger. 'Our question is how we can work together and how can we be an arm of Arnold that would take his vision forward,' he said." [San Francisco Chronicle, 3/13/04]

McCarthy Described Himself As A Member Of "Arnold's Army." According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, "Republican Assembly leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield said Democrats learned nothing from the recall of former Gov. Gray Davis. 'We may have to wait until November to get more of us to join Arnold's army,' he said." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 7/2/04]

McCarthy Defended Gov. Schwarzenegger's "Girlie Men" Comments About Democratic Legislators, Said "The Governor Has A Sense Of Humor." According to the Sacramento Bee, "On Saturday, he angered Democrats by calling them 'girlie men' because 'they don't have the guts' to admit they are allied with 'the unions, the trial lawyers' in the budget debate. The 'girlie men' reference was borrowed from an old 'Saturday Night Live' sketch spoofing him. On Sunday, Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield downplayed the comments. 'I think what the governor is saying is, you have to stand up to special interests. You cannot be wimps to special interests and you have to push back,' he said. 'The governor has a sense of humor and I think that's what he was doing.'" [Sacramento Bee, 7/19/04]

McCarthy Said The "Girlie Men" Comments Displayed Schwarzenegger's "Personality Of Humor, Of Leadership." According to the Alameda Times-Star, "'The 'girlie men' comment is about 'Saturday Night Live' making fun of the governor,' said Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield. 'This is a governor who uses a personality of humor, of leadership.'" [Alameda Times-Star, 7/20/04]

The Comment Was A "Big Hurdle" In Budget Negotiations. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, "While there is strong evidence that a final deal is not far away, big hurdles remain - including the still lingering effects of remarks Schwarzenegger made over the weekend calling the Legislature's Democratic majority 'girlie men' for not standing up to special interests." [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 7/20/04]

Senate President Pro Tem John Burton Said The Comments "Could Extend The Current Budget Impasse By As Much As Two Weeks." According to the Sacramento Bee, "The Senate's top Democrat said Monday that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's weekend attacks could extend the current budget impasse by as much as two weeks. 'You can't go kick somebody in the groin and then say, 'Come, let us reason together, come let us do this, let us join hands and sing 'Kumbaya,' said Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, D-San Francisco. 'It doesn't work that way in life. It doesn't work that way in politics and it doesn't really work that way in the Capitol. 'I'm hoping that after this weekend's venting and rant, that we may

be able to get back to trying to solve the problems of the people of the state of California.' Burton's comments came on the heels of a three-day tour in which Schwarzenegger visited Democratic-held legislative districts to slam the incumbents over the budget delay." [Sacramento Bee, 7/20/04]

- **Burton: "You Can't Go Kick Someone In The Groin And Then Say Let's... Join Hands And Sing 'Kumbaya.'"** According to the San Francisco Chronicle, "'You can't go kick somebody in the groin and then say let's ... join hands and sing 'Kumbaya,'" [John] Burton said. 'It doesn't work that way in life, it doesn't work that way in politics and it doesn't really work that way in the Capitol.'" [San Francisco Chronicle, 7/20/04]

McCarthy: "The Governor Showed A Great Deal Of Leadership This Weekend." According to the Sacramento Bee, "Republicans said Democrats were overreacting to Schwarzenegger's comments and that they shared his contention that the Democrats, who are the majority in the Senate and Assembly, were standing in the way of a budget. "The governor showed a great deal of leadership this weekend," said Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield, the Assembly's Republican leader." [Sacramento Bee, 7/20/04]

McCarthy Based The California Assembly GOP's 2004 Electoral Strategy On "Getting Arnold's Agenda Passed." According to the Orange County Register, "Nevertheless, Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, R- Bakersfield, has staked much of his fall strategy on Schwarzenegger. A month ago, McCarthy called Republican candidates to Sacramento to bring them in line with the governor's agenda: A balanced budget, redistricting and education reform, job creation and Schwarzenegger's plan to 'blow up the boxes' of state government. Candidates will campaign not as Republicans but on 'getting Arnold's agenda passed,' McCarthy said. Opponents will be billed as obstructionists to Schwarzenegger's reforms." [Orange County Register, 8/25/04]

McCarthy Helped Gov. Schwarzenegger Stage A Photo Op By Sending "Staff Members Of Every Republican Assembly Member An Email Labeled 'URGENT'" To Form A Backdrop Of "What Appeared To Be Cheering Fans." According to the Orange County Register, "A recent example took place March 1, with Schwarzenegger staging an elaborate two-part event in Sacramento to promote his self-styled 'Year of Reform' ballot measures, which included efforts to overhaul state pensions and alter teacher pay. The event began inside the governor's taxpayer-owned suite of Capitol offices, where Schwarzenegger made a campaign vow to reporters: 'I will be going up and down the state to gather signatures for our reforms, so that we can get our reforms on the ballot, because we need 600,000 valid signatures for each one of those reforms.' It ended with Schwarzenegger driving a Humvee labeled 'Reform 1' from the Capitol to a local Applebee's restaurant, where he worked the tables for signatures on his voter petitions. State resources were used throughout the event. Stutzman, who works a few doors down from Schwarzenegger's Capitol office, said he planned the event and consulted with members of the governor's state advance staff 'on how we'd make something like that work.' [...] Just before Schwarzenegger emerged from his office to board the Humvee near the Capitol's east steps, an aide to Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy sent staff members of every Republican Assembly member an e-mail labeled 'URGENT' asking them to gather on the steps. Dozens left their Capitol offices, helping form a backdrop of what appeared to be cheering fans for news cameras." [Orange County Register, 5/8/05]

Bill Jones

McCarthy Endorsed Former Secretary Of State Bill Jones To Challenge Sen. Barbara Boxer. According to City News Service, "Sen. Dick Ackerman, R-Irvine, endorsed former Secretary of State Bill Jones for the U.S. Senate today, the Jones campaign announced. "Bill has worked hard in Sacramento to make California a better place," Ackerman said in a statement released by the Jones campaign. "He is known for being able to reach across party lines and build consensus. I look forward to Bill waging an aggressive campaign against Barbara Boxer." Jones was also endorsed today by Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield. Jones has also been endorsed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, former Govs. George Deukmejian and Pete Wilson, five members of Congress and 13 other legislators. Other Republicans competing for the nomination to oppose Boxer include former Los Altos Hills Mayor Toni Casey, former Assemblyman Howard Kaloogian, R-Carlsbad, who chaired the movement to recall then-Gov. Gray Davis, and former U.S. Treasurer Rosario Marin." [City News Service, 1/27/04]

FUNDRAISING

California

Just A Year Into His Time As California State Assemblyman, McCarthy Had “A Reputation For Savvy And Prolific Fund-Raising Prowess.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “They also note that Assembly Republicans selected a new leader on Monday, Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, who has a reputation for savvy and prolific fund-raising prowess, and they worry about losing control of the Assembly in the general election next year.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 9/10/03]

2003: LA Times: “Colleagues Also See In McCarthy A Potent Campaign Fund-Raiser.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “Colleagues also see in [Kevin] McCarthy a potent campaign fund-raiser who can tap into the money sources of his former boss, Rep. Thomas, powerful chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. So far, McCarthy estimates he has raised more than \$1 million for Republicans.” [Los Angeles Times, 11/3/03]

Donors Could “Taste Port Wines With” McCarthy. According to the Sacramento Bee, “With hundreds of bills pending in the session's final days, lawmakers are busy filling their schedules with Sacramento fund-raising events - one final chance to tap the wallets of lobbyists and interests who have business to conduct. The annual late-session dance card is filling up for some donors, who face at least 42 events on the schedule next week. And 14 more are slated for the following week, the last full week of session this year. An energetic giver could attend 19 legislative soirees Wednesday alone, ponying up a cool \$112,000 to eat, drink, smoke cigars and consume way too much coffee. Campaign finance reformers long have blasted the practice as a not-so-subtle form of legal extortion, although Proposition 34 has limited the amount of each contribution. Some events offer added perks: play golf with Sen. Sam Aanstad, R-Grass Valley, at exclusive Winchester Country Club, and taste port wines with Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield.” [Sacramento Bee, 8/14/04]

- **McCarthy Was “Hosting A Wine And Cigar Event.”** According to the Los Angeles Times, “Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) is hosting a wine and cigar event this week, and Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez (D-Los Angeles) is holding a reception for Ira Ruskin, an Assembly candidate from the Bay Area. Buy five tickets to that event and get ‘special recognition,’ according to the invitation.” [Los Angeles Times, 8/18/04]
- **The Wine And Cigar Tasting Cost \$1,500 Or \$3,200 For A “Pioneer Membership.”** According to the Los Angeles Times, “Friends of Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) Republican for Assembly reelection 2004. ‘Tasting of fine port wines and cigars.’ Pioneer Membership \$3,200; Ticket \$1,500.” [Los Angeles Times, 8/18/04]

House of Representatives

In His First Congressional Election, McCarthy Was “So Far Ahead Of His Democratic Opponent... That He Has Begun Acting Like An Incumbent By Making Contributions To Other House Republican Campaigns.” According to the San Luis Obispo Tribune, “Meanwhile, in the contest to fill the 22nd congressional district seat being vacated by longtime Rep. Bill Thomas, Republican Assembly leader Kevin McCarthy is so far ahead of Democratic opponent Sharon Beery that he has begun acting like an incumbent by making contributions to other House Republican campaigns.” [San Luis Obispo Tribune, 10/18/06]

In McCarthy’s First Election, A “Cakewalk,” He “Distributed Tens Of Thousands Of Dollars To Open-Seat Republican Candidates As Well As \$50,000 To The National Republican Congressional Committee.” According to the New Republic, “[Kevin] McCarthy's campaign chest quickly swelled to over \$1 million, little of which he needed for his own cakewalk to the House. Perpetually on the lookout for new friends, he set about sharing the wealth. He distributed tens of thousands of dollars to open-seat Republican candidates as well as \$50,000 to the National Republican Congressional Committee. Illinois Congressman Peter Roskam was among those to receive a helping hand. In the midst of his tough race for a Chicago-area seat, recalls Roskam, ‘I got a phone call from him. He says, ‘Hey, I’m coming into town, and I’d love to have breakfast.’ The two men sat down at the Hyatt in Lisle, Illinois, where McCarthy expressed his desire to help Roskam any way he could. ‘When you’re involved in a competitive race,’ says Roskam, ‘having people come over the hilltop, so to speak, is incredibly encouraging.’” [The New Republic, 11/11/10]

McCarthy Raised “More Than \$1 Million” As Of Mid-October 2006, His Opponent Had Raised \$14,000. According to the San Luis Obispo Tribune, “McCarthy, a Bakersfield Republican who benefits from his leadership position in Sacramento, reported raising more \$256,000 in the quarter, bringing his total receipts for the campaign to more than \$1 million. McCarthy won the three-way Republican primary in June with 85 percent of the vote. The McCarthy campaign spent \$75,560 during the quarter, leaving it with a cash balance of more than \$473,000. [Sharon] Beery, an Arroyo Grande businesswoman, was unopposed in Democratic primary but still got fewer than half the votes that McCarthy drew in his

contest. That disadvantage is reflected in her fundraising as well. Beery reported raising less than \$10,000 for the quarter, and just \$14,500 for the election cycle.” [San Luis Obispo Tribune, 10/18/06]

Los Angeles Times Via Roll Call: “He Raised At Least \$10.5 Million For His Own And Party Political Committees.”

According to Roll Call, “Along the way to the top, McCarthy spent and raised serious money for his party, according to his home-state newspaper the Los Angeles Times. ‘In the two years leading up to last fall’s election, McCarthy, through his reelection campaign and leadership PAC, spent \$140,000 on steakhouses alone. He paid \$426,000 to companies that charter private jets, covering 46 trips. And he raised at least \$10.5 million for his own and party political committees. That spending and fundraising have fueled one of the fastest rises to power in congressional history,’ the newspaper wrote in June.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

- **McCarthy Transferred \$1.25 Million To The National Republican Congressional Committee By July 2015.**

According to Politico, “McCarthy has transferred \$1.25 million to the National Republican Congressional Committee, and he has given \$620,000 directly to fellow Republicans since the beginning of 2015, according to the aide. In the second quarter alone, McCarthy pulled in \$2.6 million for his three campaign committees — Kevin McCarthy for Congress, Majority Committee PAC and the McCarthy Victory Fund. He has also helped raise roughly \$3 million for fellow Republicans.” [Politico, [7/15/15](#)]

Los Angeles Times: McCarthy “Distributed To Other Republicans Tens Of Thousands Of The Dollars He Had Raised.”

According to The Los Angeles Times, “Before he was sworn in, McCarthy had distributed to other Republicans tens of thousands of the dollars he had raised. He also gave \$50,000 from his campaign funds to the National Republican Congressional Committee, a generous amount for someone who had not yet been elected. He traveled widely, lending support to Republicans in difficult races.” [Los Angeles Times, [6/5/15](#)]

McCarthy’s Majority Committee PAC Spent \$1.18 Million Supporting Republican House Candidates In The 2014 Election Cycle.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Rep. Kevin McCarthy’s Majority Committee PAC spent \$1.18 million supporting Republican House candidates in the 2014 election cycle. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy’s Fundraising Was “Primarily Bankrolled By Blue Chip Industries” And His Top Donors Included Chevron And Goldman Sachs.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, “[Rep. Kevin] McCarthy’s fundraising effort is primarily bankrolled by blue chip industries. His campaign committee and leadership PAC have received generous funding from the finance, real estate, pharmaceutical and oil and gas industries, with some of his top donors including Blue Cross/ Blue Shield, Chevron Corp and Goldman Sachs.” [OpenSecrets.org, [6/12/14](#)]

- **McCarthy’s Majority Committee PAC Received \$10,000 From Koch Industries In The 2012 Election Cycle.**

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Rep. Kevin McCarthy’s Majority Committee PAC received \$10,000 from Koch Industries in the 2012 election cycle. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [9/29/15](#)]

Washington Post Headline: “Kevin McCarthy Moving Quickly To Raise Money Off Likely Promotion To House Speaker.” [Washington Post, [9/25/15](#)]

Washington Post: “Aides To House Majority Leader Rep. Kevin McCarthy Sent An Invitation Friday Afternoon For A Fundraiser To Benefit The Likely Next House Speaker.”

According to the Washington Post, “Aides to House Majority Leader Rep. Kevin McCarthy sent an invitation Friday afternoon for a fundraiser to benefit the likely next House speaker, quickly capitalizing on the news that current Speaker John Boehner will step down.” [Washington Post, [9/25/15](#)]

The Minimum Contribution For The Fundraiser Was \$1,000; The Top Ask Was \$43,800.

According to the Washington Post, “The minimum contribution to get into the 6 p.m. reception on Oct. 1, the first day of the fourth fundraising quarter, is \$1,000. The top-tier ask is \$43,800, to be spread across the National Republican Congressional Committee and related entities.” [Washington Post, [9/25/15](#)]

Washington Post: “It’s Unusual For A Fundraising Invite To Go Out At 5 P.M. On Friday, But McCarthy’s Finance Team Clearly Wants To Strike While The Iron Is Hot.”

According to the Washington Post, “It’s unusual for a fundraising invite to go out at 5 p.m. on a Friday, but McCarthy’s finance team clearly wants to strike while the iron is hot.” [Washington Post, [9/25/15](#)]

Politico: “McCarthy Hits The Road To Raise Money For Colleagues As Much As Anyone In The House.” According to Politico, “[Kevin] McCarthy hits the road to raise money for colleagues as much as anyone in the House. He has given almost \$454,000 to incumbents and \$77,500 to GOP challengers this cycle. He’s visited 27 colleagues in their districts since 2012, and will hold 77 D.C. fundraisers for candidates and fellow GOP lawmakers. He has also helped recruit a huge number of House Republicans.” [Politico, [3/6/14](#)]

The Nation: McCarthy Has “Assiduously Courted Banks And Other Big-Business Interests” And Has “Helped His Less Able, Less Confident GOP Peers Get Access To These Funds.” According to The Nation, “[Kevin] McCarthy soon made the move for Washington, successfully running for Congress in 2006. In the election cycles since then, he has assiduously courted banks and other big-business interests, receiving large amounts of PAC money from, and contributions from employees of, such titans as Goldman Sachs, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, AFLAC and the Independent Petroleum Association of America. And critically, McCarthy has helped his less able, less confident GOP peers get access to these funds too. GOP media consultant Wayne Johnson recalls seeing McCarthy coaching nervous freshman Congressmen on how to coax money out of local donors over the phone. In the 2010 election cycle, as he was making his move into more elite party circles, McCarthy raised a million dollars for candidates around the country, much of it from the insurance, securities, pharmaceutical, entertainment and healthcare industries.” [The Nation, [11/17/10](#)]

PARTY LOYALTY

Roll Call: “McCarthy’s Annual Party Unity Score... Has Never Dropped Below The GOP Average. His Lifetime Score Of 96.5 Percent Is Four Points Higher Than The Party Average.” According to Roll Call, “Were [Kevin] McCarthy to become speaker, his voting record suggests that, like his predecessor, he values voting the party line. For his entire House career, McCarthy’s annual party unity score, based on a calculation of votes that split the majority of Republicans and Democrats, has never dropped below the GOP average. His lifetime score of 96.5 percent is four points higher than the party average.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

Los Angeles Times: McCarthy Can Be Seen As A “Flexible Moderate” While At The Same Time “Many In The Tea Party Also Consider McCarthy To Be On Their Side.” According to The Los Angeles Times, “[Former Los Angeles mayor Richard] Riordan is excited to bankroll [Kevin] McCarthy because he sees him as a flexible moderate. ‘He is very open-minded,’ Riordan said. When the archbishop of Los Angeles asked Riordan whether McCarthy might be open to chatting about immigration issues, Riordan said, ‘I called Kevin up and within a minute he said yes.’ Yet many in the tea party also consider McCarthy to be on their side. Many tea party-influenced members, who typically view the GOP as too prone to compromise and too attentive to the interests of big business rather than conservative, populist concerns, owe their seats in Congress to him. He recruited them. He raised money for them. He doesn’t scold when they rebel against positions taken by the GOP leadership, they say. Instead, he often takes them to dinner to discuss what his campaign statement called ‘the common goal to establish a freer and more prosperous country.’” [Los Angeles Times, [6/5/15](#)]

Los Angeles Times: “McCarthy Seamlessly Moves From Recruiting Ultraconservatives To Meeting With Strategists From The GOP’s Business-Oriented Faction.” According to The Los Angeles Times, “The majority leader’s ability to avoid ideological debate and deal with all factions of the party is admired by colleagues, few of whom can shed political baggage so easily. It is a key asset for him in raising money. [Kevin] McCarthy seamlessly moves from recruiting ultraconservatives to meeting with strategists from the GOP’s business-oriented faction, who want to limit the power of the party’s right wing.” [Los Angeles Times, [6/5/15](#)]

McCarthy’s Leadership PAC Contributed \$10,000 To Dave Brat’s Congressional Campaign After Brat Defeated Eric Cantor In The 2014 Primary. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, “Prior to his defeat of [Rep. Eric] Cantor, [Dave] Brat’s campaign had received just \$1,000 from a political action committee. But there’s nothing a PAC loves more than a winner: In the weeks and months after Brat’s victory, dozens of them sent him a total of \$180,000. [...] Brat’s campaign also received \$10,000 from the leadership PAC of Boehner’s No. 2 man, Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), the House Majority Leader following Cantor’s defeat. In fact, Boehner and McCarthy are tied at No. 3 on the list of Brat’s top donors.” [OpenSecrets.org, [1/6/15](#)]

McCarthy Gave Boehner A B-Minutes As Speaker, Suggesting He “Did Not Listen Enough To The Most Conservative Members, As Has Been Their Complaint.” According to the New York Times, “In the interview on Tuesday on Fox, Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy spoke uncharitably about Mr. Boehner, who just a week ago he claimed to fully

support. “I think John Boehner deserves a B-minus,” Mr. McCarthy said in the interview, suggesting that Mr. Boehner did not listen enough to the most conservative members, as has been their complaint.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

McCarthy “Has Adaptively Shifted Toward The Right” Throughout His Time In Party Leadership. According to the New York Times, “Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy now also takes the position that he was let down by the Republican leadership when in fact he has been in the Republican leadership since Republicans took control of the House in 2011. He has adaptively shifted toward the right, an echo of political moves that Mr. McCarthy made as majority leader and before that as majority whip. In 2013, as whip, he pressed Republicans to vote on a budget deal that raised taxes on affluent Americans, only to then turn and vote against it, avoiding going on record in favor of a tax increase. ‘That really upset a lot of people,’ said Representative Charlie Dent, Republican of Pennsylvania, who was on the whip team who twisted arms on Mr. McCarthy’s behalf. ‘I didn’t whip votes for the fiscal cliff so that leaders could vote against it.’ In June 2014, just days after the then-House majority leader, Eric Cantor, was defeated by a Tea Party challenger in a Republican primary, Mr. McCarthy suddenly announced that he no longer supported the existence of the federal Export-Import Bank.” [New York Times, [9/30/15](#)]

McCarthy Was “Privately Assuring Republicans He’ll Take A Tougher Stand Against The White House – And Also Against The Senate GOP Leadership.” According to CNN, “Rep. Kevin McCarthy, who is quietly locking down support to be the next House speaker, is privately assuring Republicans he’ll take a tougher stand against the White House -- and also the Senate GOP leadership, according to people familiar with the talks.” [CNN, [9/27/15](#)]

McCarthy’s Voting Record Was “Well To The Left” Of Eric Cantor’s According To Several Conservative Groups. According to the Washington Examiner, “Several groups placed [Kevin] McCarthy’s voting record well to the left of Cantor’s for 2013. The American Conservative Union rated McCarthy at 72 percent compared with 84 percent for Cantor; Heritage Action ratings place Cantor at 53 percent and McCarthy at 42 percent; and Club for Growth had Cantor at 68 percent and McCarthy at 53 percent. Moving away from conservative groups, the National Journal rated Cantor the 80th most conservative member of the House while McCarthy was 170th.” [Washington Examiner, [6/12/14](#)]

The Nation: McCarthy Is Known For “Caring Deeply For The Institutional Success Of The GOP.” According to The Nation, “Like Rahm Emanuel, [Kevin] McCarthy is party-partisan, caring deeply for the institutional success of the GOP. The incoming whip, say observers, is far more interested in the game of politics than in complex theoretical policy models or one-size-fits-all ideological packages.” [The Nation, [11/17/10](#)]

LEADERSHIP STYLE

California

Los Angeles Times: “McCarthy... Says He Sees No Reason To Compromise Before The Original Proposal Is Voted On In The Assembly.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “And Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield says he sees no reason to compromise before the original proposal is voted on in the Assembly. ‘Have a debate on the issues, and let the power of ideas win,’ he said. Schwarzenegger, however, said he was prepared to be flexible. During his swing through Dixon, he suggested he is aggressively looking for middle ground.” [Los Angeles Times, 7/6/04]

McCarthy “Supported House Speaker Dennis Hastert’s Decision Not To Resign Despite Calls That He Do So.” According to the Obispo Tribune, “[Kevin] McCarthy said the Foley scandal raised troubling questions for congressional leadership. The assemblyman said he supported House Speaker Dennis Hastert’s decision not to resign despite calls that he do so, but added that any official who knew of the matter should step down. ‘I think the public will judge (the Republican Party) on how we clean it up,’ McCarthy said.” [Obispo Tribune, 10/9/06]

- **Huffington Post: “Hastert And Other GOP Congressional Leaders... Knew About” Foley “In Late 2005, Months Before The Scandal Made Headlines In September 2006.”** According to the Huffington Post, “To be sure, the GOP was also dogged by an unpopular president waging a deeply controversial war. But Hastert and other GOP congressional leaders were implicated in the Foley scandal when it was revealed that they knew about the emails in late 2005, months before the scandal made headlines in September 2006. Additionally, they allowed Foley to serve as chair of a congressional caucus on missing and exploited children, right up until he resigned from Congress. Foley had also been a major proponent of anti-gay legislation.” [Huffington Post, [5/28/15](#)]

- **Huffington Post: “Hastert And Other GOP Congressional Leaders... Allowed Foley To Serve As Chair Of A Congressional Caucus On Missing And Exploited Children.”** According to the Huffington Post, “To be sure, the GOP was also dogged by an unpopular president waging a deeply controversial war. But Hastert and other GOP congressional leaders were implicated in the Foley scandal when it was revealed that they knew about the emails in late 2005, months before the scandal made headlines in September 2006. Additionally, they allowed Foley to serve as chair of a congressional caucus on missing and exploited children, right up until he resigned from Congress. Foley had also been a major proponent of anti-gay legislation.” [Huffington Post, [5/28/15](#)]

House of Representatives

McCarthy Hired His Mentor & Former Boss, Rep. Bill Thomas’s Chief Of Staff; Thomas Was Chair Of The Ways And Means Committee. According to the San Luis Obispo Tribune, “Still, McCarthy is counting on Thomas’ office to give him a good start and has hired James Min, Thomas’ chief of staff, to run his new office, wherever it might be. ‘Name one other freshman who can get the chief of staff of the Ways and Means Committee chairman,’ McCarthy smiled. ‘I can hit the ground running faster than anyone else.’” [San Luis Obispo Tribune, 11/18/06]

McCarthy Encouraged “Universal Buy In On Legislation” Among Republican Legislators. According to Politico, “[Kevin] McCarthy is already meeting more with committee chairmen, and he wants near universal buy in on legislation. He wants committee chairmen to seek input from the rank and file early in the bill-drafting conference so problems don’t surface when legislation hits the floor. ‘As a majority,’ he said, ‘you should be able to solve your problems ahead of time.’” [Politico.com, [10/26/14](#)]

New York Times: As Majority Whip, McCarthy’s Approach Was To “Acknowledge The Independence Of The Hot-Blooded New Charges While Instilling In Them A Sense Of Team Loyalty.” According to the New York Times, “And so to hold the caucus together, [Kevin] McCarthy’s delicate approach has been to acknowledge the independence of the hot-blooded new charges while instilling in them a sense of team loyalty — and thereby moving them, ever so gently, to a victory that will be enduring rather than Pyrrhic.” [New York Times, [7/31/11](#)]

Republican Representative Tom McClintock: McCarthy “Mastered That Long-Lost Art Of Listening” And Is “So Good At Building Consensus.” According to NPR, “Many of the conference’s more conservative members — people like [Rep. Tom] McClintock — are optimistic about the possibility of the Californian at the helm. ‘I never found John Boehner to be a particularly good listener,’ McClintock said Friday. ‘Kevin McCarthy has mastered that long-lost art of listening. That’s perhaps why he’s so good at building consensus.’” [NPR.org, [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy Has A “Knack For Helping Colleagues Get Elected” And An “Ability To Maintain A Personal Connection.” According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, “Rep. Kevin McCarthy’s knack for helping colleagues get elected and his ability to maintain a personal connection have given him the advantage in the race for House majority leader despite calls by some Republicans for a new, more conservative direction.” [San Diego Union-Tribune, [6/13/14](#)]

McCarthy “Played A Major Role In Recruiting The 2010 Class” Of Republican House Members. According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, “[Kevin] McCarthy was elected by colleagues to serve as majority whip after the 2010 elections. He had played a major role in recruiting the 2010 class that helped the GOP take the majority.” [San Diego Union-Tribune, [6/13/14](#)]

- **The 2010 Freshman Members Came In With A “Mission – To Throttle The Role Of The Federal Government.”** According to the New York Times, “The 87 new members constitute more than a third of the 239-member Republican caucus and are the reason that the G.O.P. now controls the House. Nearly 40 percent of them are self-styled “citizen politicians” who have never held office and who rode into Washington on the Tea Party wave. Taken as a group, the freshmen are at least as conservative as the foot soldiers of Newt Gingrich’s 1994 Republican revolution. [...] The difference is that the class of 1994 was thoroughly beholden (for a couple of years, anyway) to Gingrich, while this year’s group harbors no particular allegiance either to Boehner or to the well-being of the Republican Party. As Tim Griffin, a freshman from Arkansas, put it to me, ‘A lot of us feel that we’re here on a mission, and the mission is now, and we’re not that concerned about the political consequences.’ That mission — to throttle the role of the federal government in general and Obama’s progressive initiatives specifically — may seem more like a kamikaze pursuit to some of the freshmen as the 2012 elections get closer and their constituents become increasingly impatient for government solutions.” [New York Times, [7/13/11](#)]

McCarthy “Has Built A Loyal Following Among House Republicans By Calling Them Up Just To Gab, Giving Them Special Jackets When They Joined His Vote-Whipping Team.” According to the New York Times, “Representative Kevin McCarthy of California has built a loyal following among House Republicans by calling them up just to gab, giving them special jackets when they joined his vote-whipping team and telling them their ideas are fantastic, even after telling the last guy who left his office that his (completely opposite) idea was great, too.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

New York Times: “Many Of The Qualities That Have Led To His Meteoric Rise... May Be Liabilities Should He Be Chosen To Wield The Speaker’s Gavel.” According to the New York Times, “Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy’s moves point to an uncomfortable problem: Many of the qualities that have led to his meteoric rise during a mere eight years in Congress may be liabilities should he be chosen to wield the speaker’s gavel, as is widely expected to happen next Thursday.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

As Majority Whip, McCarthy Routinely Hosted “Listening Sessions” With His Republican Colleagues “To Decide How They’re Going To Save America.” According to the New York Times, “Routinely, during the day, [Kevin] McCarthy gathers some of his Republican colleagues in the conference room of H-107 to decide how they’re going to save America. In previous months, these ‘listening sessions,’ as McCarthy calls them, focused on the Republican budget legislation written by Paul Ryan and taken to the House floor in April. [...] In the end, all but four Republicans voted for the Ryan budget plan. Immediately after the vote on April 15, Ryan sought out the whip on the House floor, shook his hand and told him, ‘Your listening sessions made the difference.’” [New York Times, [7/31/11](#)]

McCarthy Built “Personal Relationships” With The Entire House GOP “Using Every Networking Tool At His Disposal.” According to the Washington Post, “[Kevin] McCarthy went to work: He continued building personal relationships within the sprawling 233-member Republican Conference, deploying every networking tool at his disposal — small dinners, workouts in the House gym, long bike rides up the C&O Canal towpath. Almost no lawmaker was left unattended, including those who had been cast aside by past leaders.” [Washington Post, [6/12/14](#)]

Bad At His Job

California

After Democratic Leaders Described Specific Details Of Deals Made With Gov. Schwarzenegger On Funding For Schools And Welfare, McCarthy Said He Was “Unaware Of Any Deals.” According to the San Diego-Union Tribune, “Nunez said the governor has agreed to restore enough funding to allow the admission of 11,400 eligible freshmen turned away from the University of California and California State University this fall because of budget cuts. Burton said his agreement with the governor would delay cost-of-living increases for the CalWORKS welfare program as well as aid to the aged, blind and disabled for one-quarter of the new fiscal year, avoiding deeper cuts that Schwarzenegger had proposed. The Republican legislative leaders, Sen. Dick Ackerman of Fullerton and Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield, have said they are unaware of any deals Schwarzenegger has made on higher education and welfare funding.” [San Diego Union-Tribune, 7/17/04]

House of Representatives

Washington Examiner: “McCarthy’s Ascent Might Make More Sense...If There Were Evidence That He Was Effective As A Whip.” According to the Washington Examiner, “McCarthy’s ascent might make more sense from leadership’s perspective if there were evidence that he was effective as a whip. In reality, his vote-counting operation routinely miscalculated on votes during the debt ceiling impasse, ‘fiscal cliff’ tax talks, and other key points.” [Washington Examiner, [6/12/14](#)]

NPR: “In Several High-Profile Cases, McCarthy And Other Leaders Had A Hard Time Rounding Up The Votes They Needed.” According to NPR, “But in several high-profile cases, [Kevin] McCarthy and other leaders had a hard time rounding up the votes they needed.” [NPR, 9/28/15]

- **NPR: “One Notable Embarrassment – The Struggle To Pass The Farm Bill, A Normally Bipartisan Measure, In 2013.”** According to NPR, “But in several high-profile cases, [Kevin] McCarthy and other leaders had a

hard time rounding up the votes they needed. One notable embarrassment — the struggle to pass the farm bill, a normally bipartisan measure, in 2013.” [NPR, 9/28/15]

Washington Post Opinion Headline: “Failing Upward In The House Leadership With Kevin McCarthy.” [Jonathan Capehart – Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

Washington Post Columnist Jonathan Capehart: “With McCarthy As Whip, The Embarrassments For Boehner Were Steady.” According to an opinion by columnist Jonathan Capehart for the Washington Post, “Before last year’s stunning primary defeat of then-House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Virg.), [Kevin] McCarthy was the House Majority Whip. That person’s job is to make sure that the bills the speaker sends to the floor for a vote actually have the votes to pass. Failure of that legislation to pass or having to pull bills from the floor is an embarrassment. And with McCarthy as whip, the embarrassments for Boehner were steady. Put it this way, if the bills were footballs and Boehner was the ever hopeful Charlie Brown, then McCarthy was Lucy.” [Jonathan Capehart – Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

Capehart: McCarthy Was “Embarrassing” In Failing To Deliver The Votes On A Payroll Tax Cut In 2011, Boehner’s “Fiscal Cliff” Plan In 2012, And The Farm Bill In 2013. According to an op-ed by columnist Jonathan Capehart for the Washington Post, “‘If the speaker sets the legislative agenda and the majority leader lays out the game plan,’ The Post’s Ed O’Keefe writes today, ‘it’s the whip who ensures that legislation will pass.’ And time and time again, [Kevin] McCarthy failed. There was the embarrassing failure in 2011 to pass a two-month extension of the payroll tax cut negotiated by Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.). There was the abrupt decision to withdraw Boehner’s plan to avoid the ‘fiscal cliff’ in 2012 ‘after failing to win support from his fellow Republicans for a plan to let tax rates rise for millionaires,’ as The Post reported then. There was the unheard-of failure to pass the farm bill last year. And then there were the fights over raising the debt ceiling that rattled world markets and left Boehner’s leadership crippled.” [Jonathan Capehart – Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

- **Capehart: “So Many Legislative Failures Should Call Into Question Not Only McCarthy’s Ability To Count, Bbut Also Whether He Has Boehner’s Best Interests At Heart.”** According to an op-ed by columnist Jonathan Capehart for the Washington Post, “As the speaker, all those failures and others I didn’t mention fall squarely on Boehner’s shoulders. But as I wrote after the payroll tax cut fiasco three years ago, that there have been so many legislative failures should call into question not only [Kevin] McCarthy’s ability to count, but also whether he has Boehner’s best interests at heart.” [Jonathan Capehart – Washington Post, [6/17/14](#)]

Capehart: After McCarthy Became Majority Leader, “The Embarrassments Continued.” According to an opinion by columnist Jonathan Capehart for the Washington Post, “Not long after [Kevin] McCarthy succeeded Cantor as Majority Leader, the leadership team pulled a certain-to-fail bill in July 2014 addressing what was then an immigration crisis on the U.S.-Mexico border. Even after the 2014 midterm elections that saw the Republican caucus expand its membership to the largest since the Hoover presidency, the embarrassments continued. This time with McCarthy as Cantor’s successor. The new team’s first spending bill was pulled in April. Legislation authorizing the minting of a coin to benefit breast cancer research was pulled in a fight over abortion in July. Also that month, a bill was pulled in an embarrassing fight over the Confederate battle flag.” [Jonathan Capehart – Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

Los Angeles Times: “It’s Still An Open Question Whether McCarthy Can Corral, Or Even Effectively Keep Track Of, The Majority He Helped Create.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “Many of the candidates recruited by [Kevin] McCarthy and his fellow Republican ‘young guns’ — Reps. Eric Cantor of Virginia and Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin — went on to win, creating a GOP majority and propelling the amiable congressman from Bakersfield into the No. 3 post in the House leadership, majority whip, whose job is to count votes and ‘whip up’ support for the party’s positions. In the years since, however, many of the new members McCarthy recruited have repeatedly refused to follow the leadership’s lead, and the whip’s operation has had a number of high-profile public stumbles. Nearly three years into the job, it’s still an open question whether McCarthy can corral, or even effectively keep track of, the majority he helped create.” [Los Angeles Times, [10/4/13](#)]

Benghazi Panel Comments

Linda Killian Wall Street Journal Opinion Headline: “Rep. Kevin McCarthy’s Boast About Benghazi Panel Backfires.” [Linda Killian - Wall Street Journal, [10/2/15](#)]

McCarthy: “Everybody Thought Hillary Clinton Was Unbeatable, Right? ... We Put Together A Benghazi Special Committee... Her Numbers Are Dropping.” According to an opinion by Linda Killian for the Wall Street Journal, “While appearing on Sean Hannity’s Fox television show, the California Republican [Kevin McCarthy], who until now has been the

presumed successor to House Speaker John Boehner, bragged that he was one of the architects of a conservative strategy to fight and beat the Democrats. ‘Everybody thought Hillary Clinton was unbeatable right?’ he told the Fox host. ‘We put together a Benghazi special committee, a select committee. What are her numbers today? Her numbers are dropping. Why? ‘Cause she is untrustable. But no one would’ve known any of that had happened had we not fought and made that happen.’” [Linda Killian - Wall Street Journal, [10/2/15](#)]

Rep. Jason Chaffetz “Said On MSNBC That Mr. McCarthy Should Withdraw His Statement. To Suggest The Entire Committee Was Just About Politics Is Not Fair To Those Who Were Killed In Benghazi, Rep. Chaffetz Said.”

According to an opinion by Linda Killian for the Wall Street Journal, “It also could hobble the committee, which has been meeting for more than a year to investigate the deadly 2012 attack on a U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.) immediately called for the committee to be disbanded. Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R., Utah), chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said on MSNBC that Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy should withdraw his statement. To suggest the entire committee was just about politics is not fair to those who were killed in Benghazi, Rep. Chaffetz said.” [Linda Killian - Wall Street Journal, [10/2/15](#)]

Killian: “Republicans’ Efforts To Discredit Mrs. Clinton By Calling Into Question Her Truthfulness And Trustworthiness Have Been Erased By Mr. McCarthy’s Boast.”

According to an opinion by Linda Killian for the Wall Street Journal, “Republicans’ efforts to discredit Mrs. [Hillary] Clinton by calling into question her truthfulness and trustworthiness have been erased by Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy’s boast. Her assertion about the vast right-wing conspiracy agenda would seem to have some merit.” [Linda Killian - Wall Street Journal, [10/2/15](#)]

Wall Street Journal: Clinton’s “Assertion About The Vast Right-Wing Conspiracy Agenda Would Seem To Have Some Merit,” Given McCarthy’s Comments.

According to an opinion by Linda Killian for the Wall Street Journal, “Republicans’ efforts to discredit Mrs. [Hillary] Clinton by calling into question her truthfulness and trustworthiness have been erased by Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy’s boast. Her assertion about the vast right-wing conspiracy agenda would seem to have some merit.” [Linda Killian - Wall Street Journal, [10/2/15](#)]

Kathleen Parker Opinion Headline: “Speaker Wannabe’s Benghazi Bungle Fatal For GOP.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

Parker: “It’s Over. Done. Kaput. With Kevin McCarthy’s Recent Response To The Simplest Question About GOP Accomplishments In Congress... The Future May As Well Be Called Democrat.” According to an opinion by Kathleen Parker in the Boston Herald, “What else is there to say about House Republicans’ inability to get something right? And I say this with compassion, I really do. Because seriously? It’s over. Done. Kaput. With Kevin McCarthy’s recent response to the simplest question about GOP accomplishments in Congress — from the friendliest interviewer, Sean Hannity, a GOPer could hope for — the future may as well be called Democrat.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

Parker: “The Consequences Of McCarthy’s Sleight Of Tongue Can’t Be Overstated... It Was A Self-Inflicted, Potentially Fatal Wound, Not Just To McCarthy But To Republicans More Broadly.” According to an opinion by Kathleen Parker in the Boston Herald, “The consequences of [Kevin] McCarthy’s sleight of tongue can’t be overstated. It wasn’t just a Washington gaffe — when someone accidentally tells the truth. It was a self-inflicted, potentially fatal wound, not just to McCarthy but to Republicans more broadly, including those running for president.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

Parker: “One Minute McCarthy Was The Near-Certain Next Speaker Of The House; The Next He Was Persona Non Grata As GOP Colleagues... Hammered Him.” According to an opinion by Kathleen Parker in the Boston Herald, “One minute [Kevin] McCarthy was the near-certain next speaker of the House; the next he was persona non grata as GOP colleagues, their own minds hurtling through various apocalyptic scenarios, hammered him.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

Parker: “Essentially, He Had Handed Clinton The Keys To Her Prison Cell. Held Hostage These Past Three Years By A Series Of Republican Interrogators... She Has Been Liberated.” According to an opinion by Kathleen Parker in the Boston Herald, “Essentially, he had handed [Hillary] Clinton the keys to her prison cell. Held hostage these past three years by a series of Republican interrogators about the September 2012 attack in Libya that killed our ambassador and three others, she has been liberated.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

Parker: “McCarthy Should Tar And Feather Himself And Ride Out Of Town On A Donkey.” According to an opinion by Kathleen Parker in the Boston Herald, “[Kevin] McCarthy should tar and feather himself and ride out of town on a donkey. Then again, couldn’t one as easily say, as Howard Dean recently suggested on MSNBC’s ‘Morning Joe,’ that, good grief, McCarthy merely bumbled? That this, too, shall pass.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

Parker: “McCarthy Should Have Never Mentioned The Word Ben-ghazi In The Context Of Political Advantage... How Could Someone Aspiring To Be Speaker Of The House... Fail To Know This?” According to an opinion by Kathleen Parker in the Boston Herald, “You see the problem. [Kevin] McCarthy should never have mentioned the word Ben-ghazi in the context of political advantage for the now very obvious reasons. How could someone aspiring to be speaker of the House, No. 2 in line behind the vice president to become president if so required, fail to know this? House Republicans will have to answer this question for themselves when they vote for leadership.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

- **Parker: “House Republicans Will Have To Answer This Question For Themselves When They Vote For Leadership.”** According to an opinion by Kathleen Parker in the Boston Herald, “You see the problem. [Kevin] McCarthy should never have mentioned the word Ben-ghazi in the context of political advantage for the now very obvious reasons. How could someone aspiring to be speaker of the House, No. 2 in line behind the vice president to become president if so required, fail to know this? House Republicans will have to answer this question for themselves when they vote for leadership.” [Kathleen Parker – Boston Herald, [10/6/15](#)]

Buying Things

California

During His Campaign, McCarthy Was One Of Three Out Of Twelve First-Time Office Seekers Who Contributed \$25,000 To The State Republican Party Per Republican Assembly Leader Dave Cox’s Request. According to the Fresno Bee, “BUYING INFLUENCE: As the state Republican Party battled to win seats in the Nov. 5 election, Assembly Republican Leader Dave Cox looked to collect cash from candidates who were expected to post easy wins. He wanted \$25,000 each. But of 30 incumbents, only four gave. Of 12 seeking first terms, only three gave. Among those three, two were from the Valley -- Clovis' Steve Samuelian in the 29th District and Bakersfield's Kevin McCarthy in the 32nd District. Expect Cox to remember Samuelian's and McCarthy's generosity when it comes time to hand out plum committee assignments.” [Fresno Bee, 11/30/02]

Press Enterprise: In The Assembly, McCarthy “Gave His Colleagues Framed Photos Of Former President Theodore Roosevelt Valued At Almost \$300 Apiece.” According to the Press Enterprise, “The Rough Rider: Last September, incoming Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, gave his colleagues framed photos of former President Theodore Roosevelt valued at almost \$ 300 apiece.” [Press Enterprise, 3/6/04]

After A Democratic Senator Said He’d Stop Bringing Gov. Schwarzenegger Espressos After He Called Democrats “Girlie Men,” McCarthy And The State Senate GOP Leader Bought Schwarzenegger A \$2,000 Cappuccino Machine. According to the San Jose Mercury News, “The day after Senate President Pro Tem John Burton announced he was taking a break from delivering foamed milk for the governor's espresso, Republican leaders stepped in to fill the void. Assembly GOP leader Kevin McCarthy and Senate Republican leader Dick Ackerman ferried a gleaming, \$1,999 cappuccino machine into the governor's office -- a gift from Republican lawmakers. It was adorned with a sign, ‘Back in service.’” [San Jose Mercury News, 7/21/04]

McCarthy And The State Senate GOP Leader Co-Purchased A Watch As A Gift For A Fellow Republican. According to the Desert Sun, “[State Sen. Jim] Battin reported gifts totaling \$2,950. They included a watch valued at \$390, but the cost was split between Sen. Republican leader Dick Ackerman, R-Irvine, and Assembly GOP leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, thus bringing it in under the limit for the value of gifts from one source.” [Desert Sun, 3/7/05]

In 2004, McCarthy Gave iPods To All Assembly Republicans For Christmas. According to the Orange County Register, “‘They’re not looking at it from a micro point of view,’ said [Kevin] McCarthy, who took his own step toward modernizing the GOP at Christmas by handing out iPods to all Assembly Republicans.” [Orange County Register, 6/27/05]

- **McCarthy Bought The 32 Members Each A \$300 iPod Using GOP Funds.** According to the Orange County Register, “Republican Assembly Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield gave all 32 members of the caucus iPods in

November, gifts intended to symbolize their cutting-edge thinking. They got the \$300, 20-gig version of the cigarette-pack-sized jukeboxes, scored with GOP funds at a discount from Apple. Each can hold about 5,000 songs.” [Orange County Register, 12/27/04]

- **The Total Cost Of About \$10,000 Was Split Between Apple And The GOP Campaign Cooffers.** According to the Sacramento Bee, “McCarthy reportedly chose iPod because it's a California product, a symbol of Golden State technology, and a reminder to think homegrown. But the fact that Apple helped pay the tab probably didn't hurt, either. Costs of about \$10,000 were split between the computer firm and GOP campaign cooffers.” [Sacramento Bee, 12/6/04]

Los Angeles Times: “Kevin McCarthy... Sponsors Something He Modestly Calls The Kevin McCarthy Leadership Series, And Last Week Hosted An Evening With Newt Gingrich, At The Office Of The California Dental Assn.”

According to the Los Angeles Times, “Kevin McCarthy, the Assembly's GOP leader from Bakersfield, sponsors something he modestly calls the Kevin McCarthy Leadership Series, and last week hosted an evening with Newt Gingrich, at the office of the California Dental Assn. Open wide, Mr. Speaker.” [Los Angeles Times, 5/24/04]

McCarthy “Was Forever Setting Up Social Events For Members... ‘Fun Things – Invite Members To Play Pool, Go To The Movies, Go Get Ice Cream.’”

According to the New Republic, “During his first weeks in the assembly, [Kevin] McCarthy moved aggressively to bond with fellow freshmen, traveling to their home districts to learn more about their political situations and priorities. Back in the state capital, he was forever setting up social events for members. Sacramento can be a lonely place with people's families back in the districts, says Tony Strickland, another former GOP assembly colleague. ‘Kevin would organize fun things--invite members to play pool, go to movies, go get ice cream.’ Small wonder McCarthy was voted minority leader during his first term.” [The New Republic, 11/11/10]

McCarthy Hosted Assembly Member Poker Nights At His House. According to the New Republic, “But that did not mean [Kevin] McCarthy's rampant sociability was devoid of strategic value. ‘I like to be around people so I ended up being roommates, right? I had a house. I lived with four guys,’ he recalls of his Sacramento days. ‘We had one room there where we put a poker table. And at night, after hours, you could come there, right? But it was pretty much just members.’” Assembly members, state senators, freshmen, veteran legislators--they all came to Kevin's place. And in the course of those evenings, he recalls, ‘I learned everything that happened in every committee while we're sitting around talking. You can't serve on every committee. But you can know what happened, what the debate was, who said what.’” [The New Republic, 11/11/10]

House of Representatives

Sunlight Foundation: McCarthy's PAC “Spends More Like A Vehicle For Fêting Other Members.” According to the Sunlight Foundation, “House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy's MC [Majority Committee] PAC, meanwhile, spends more like a vehicle for fêting other members, a key component of McCarthy's new role. MC PAC's most expensive disbursements over the past three months include chartered airfare, lodging, catering and the services of fundraising consultants. An invitation from the Political Party Time archive for a fundraiser in May of last year asked for contributions of up to \$42,000 at a joint party in Costa Mesa, Calif. for the Majority Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee.” [SunlightFoundation.com, [10/21/14](#)]

McCarthy “Regularly” Took GOP Freshman Members For Dinner “On His Political Action Committee's Dime.”

According to Salon, “[Kevin] McCarthy, perhaps knowing from the get-go that his ability to rise in the leadership would depend on the relationships he could build with those who were much further right than him, has been cozying up to the newer classes of GOP members for years. Journalist Robert Draper chronicled this kinder, friendlier McCarthyism in his 2012 book about the chaotic 112th Congress, ‘Do Not Ask What Good We Do.’ ‘Now that the eighty-seven freshmen had arrived in Washington, McCarthy offered himself up as their resident big brother. He regularly took them out for dinner on his political action committee's dime.’” [Salon.com, [6/13/14](#)]

McCarthy “Cultivates” Personal Ties Via “Bowling Or Movie Nights... At Dinners He'll Go Around The Table Drawing Out New Members Of Congress By Asking Them To Share The First Concert They Ever Attended, Or Their Most Embarrassing Moment.”

According to the Associated Press, “[Kevin] McCarthy also drew on strong personal ties to lawmakers that he cultivates daily, from early morning workouts and bike rides to bowling or movie nights with fellow lawmakers. At dinners he'll go around the table drawing out new members of Congress by asking them to share the first concert they ever attended, or their most embarrassing moment.” [Associated Press, 6/20/14]

McCarthy “Showers Caucus Members With Invitations For Morning Bike Rides, Movie Nights And Dinners.”

According to the Los Angeles Times, “[Kevin] McCarthy showers caucus members with invitations for morning bike rides, movie nights and dinners. The walls in his large suite of offices are adorned with framed black-and-white photos of caucus members in action in Congress; the members relish bringing constituents and donors through to see.” [Los Angeles Times, 10/5/13]

Los Angeles Times: “The Walls In His Large Suite Of Offices Are Adorned With Framed Black-And-White Photos Of Caucus Members In Action... The Members Relish Bringing Constituents And Donors Through To See.”

According to the Los Angeles Times, “[Kevin] McCarthy showers caucus members with invitations for morning bike rides, movie nights and dinners. The walls in his large suite of offices are adorned with framed black-and-white photos of caucus members in action in Congress; the members relish bringing constituents and donors through to see.” [Los Angeles Times, 10/5/13]

2013: While House Republicans Were Negotiating The Debt Ceiling, McCarthy Was “Planning A GOP Field Trip To The Movie Theater To See The Thriller ‘Prisoners.’”

According to the Huffington Post, “At a time when House Republicans are preparing to force a list of conservative demands on Democrats in exchange for raising the debt ceiling, House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) is planning a GOP field trip to the movie theater to see the thriller ‘Prisoners.’ According to an email obtained by The Huffington Post from a congressional aide, McCarthy is trying to round up Republican lawmakers to see the movie together on Friday night. ‘Kevin would like to do a movie night tomorrow night for those members in town,’ reads an email sent Thursday from a McCarthy aide to group of other GOP aides. [...] The apparent irony of Republicans going to see a movie about two girls being kidnapped and taken as prisoners -- a storyline that for some parallels the hostage-taking charges Democrats have lobbed at Republicans during the debt-ceiling fight -- wasn't lost on one GOP aide on the email thread. ‘Any chance the media reads WAY too much into the title of the movie, Prisoners?’ the aide wrote to the group.” [Huffington Post, [9/27/13](#)]

- **McCarthy Previously Screened A Segment Of A Movie In Which “A Bank Robber Says To His Friend, ‘I Need Your Help. I Can’t Tell You What It Is. [...] And We’re Going To Hurt Some People.’”** According to the Huffington Post, “This isn't the first time the Republican whip has ruffled Democrats by showing certain movies to his team. In 2011, during another debt ceiling fight, [Kevin] McCarthy played a clip from ‘The Town,’ a 2010 crime thriller during a closed-door meeting with his members. In the segment reportedly shown, a bank robber says to his friend, ‘I need your help. I can’t tell you what it is. You can never ask me about it later. And we're going to hurt some people.’ The friend then responds, ‘Whose car are we gonna take?’ Former Rep. Allen West (R-Fla.) reportedly told his colleagues after the clip was shown, ‘I’m ready to drive the car.’” [Huffington Post, [9/27/13](#)]

McCarthy Took The GOP Freshmen On A “Field Trip” To The Bureau Of Public Debt “So They Could Learn About How The United States’ Public Debt Was Managed.”

According to Salon, “Journalist Robert Draper chronicled this kinder, friendlier McCarthyism in his 2012 book about the chaotic 112th Congress, ‘Do Not Ask What Good We Do.’ [...] One of the book’s more amusing anecdotes about [Kevin] McCarthy involves the debt ceiling. Most of the GOP freshmen won their 2010 campaigns by promising never to raise the debt ceiling. As McCarthy knew, this was effective but also terribly dangerous rhetoric. And so he organized a ‘field trip’ for these adults to the Bureau of the Public Debt, so they could learn about how the United States’ public debt was managed.” [Salon.com, [6/13/14](#)]

McCarthy “Has Built A Loyal Following Among House Republicans By Calling Them Up Just To Gab, Giving Them Special Jackets When They Joined His Vote-Whipping Team.”

According to the New York Times, “Representative Kevin McCarthy of California has built a loyal following among House Republicans by calling them up just to gab, giving them special jackets when they joined his vote-whipping team and telling them their ideas are fantastic, even after telling the last guy who left his office that his (completely opposite) idea was great, too.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

BATTLES WITH FAR-RIGHT CONSERVATIVES

California

2003: California Journal: “Despite McCarthy’s Sweeping Victory In The Caucus, He May Still Have Personal And Political Fences To Mend Outside Sacramento Because He Has Been Deeply Involved In The GOP Wars For Years.” According to the California Journal, “Despite [Kevin] McCarthy's sweeping victory in the caucus, he may still have

personal and political fences to mend outside Sacramento because he has been deeply involved in the GOP wars for years. Until he ran for the Assembly last year, McCarthy was a top aide to moderate U.S. Representative Bill Thomas of Bakersfield. For nearly two decades, Thomas was often engaged in guerilla warfare against the conservatives who controlled the state party leadership. At state GOP conventions, fliers slipped under delegates' hotel room doors with harsh condemnations of Thomas have long been regular features.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

While McCarthy Served As Chairman Of The California Young Republicans, “Conservatives Split Off” From The Group Due To Conflicts With Moderates. According to the California Journal, “In the 1980s and early '90s, as chairman of the mainstream California Young Republicans and later the national Young Republican group, [Kevin] McCarthy himself was at the center of the running battle between moderates and conservatives for control of the hearts and minds of Republicans. Within the California Young Republicans, feelings became so strained between the two groups that conservatives split off in 1993 and began organizing themselves into chapters of the Young Republican Federation of California.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

- **McCarthy’s Group Sued The Conservative Splinter Group For Using The Term “Young Republican.”** According to the California Journal, “[Kevin] McCarthy and the Young Republicans sued to stop the new group's use of the term "Young Republican." They won in court initially, but the state Republican Party leadership stepped in with a threat to de-charter them if they didn't drop the issue. They did, but the battle still rages on in Bakersfield. To this day, the Kern County Republican Central Committee - controlled by Thomas' people - refuses to recognize the local young Republican splinter group.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

McCarthy Backed An “Unsuccessful Drive By... Moderates” To Install A Moderate As Head Of The State GOP, Arguing That GOP Losses Were “Partly Due To Defections Of Women And Moderates Turned Off By The Party’s Hard-Line Stance Against Abortion And Gun Control.” According to the California Journal, “The [Bill] Thomas-[Kevin] McCarthy wars with the state party leadership apparently peaked in 2001. That's when they backed the unsuccessful drive by Bob Larkin and other moderates to install moderate former Assemblyman Brooks Firestone as head of the state GOP organization. They argued that GOP defeats at the ballot box in recent years were partly due to defections of women and moderates turned off by the party's hard-line stance against abortion and gun control.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

McCarthy Supported Def Sundheim For Party Chair, Who Pledged To Remove An Anti-Abortion Plank From The State Party Platform. According to the California Journal, “Last year, the battle lines between conservatives and moderates became somewhat blurred during the contest for the party chairmanship between Duf Sundheim and Bill Back. Back was endorsed by the conservative California Republican Assembly, although Sundheim was considered at least as conservative as Back. When Sundheim won, he pledged to try to make the party more attractive to women and moderates without offending conservatives by removing the anti-abortion plank from the party's official platform. For the record, [Kevin] McCarthy supported Sundheim.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

Another Assemblyman Appointed McCarthy’s Primary Opponent, Mike Maggard, To A Position, “Predictably Infuriating McCarthy.” According to the California Journal, “After last year's election, conservative freshman Assemblyman Bill Maze (R-Visalia) appointed McCarthy's 2002 primary election opponent, conservative Bakersfield Councilman Mike Maggard, to the Thomas-controlled Kern County central committee, predictably infuriating McCarthy.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

House of Representatives

Right-Wing Author Mark Levin Was “Warning Republicans” Not To Elect McCarthy As Speaker, Saying “Kevin McCarthy Is Eric Cantor With Ten Less IQ Points.” According to Breitbart News, “Popular talk radio host and best-selling author Mark Levin is warning Republicans in Washington: don’t replace outgoing House Speaker Rep. John Boehner (R-OH) with Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA). Levin’s a tirelessly warrior against Speaker Boehner and the Washington establishment. ‘Kevin McCarthy is Eric Cantor with ten less IQ points,’ Levin declares in an exclusive interview with Breitbart News.” [Breitbart, 9/25/15]

Levin: McCarthy Was “A Wheeler And Dealer – He Is Not A Principled Conservative.” According to Breitbart News, “‘The Republican establishment never learned their lesson after Cantor... They replaced Cantor with McCarthy, who is a wheeler and dealer—he is not a principled conservative... My concern now is that they will do the same thing again,’ [Mark] Levin said.” [Breitbart, 9/25/15]

Breitbart: “McCarthy Occupies The Business Wing Of The Republican Party.” According to Breitbart News, “Kevin McCarthy occupies the business wing of the Republican Party shared by other politicians like Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI), Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), and Sen. Jeff Flake (R-AZ). All seem to think that increasing corporate profits through large-scale immigration and globalist trade pacts like Obamatrade are more important than prioritizing the wages of Americans or preserving America’s cultural identity as a Western nation.” [Breitbart, 9/25/15]

McCarthy Told A Tea Party Leader That “He Hasn’t Always Been Able To Vote His Conscience, Because The Leadership Has Asked Him To Vote In Certain Ways.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “‘His response to us is that he hasn’t always been able to vote his conscience, because the leadership has asked him to vote in certain ways,’ [Bakersfield tea party leader Tom] Pavich said. ‘Now that he’s going to be speaker, that’ll be his decision. So hopefully we’ll see a much more conservative voting record ... by him and Congress.’” [Los Angeles Times, [9/28/15](#)]

NRCC’S YOUNG GUNS

Rep. Kevin McCarthy Co-Founded The Young Guns Program With Rep. Eric Cantor And Rep. Paul Ryan.

According to GOPYoungGuns.com, “Young Guns is a recruitment program that identifies candidates across the country who embody the principles of the House Republican Conference and show promise of running a successful campaign. Co-founded in the 2007-2008 election cycle by Majority Leader Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA), Majority Whip Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) and Budget Chairman Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI), the program seeks to grow the Republican Majority in the House of Representatives.” [gopyoungguns.com, accessed [9/25/15](#)]

- **NPR: McCarthy Was The “Strategist” Of The Young Guns.** According to NPR, “Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA), the House minority whip, laments Republicans' ethics problems and out-of-control spending under President George W. Bush: ‘The Republican Party lost its way. We blew it on spending; we didn't conduct ourselves according to the expectations that people had.’ Cantor is the Young Guns' leader. The thinker is Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan, and the strategist is California Rep. Kevin McCarthy. Together, the three make up the top brass of the Republican Young Guns. They've been recruiting fresh conservative candidates in districts all over the country, many of them from the Tea Party, and giving them money and campaign support — getting them ready, Cantor says, for their new majority.” [NPR.org, [9/20/10](#)]
- **McCarthy, Ryan, And Cantor “Helped Guide The Program” For Two Election Cycles Before Handing It Over To Colleagues.** According to Politico, “Overseeing this year’s program is [Rep. Jeff] Sessions and NRCC Vice Chairman Greg Walden, with Louisiana Rep. Steve Scalise, the committee’s vice chairman for recruitment, providing assistance. Young Guns was designed by Reps. Eric Cantor of Virginia, Kevin McCarthy of California and Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, who helped guide the program in 2008 and 2010.” [Politico, [7/13/11](#)]
- **The Young Guns Leadership Looked For “Uncompromising” Candidates And “Showered These Young Gun Recruits With Money And Support And Exhorted Them To Maintain A Laser-Like Fiscal Focus.”** According to the Washington Post, “With the backing of the GOP establishment, Cantor and two colleagues banded together as the ‘Young Guns,’ drawing their nickname from a magazine feature anointing them rising stars. They scoured the country for like-minded conservatives who shared their uncompromising commitment to shrinking the federal government. They showered these Young Gun recruits with money and support and exhorted them to maintain a laser-like fiscal focus.” [Washington Post, [8/6/11](#)]
- **2010: NPR: “If Republicans Do Win The House Majority, A Lot Of Freshman Conservatives Will Owe Their Success — At Least In Part — To The Young Guns.”** According to NPR, “Those Young Guns — Cantor, Ryan and McCarthy — insist that their group is not an attempt to take over the party. ‘The leaders of the Republican Party are going to be the ideas of the party,’ McCarthy says. ‘And that's what's leading us. You know, a lot of people sit back and say, ‘Who's the next Newt Gingrich?’ It's this freshman class coming in; it's the ideas that [are] here. That's what's driving this party; that's the definition of Young Guns; that is what the movement is about: ideas.’ But ideas can't wield a gavel. And if Republicans do win the House majority, a lot of freshman conservatives will owe their success — at least in part — to the Young Guns.” [NPR, [9/20/10](#)]

McCarthy Saw The Tea Party As A “Potential Ally” As He Was Recruiting New Candidates. According to the Washington Post, “McCarthy rifled through a massive binder, amassed over months of cross-country travel in his role as the

GOP's chief recruiter. A former small-business owner with a head of silver hair and a gleaming smile, he knew what he was looking for: That diamond in the rough with the charisma to raise piles of cash and the passion to inspire voters with a vision of limited government. [...] McCarthy's travels had also alerted him to the gathering steam of the tea party. He saw a potential ally, not a threat. 'We can't sit back and think we have all the right ideas,' he said. 'We have to be able to come up with an agenda that will unite everyone. I think we have the principles that do that from this idea of fiscal responsibility.'" [Washington Post, [8/6/11](#)]

The Young Guns Was "A Recruitment Program That Identifies Candidates Across The Country Who Embody The Principles Of The House Republican Caucus." According to [GOPYoungGuns.com](#), "Young Guns is a recruitment program that identifies candidates across the country who embody the principles of the House Republican Conference and show promise of running a successful campaign. [...] Paid for by the National Republican Congressional Committee and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee." [[gopyoungguns.com](#), accessed [9/25/15](#)]

The Young Guns Program Was Created As A "New Approach For The Party" And Offered Republican Candidates "Mentoring Sessions On What The Democrats Were Doing In Washington." According to Rep. Kevin McCarthy in his book *Young Guns*, "I approached Eric [Cantor] and Paul [Ryan] about the idea of traveling together, as 'Young Guns,' to visit Republican candidates interested in a new approach for the party. [...] As weeks and months went by, what began as an informal way to support like-minded candidates became a more formal structure. Once we had studied the candidate and given him or her our support to become a Young Gun, we wanted to make sure we provided a long-term relationship with that candidate. That meant we committed to providing financial support through our campaign committees, visiting the candidates in their districts, but also offering mentoring sessions on what the Democrats were doing in Washington." [Kevin McCarthy – *Young Guns*, 2010]

New York Times: The "Young Guns" Represent "McCarthy's More Entrepreneurial Approach To Politics." According to the *New York Times*, "He has won over the freshmen by making his own goals and beliefs beside the point. He recruited many of them, anointed them Young Guns and nurtured them during the 2010 midterm election cycle. Rather than being pawns in some kind of Karl Roveian überstrategy to achieve lasting Republican pre-eminence, the freshmen represent McCarthy's more entrepreneurial approach to politics: seize upon a trend (in this case, government phobia), put all your money on it and then work hard to make the trend last. And like an entrepreneur, he casts the considerable strategic risk — that his troops are unseasoned, volatile and perhaps far out of the mainstream — as a virtue." [*New York Times*, [7/31/11](#)]

In 2008, The Young Guns Program Supported Aaron Schock For Congress. According to Rep. Kevin McCarthy in his book *Young Guns*, "Another state legislator who worked hard and found a way to win in a tough environment was Aaron Schock in the 18th congressional district of Illinois. [...] Schock went on to win nearly 60 percent of the vote in a three-way race. And once again he was the youngest member — this time of the United States House of Representatives. A lot has been made of Aaron's youth but what is remarkable about his career is the way he has connected with voters at every level and gone on to achieve success. He understands the hard work involved and brings not only the enthusiasm of youth but also the communication styles and tools of a younger generation. It is exciting to see this generational change begin to remake the Republican Party. So while 2008 was still a very difficult year we felt like we were making progress. Our Young Guns candidates proved that Republicans could — with the right focus, commitment, and strategy — still field great candidates and win tough elections." [Kevin McCarthy – *Young Guns*, 2010]

- **Schock Was One Seven Young Guns Who Won In 2008.** According to the Young Gun Action Fund website, "FEBRUARY [Eric] Cantor, [Kevin] McCarthy, and [Paul] Ryan (R-WI) begin supporting other Young Guns by focusing on electing next generation conservative candidates in open-seat and challenger elections nationwide. NOVEMBER 1 House Republicans lost a net 21 seats during the 2008 cycle. Four Young Guns were elected in challenge races and three in open seat elections: Tom Rooney (FL-16), Bill Cassidy (LA-06), Lynn Jenkins (KS-02) and Pete Olson (TX-22), Erik Paulsen (MN-03), Steve Austria (OH-07), and Aaron Schock (IL-18)." [[ygaction.com](#), accessed [9/28/15](#)]
- **Schock Resigned In 2015 Following "Questions About Tens Of Thousands Of Dollars In Mileage Reimbursements He Received For His Personal Vehicle."** According to *Politico*, "Illinois Rep. Aaron Schock resigned Tuesday, less than 12 hours after *POLITICO* raised questions about tens of thousands of dollars in mileage reimbursements he received for his personal vehicle. Schock billed the federal government and his campaign for logging roughly 170,000 miles on his personal car from January 2010 through July 2014. But when he sold that Chevrolet Tahoe in July 2014, it had roughly 80,000 miles on the odometer, according to public records obtained by

POLITICO under Illinois open records laws. The documents, in other words, indicate he was reimbursed for 90,000 miles more than his car was driven. [...] Schock's resignation marks a swift downfall of one of the GOP's most promising young stars and prolific fundraisers. The former state legislator was elected to Congress in 2008 and shot through the ranks of the House GOP, at one point gracing the cover of Men's Health magazine. He was a fresh face in a party eager to update its image." [Politico.com, [3/17/15](#)]

ABC News: "Some Of The Conservatives Tapped By McCarthy" In The Young Guns Program "Forced Boehner's Early Retirement." According to ABC News, "Instead, he [Kevin McCarthy] helped shape the GOP's House takeover in 2010, penning the party's agenda in Top Guns: A New Generation of Conservative Leaders (written with Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin and former Rep. Eric Cantor of Virginia), and recruiting GOP House candidates for the midterm elections.(Some of the conservatives tapped by McCarthy forced Boehner's early retirement, and seek assurances from the majority leader that he'd lead the conference differently.)" [ABC News, [9/28/15](#)]

Relationship to Koch Brothers

KOCH INDUSTRIES

Koch Industries Has Contributed \$55,500 To Rep. Kevin McCarthy Over The Course Of His Career. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Koch Industries gave Rep. Kevin McCarthy \$5,500 in the 2006 cycle, 10,000 in the 2010 cycle, 20,000 in the 2012 cycle, and \$20,000 in the 2014 cycle. [OpenSecrets.org, accessed [9/25/15](#), [9/25/15](#), [9/25/15](#), [9/25/15](#)]

AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

Kevin McCarthy Signed AFP's No Climate Tax Pledge. According to Americans for Prosperity, "The California chapter of the free market grassroots group Americans for Prosperity (AFP-CA) today applauded U.S. Representative and Chief Deputy Whip Kevin McCarthy (22nd District) for signing the group's "No Climate Tax Pledge." McCarthy joins more than 625 bipartisan lawmakers and candidates on the federal, state and local levels pledging to 'oppose legislation relating to climate change that includes a net increase in government revenue.'" [Americans for Prosperity, [8/10/10](#)]

American's For Prosperity Gave Kevin McCarthy A 100% On Their Congressional Scorecard For His Voting Record In 2015 (As Of September 25) And A Lifetime Score Of 86%. According to Americans for Prosperity's Congressional Scorecard, Kevin McCarthy has a current score of 100% for his voting record and a lifetime score of 86%. [Americans for Prosperity, accessed [9/25/15](#)]

AFP Applauded Kevin McCarthy For His Opposition To Export-Import Bank And For Urging His House Colleagues To Join Him In Opposing Reauthorization. According to Americans for Prosperity, "Americans for Prosperity, the nation's foremost grassroots advocate for economic freedom, is applauding incoming House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy for his position on the Export-Import Bank, and urging his House colleagues to join him in opposing reauthorization. The group is leading a broad coalition of organizations, representing millions of Americans, in calling on Congress to let the bank expire. 'I'm pleased that Rep. McCarthy understands the downsides of government intruding in our exports market,' said AFP President Tim Phillips. 'The Export-Import Bank mostly benefits large, well-connected corporations at taxpayer expense, and nonpartisan investigators have found the Bank's outdated accounting practices disguise the fact that it's losing billions of taxpayer dollars. It's the wrong way for government to do business.'" [Americans for Prosperity, [6/24/14](#)]

- **AFP President Tim Phillips: "We're Hopeful Congress Will Follow McCarthy's Lead."** According to a post on the Americans for Prosperity website, "I'm pleased that Rep. McCarthy understands the downsides of government intruding in our exports market,' said AFP President Tim Phillips. '[...] We see widespread support at the grassroots level and among conservative organizations for letting the Bank expire this summer, and we're hopeful Congress will follow McCarthy's lead.'" [Americans for Prosperity, [6/24/14](#)]

CONCERNED VETERANS FOR AMERICA

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy Participated In Concerned Veterans For America's Summit On Veterans Healthcare. According to Military Times, "When officials from Concerned Veterans for America hold their summit on

veterans health care next month, lawmakers will be listening. [...] House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Jeff Miller, R-Fla., and Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., have already announced plans to participate in the event. Other lawmakers are expected to follow in coming weeks.” [Military Times, [1/23/15](#)]

Issues

GENERAL

Roll Call: “McCarthy Has Often Avoided Forceful Expression Of His Own Ideological Convictions – Even Close Friends Have Wondered Aloud About Where His Views Lie Within The Republican Spectrum.” According to the Roll Call, “[Kevin] McCarthy has often avoided forceful expression of his own ideological convictions — even close friends have wondered aloud about where his views lie within the Republican spectrum.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

McCarthy Will Tell Members “Their Ideas Are Fantastic, Even After Telling The Last Guy Who Left His Office That His (Completely Opposite) Idea Was Great, Too.” According to the New York Times, “Representative Kevin McCarthy of California has built a loyal following among House Republicans by calling them up just to gab, giving them special jackets when they joined his vote-whipping team and telling them their ideas are fantastic, even after telling the last guy who left his office that his (completely opposite) idea was great, too.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

McCarthy Was “Relatively Inexperienced At Governing And At Times A Political Chameleon.” According to the New York Times, “But for Mr. McCarthy — relatively inexperienced at governing and at times a political chameleon — the question now is whether he can transform himself from the House fun dad always ready for a trip to Disneyland into one who makes the children do their algebra homework and eat their kale.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

NPR: “McCarthy’s Views Aren’t Too Far From Boehner’s.” According to NPR, “[Kevin] McCarthy's views aren't too far from [John] Boehner's. That said, many of the conference's more conservative members — people like McClintock — are optimistic about the possibility of the Californian at the helm.” [NPR, 9/28/15]

BUDGET

California

McCarthy Compared A Budget Deficit To Cancer And Said That Cuts On Services To The Poor And Disabled, As Well As Higher Education Cuts, Were The Painful “Chemo.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is expected today to propose \$3.8 billion in budget cuts over the next 19 months, including reductions in services to the poor and disabled, as well as in higher education programs. The cuts, intended to help close a budget shortfall of at least \$17 billion through mid-2005, would end art therapy for the developmentally disabled, scale back food stamp eligibility, reduce fees to doctors who treat Medi-Cal patients and eliminate recruitment programs at public universities. A draft was obtained by The Times. Republicans who saw the cuts praised Schwarzenegger for taking the initiative to solve a budget problem that they said will only get worse with delay. ‘It's almost like a necessary pain that we have to go through,’ said Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield), who will become Assembly Republican leader in January. ‘We have had a cancer growing on our budget and to cure this we are having to go through the chemo. It is painful, but we do have to shrink this tumor.’” [Los Angeles Times, 11/25/03]

- **LA Times Letter To The Editor: “I Am So Angry” With McCarthy’s Comments “I Find It Hard To Organize My Thoughts... Talk About Cynical.”** According to a letter to the editor of the Los Angeles Times, “I am so angry I find it hard to organize my thoughts. While Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) tells us the governor's cuts are a ‘necessary pain’ we must all endure to cure the ‘cancer growing on our budget,’ I can't help but think the majority of us are not going to feel any pain at all when foster kids, the disabled and old folks are left out in the cold. Talk about cynical. If this is really a mess we are all in together, then let's be in it together, not just borrow ourselves silly or pull the rug out from under those without the clout to fight back.” [Letter to the Editor – Los Angeles Times, 11/28/03]

January 2004: Schwarzenegger Proposed A Budget With More Than \$4 Billion In Budget Cuts, But “Most Of It... Would Come From Welfare Programs And The State’s Health Insurance Plan For The Poor And Disabled.”

According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's plan to wipe out a \$14 billion shortfall next year without new taxes relies [sic] on some of the same kind of borrowing and one-time solutions he previously criticized for causing the state's fiscal crisis. The governor's budget proposal, unveiled Friday, cuts more than \$4 billion in spending from a variety of services, but most of it - about \$1.7 billion - would come from welfare programs and the state's health insurance plan for the poor and disabled.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 1/10/04]

- **McCarthy: “The Governor Has Laid Out A Blueprint To Restore Opportunity.”** According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “The Governor has laid out a blueprint to restore opportunity,’ said Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield. ‘These are difficult times, and a budget that makes difficult choices is the right thing to do.’” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 1/10/04]

Orange County Register: McCarthy “Described With Relish His Caucus’s Plans To Introduce Legislation Implementing Midyear Budget Cuts.” According to the Orange County Register, “Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, recently described with relish his caucus's plans to introduce legislation implementing midyear budget cuts, then use floor debates to maneuver Democrats into uncomfortable voting positions.” [Orange County Register, 2/6/04]

Sacramento Bee: McCarthy “Backs A Depreciation Schedule On The Vehicle License Fee That Could Be Construed As A Tax Increase.” According to the Sacramento Bee, “The Republicans' line in the sand against any tax increase may be eroded by winds of change. Indeed, Senator Bruce McPherson, the party's 2002 nominee for lieutenant governor, has already voted for a tax increase on transnational corporations pushed by Treasurer Phil Angelides. New Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy backs a depreciation schedule on the vehicle license fee that could be construed as a tax increase. The open primary initiative, which would enable centrists to do better in legislative races, is also a factor for Republicans contemplating tax increases.” [Sacramento Bee, 3/28/04]

Sacramento Bee: “McCarthy Also Assailed A Democrat-Driven Effort To Add Spending Back Into The Budget For Universities And The Poor.” According to the Sacramento Bee, “[Dick] Ackerman and Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy also assailed a Democrat-driven effort to add spending back into the budget for universities and the poor.” [Sacramento Bee, 7/1/04]

McCarthy Attended A Trip With Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger To Washington D.C. In An Attempt To Get More Federal Funds For California. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger headed to Capitol Hill on Thursday, where skeptical Democrats awaited his plans to get more federal funds for the state and skeptical Republicans wanted to hear more about his redistricting proposal.[...]Also making the trip were California's top four legislative leaders: Republicans Senate Republican Leader Dick Ackerman and Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, and Democrats Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata and Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 2/17/05]

McCarthy Supported Pay-As-You-Go Budgeting For Infrastructure Projects. According to the Obispo Tribune, “A fourth-generation Bakersfield resident, the 41-year-old [Kevin] McCarthy advocates for low taxes. He authored an amendment in January that would enact a ‘pay-as-you-go’ approach to the state's infrastructure improvements by spreading the cost of potentially expensive projects over many years, which would not require increased taxes.” [Obispo Tribune, 10/9/06]

House of Representatives

September 2015: McCarthy Voted For A Government Funding Measure That Most Of His Party Voted Against. According to the New York Times, “In perhaps an effort to show that he can lead on tough votes, Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy voted Wednesday for a short-term measure to keep the government’s lights on, even though the majority of his party voted against it.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

In 2013, McCarthy Whipped Votes For “A Budget Deal That Raised Taxes On Affluent Americans, Only To Then Turn And Vote Against It, Avoiding Going On Record In Favor Of A Tax Increase.” According to the New York Times, “In 2013, as whip, he [Kevin McCarthy] pressed Republicans to vote on a budget deal that raised taxes on affluent Americans, only to then turn and vote against it, avoiding going on record in favor of a tax increase.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

- **Rep. Charlie Dent, PA: “That Really Upset A Lot Of People... I Didn’t Whip Votes For The Fiscal Cliff So That Leaders Could Vote Against It.”** According to the New York Times, “‘That really upset a lot of people,’ said Representative Charlie Dent, Republican of Pennsylvania, who was on the whip team who twisted arms on Mr. McCarthy’s behalf. ‘I didn’t whip votes for the fiscal cliff so that leaders could vote against it.’” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

McCarthy Voted In Favor Of Raising The Debt Ceiling In 2014. According to the Washington Post, “In an incredibly lopsided vote, the House approved a measure Tuesday to raise the nation's borrowing limit through March 2015, a swift decision made by Republican leaders when they realized they lacked the support needed to advance other proposals that might have raised the debt limit with strings attached. [...] Ultimately, Boehner and his lieutenants found 28 Republicans willing to back the plan. Boehner voted yes (as speaker, he rarely votes). So did House Majority Leader Eric I. Cantor (R-Va.) and House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif).” [Washington Post, [2/11/14](#)]

McCarthy Took The GOP Freshmen On A “Field Trip” To The Bureau Of Public Debt “So They Could Learn About How The United States’ Public Debt Was Managed.” According to Salon, “Journalist Robert Draper chronicled this kinder, friendlier McCarthyism in his 2012 book about the chaotic 112th Congress, ‘Do Not Ask What Good We Do.’ [...] One of the book’s more amusing anecdotes about McCarthy involves the debt ceiling. Most of the GOP freshmen won their 2010 campaigns by promising never to raise the debt ceiling. As McCarthy knew, this was effective but also terribly dangerous rhetoric. And so he organized a ‘field trip’ for these adults to the Bureau of the Public Debt, so they could learn about how the United States’ public debt was managed.” [Salon.com, [6/13/14](#)]

McCarthy Voted To Raise The Debt Ceiling In The Budget Control Act Of 2011. According to GovTrack, Kevin McCarthy voted Aye on S.365: The Budget Control Act of 2011 on August 1, 2011. [govtrack.us, accessed [10/2/15](#)]

2013: While House Republicans Were Negotiating The Debt Ceiling, McCarthy Was “Planning A GOP Field Trip To The Movie Theater To See The Thriller ‘Prisoners.’” According to the Huffington Post, “At a time when House Republicans are preparing to force a list of conservative demands on Democrats in exchange for raising the debt ceiling, House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) is planning a GOP field trip to the movie theater to see the thriller ‘Prisoners.’ According to an email obtained by The Huffington Post from a congressional aide, McCarthy is trying to round up Republican lawmakers to see the movie together on Friday night. ‘Kevin would like to do a movie night tomorrow night for those members in town,’ reads an email sent Thursday from a McCarthy aide to group of other GOP aides. [...] The apparent irony of Republicans going to see a movie about two girls being kidnapped and taken as prisoners -- a storyline that for some parallels the hostage-taking charges Democrats have lobbed at Republicans during the debt-ceiling fight -- wasn't lost on one GOP aide on the email thread. ‘Any chance the media reads WAY too much into the title of the movie, Prisoners?’ the aide wrote to the group.” [Huffington Post, [9/27/13](#)]

- **McCarthy Previously Screened A Segment Of A Movie In Which “A Bank Robber Says To His Friend, ‘I Need Your Help. I Can’t Tell You What It Is. [...] And We’re Going To Hurt Some People.’”** According to the Huffington Post, “This isn’t the first time the Republican whip has ruffled Democrats by showing certain movies to his team. In 2011, during another debt ceiling fight, McCarthy played a clip from ‘The Town,’ a 2010 crime thriller during a closed-door meeting with his members. In the segment reportedly shown, a bank robber says to his friend, ‘I need your help. I can’t tell you what it is. You can never ask me about it later. And we’re going to hurt some people.’ The friend then responds, ‘Whose car are we gonna take?’ Former Rep. Allen West (R-Fla.) reportedly told his colleagues after the clip was shown, ‘I’m ready to drive the car.’” [Huffington Post, [9/27/13](#)]

2014: McCarthy’s “Goal For The Republican Party” Was “To Prove That It Can Govern,” But It Was “Unclear If McCarthy Intends To Allow Clean Debt Ceiling Votes.” According to the New Republic, “McCarthy’s chief goal for the Republican Party is to prove that it can govern. Notably, he wants to avoid damaging standoffs over the budget. ‘If we are fortunate to have both majorities, take away any cliff you can have hanging out there,’ he said. ‘If you have a cliff, it takes attention away. Why put cliffs up that hold us back from doing bigger policy?’ He’s referring, specifically, to the 2013 ‘fiscal cliff’ showdown that shut down the government. It would certainly be good to keep the government open. But it’s even more important to eliminate debt ceiling brinkmanship, and it’s unclear if McCarthy intends to allow clean debt ceiling votes (as opposed to demanding steep concessions, like those that lead to the shutdown). If so, that would be a major improvement over the past two years. But it also is hard to imagine.” [New Republic, [10/27/14](#)]

HEALTHCARE

California

Daily News Of Los Angeles: In Yet Another Blow To California's Cash-Strapped Counties, Local Governments Have Begun Losing Tens Of Millions Of Dollars In Health, Mental Health, And Social Service Program Funds Each Month." According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, "In yet another blow to California's cash-strapped counties, local governments have begun losing tens of millions of dollars in health, mental health and social service program funds each month due to a decade-old 'poison pill' provision in state laws on vehicle license fees." [Daily News of Los Angeles, 3/14/04]

- **The Local Governments Were Losing The Money Because McCarthy Withdrew His Sponsorship Of A Bill To Continue Providing The Funding After It Was Scored As A Tax Increase.** According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, "Although Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger lowered the car tax immediately after taking office, he does not want it to be lowered further because he has promised local governments that he would honor the state's financial commitments, Palmer said. Those VLF payments are linked to additional responsibilities that the state turned over to counties a decade ago in exchange for additional funding from the car tax. Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy sponsored the bill that would have returned this money to the counties, but withdrew his support when it was analyzed as a tax increase by the state legislative counsel. The governor asked him to carry the bill, he said. 'It was conveyed to me as not being a tax increase,' said McCarthy, R- Bakersfield. 'When it got scored, it got scored a tax increase. I don't believe in tax increases.'" [Daily News of Los Angeles, 3/14/04]
- **Department Of Mental Health Director Marvin Southard: "It Could Be Extremely Devastating Because That's Our Basic Core Funding," Said The Funds "Pay For The Mental Health Care Of Thousands Of Adults And Children."** According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, "Meanwhile, county agencies are left scrambling to deal with the reduced funds and wondering whether they'll ever see them restored. 'It could be extremely devastating because that's our basic core funding,' said Department of Mental Health Director Marvin Southard, who said the funds pay for the mental health care of thousands of adults and children." [Daily News of Los Angeles, 3/14/04]
- **The "Main Program That Could Be Affected By The Cuts" Was "Providing In-Home Caretakers For More Than 100,000 Elderly And Disabled People."** According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, "County welfare officials said the main program that could be affected by the cuts, providing in-home caretakers for more than 100,000 elderly and disabled people, is an entitlement program the county is required to provide." [Daily News of Los Angeles, 3/14/04]
- **Because The Counties Were Required To Provide The In-Home Caretakers, The Lack Of Funding Meant They Would "Have To Make Cuts In Discretionary Programs Like Public Safety In Order To Keep Paying For The In-Home Caretakers."** According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, "County welfare officials said the main program that could be affected by the cuts, providing in-home caretakers for more than 100,000 elderly and disabled people, is an entitlement program the county is required to provide. That means the Board of Supervisors, if the vehicle license fee revenues are not restored, may have to make cuts in discretionary programs like public safety in order to keep paying for the in-home caretakers." [Daily News of Los Angeles, 3/14/04]
- **McCarthy: "It Was Conveyed To Me As Not Being A Tax Increase... When It Got Scored, It Got Scored A Tax Increase. I Don't Believe In Tax Increases."** According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, "Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy sponsored the bill that would have returned this money to the counties, but withdrew his support when it was analyzed as a tax increase by the state legislative counsel. The governor asked him to carry the bill, he said. 'It was conveyed to me as not being a tax increase,' said McCarthy, R- Bakersfield. 'When it got scored, it got scored a tax increase. I don't believe in tax increases.'" [Daily News of Los Angeles, 3/14/04]

McCarthy Cosponsored A Bill To Allow Oral Surgeons To Perform Elective Cosmetic Surgery Without Being Licensed Medical Doctors Or Plastic Surgeons. According to the Orange County Register, "They want to remove the saggy skin from under your eyes. Plump up those wispy lips. Even give you a face-lift. They're not licensed medical doctors, and they aren't certified plastic surgeons. The folks pushing hard for legal permission to perform these procedures are surgeons who hold dental licenses. An Orange County Register investigation in 1999-2000 showed that oral and maxillofacial surgeons throughout California were performing elective cosmetic surgery procedures in violation of state law. The state Dental Board, which hadn't cracked down on the practice to that point, took a stand against it after the Register series ran.

And since then, oral surgeons have been pushing to change state law to let them do elective surgeries. This year, Sen. Carole Migden, D-San Francisco, and Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield are carrying Senate Bill 438, which would do just that. To make their point at a Senate committee hearing this week, the two lawmakers played a videotaped segment from 'Extreme Makeover,' an ABC television show, featuring an oral surgeon's work on a Stanton woman." [Orange County Register, 4/22/05]

EXECUTIVE ACTION

California: Praised Gov. Schwarzenegger's Executive Actions

San Diego Union-Tribune: Gov. Arnold "Schwarzenegger Blindsided Democratic Leaders A Few Weeks Ago By Unilaterally Taking \$2.65 Billion From Other Programs So He Could Return Money Owed To Local Governments." According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, "[Gov. Arnold] Schwarzenegger blindsided Democratic leaders a few weeks ago by unilaterally taking \$2.65 billion from other programs so he could return money owed to local governments." [San Diego Union-Tribune, 1/5/04]

Schwarzenegger "Declared A Fiscal Emergency" To Give Some Funding To City Governments In "An Exercise Of Power Seldom Seen In The State Capitol," Which Was Called "An End-Run Around The Legislature." According to the San Jose Mercury News, "In an exercise of power seldom seen in the state Capitol, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Thursday declared a fiscal emergency and fulfilled a major campaign pledge: ensuring that cities and counties don't lose funds because he slashed the car tax. [...] The governor's end-run around the Legislature comes less than a week after Schwarzenegger and Democratic leaders declared a bipartisan victory on a \$15 billion bond and spending-limit package." [San Jose Mercury News, 12/19/03]

- **McCarthy: "If The Democrat-Controlled Legislature Continues To Pick Gridlock, This Governor Will Not Sit Back And Let This State Fall To The Wayside."** According to the San Jose Mercury News, "If the Democrat-controlled Legislature continues to pick gridlock, this governor will not sit back and let this state fall to the wayside," said Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield, the next Republican leader." [San Jose Mercury News, 12/19/03]
- **McCarthy On Schwarzenegger's Executive Action: "I Like A General That Knows Where To Send The Troops. He Showed Us Where We're Going; He Showed Us How To Get There."** According to the San Jose Mercury News, "If the Democrat-controlled Legislature continues to pick gridlock, this governor will not sit back and let this state fall to the wayside," said Assemblyman Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield, the next Republican leader. "I like a general that knows where to send the troops. He showed us where we're going; he showed us how to get there." [San Jose Mercury News, 12/19/03]

Los Angeles Times: "California's Nonpartisan Legislative Analyst Advised Lawmakers This Week That Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger Overstepped His Authority." According to the Los Angeles Times, "California's nonpartisan legislative analyst advised lawmakers this week that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger overstepped his authority when he ordered that cities and counties be immediately repaid billions of dollars lost when he cut the vehicle license fee. The opinion from Legislative Analyst Elizabeth G. Hill, whom lawmakers of both parties look to for impartial advice on the budget, comes with Schwarzenegger in the midst of another unilateral action -- this one involving welfare cost-of-living increases. Both moves threaten to set up a confrontation in the Capitol and possibly in the courts over just how much power he has over state finances." [Los Angeles Times, 12/24/03]

Los Angeles Times: The Legislative Analyst Said Schwarzenegger's Action Was A "Flagrant Misuse" Of His Powers And "A Serious Infringement Of Legislative Powers." According to the Los Angeles Times, "In a letter made public Tuesday, [legislative analyst Elizabeth] Hill called the governor's order to make \$2.6 billion in payments without approval of the Legislature a 'flagrant misuse' of his budget powers and 'a serious infringement of legislative powers.'" [Los Angeles Times, 12/24/03]

- **Los Angeles Times: Republicans "Said Democrats Blocked Efforts To Get A Reimbursement Bill Passed In The Legislature, So The Governor Had No Choice But To Make The Payments By Executive Order."** According to the Los Angeles Times, "Legislative Republicans said they stood by the governor's plan. They said Democrats blocked efforts to get a reimbursement bill passed in the Legislature, so the governor had no choice but to make the payments by executive order." [Los Angeles Times, 12/24/03]

- **McCarthy: “We Support The Governor Showing Leadership.”** According to the Los Angeles Times, “Legislative Republicans said they stood by the governor's plan. They said Democrats blocked efforts to get a reimbursement bill passed in the Legislature, so the governor had no choice but to make the payments by executive order. ‘We support the governor showing leadership,’ said Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield).” [Los Angeles Times, 12/24/03]

House of Representatives: Attacked President Obama’s Executive Actions

Politico: “McCarthy Left Open The Possibility Of Passing An Overhaul Of Immigration Laws But Said If Obama ‘Tried To Do It By Executive Order, That’s The Worst Way’ And It Would ‘Stop Everything.’” According to Politico, “[Kevin] McCarthy left open the possibility of passing an overhaul of immigration laws but said if Obama ‘tried to do it by executive order, that’s the worst way,’ and it would ‘stop everything.’” [Politico, [10/26/14](#)]

McCarthy Referred To President Obama’s Executive Action As “An Action That The President Did Not Have The Capability To Do.” According to Politico, “But House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) indicated recently that because the executive actions were already being stalled by the courts, a separate lawsuit from the House GOP may not be needed. ‘We’re still looking at it,’ McCarthy said in a recent pen-and-pad with reporters. ‘We want to look at places that we can be helpful right now. But we’re achieving what we wanted to achieve there — stop an action that the president did not have the capability to do.’” [Politico, [5/5/15](#)]

McCarthy Press Release: “The President Can’t Write And Rewrite Laws When It’s Politically Expedient For Him. Only Congress Has The Authority To Make Law.” According to a press release from the office of the Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, “House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (CA-23) released the following statement on the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals’ decision to keep the injunction on President Obama’s illegal immigration actions: ‘Today, the Fifth Circuit rejected the Obama Administration’s request to lift the injunction against the President’s executive action on immigration, which effectively blocks its implementation. The Constitution is clear: the President can’t write and rewrite laws when it’s politically expedient for him. Only Congress has the authority to make law.’” [Press Release – Office of the Majority Leader, [5/26/15](#)]

McCarthy Office Article: “Obama Gave Up Working Through The Traditional Constitutional Route Of Passing Laws Through Congress... He Proclaimed That... He Was Going To Centralize Even More Power In The Imperial Presidency.” According to a post from the Office of the Majority Leader, “A long time ago, President Obama gave up on working through the traditional constitutional route of passing laws through Congress and administering them through the executive branch. He proclaimed that with his “pen and phone” he was going to centralize even more power in the imperial presidency.” [Web Post – Office of the Majority Leader, [5/27/15](#)]

McCarthy Office Article: Obama Has An “Intransigent Desire To Subvert The Democratic Process, Ignore The Will Of The People Has Expressed Through Their Representatives, And Expand Executive Authority.” According to a post from the Office of the Majority Leader, “All of these legal battles stem from the President’s intransigent desire to subvert the democratic process, ignore the will of the people as expressed through their representatives, and expand executive authority beyond any other President in history. That’s tough to defend in court, even if you are a law professor.” [Web Post – Office of the Majority Leader, [5/27/15](#)]

CLIMATE CHANGE AND RENEWABLE ENERGIES

California

McCarthy Opposed A Smoking Ban On State Beaches, Saying That It Would “Create More Intrusion Into People’s Personal Lives.” According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, “With cigarette butts the top source of trash on California beaches, Assemblyman Paul Koretz is again pushing an effort to ban smoking on state beaches. [...] Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, said he still has to review the bill, but he is skeptical about the state attempting to regulate smoking behavior on beaches. ‘The state should focus more on budget, education and transportation more than we should try to create more intrusion into people's personal lives,’ McCarthy said.” [Daily News of Los Angeles, 1/1/05]

House of Representatives

McCarthy Press Release: “Congressman Kevin McCarthy Unveiled The WIND (Wind Incentives For A New Decade) Energy Act” Which “Would Extend The Production Tax Credit (PTC) Through January 1, 2020.”

According to a press release from the office of Kevin McCarthy, “Today, Congressman Kevin McCarthy unveiled the WIND (Wind Incentives for a New Decade) Energy Act (H.R. 1743). This legislation would extend the production tax credit (PTC) through January 1, 2020, which would create long-term stability over the next decade in the tax code that is critical for development of wind and other renewable energy resources.” [Press Release – Office of Rep. Kevin McCarthy, [3/27/09](#)]

McCarthy: “The WIND Energy Act Is A Common-Sense Idea That We Can Work Together As Americans To Help Move Our Nation Forward.” According to a press release from the office of Kevin McCarthy, “Congressman McCarthy issued the following statement: [...]The WIND Energy Act is a common-sense idea that we can work together as Americans to help move our nation forward.” [Press Release – Office of Rep. Kevin McCarthy, [3/27/09](#)]

McCarthy: “A Clean, Reliable, And Renewable Energy Source, Wind-Generated Electricity Produces No Carbon Dioxide Or Greenhouse Gas Emissions” And Displaces CO2 Emissions. According to a speech on the floor of the House by Kevin McCarthy via the Congressional Record, “A clean, reliable, and renewable energy source, wind-generated electricity produces no carbon dioxide or greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, in 2007, the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) estimated that wind energy displaced more than 28 million tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere. A 2007 report compiled by the American Solar Energy Society indicates that widespread use of wind has the potential to displace up to 1,780 million metric tons of carbon dioxide by 2030.” [Kevin McCarthy – Speech on House Floor via Congressional Record, [3/26/09](#)]

McCarthy: Extending The PTC Through 2020 Would “Create Long-Term Fiscal Stability” Which Was “Vital” To Wind Energy Development, “Thereby Making Wind-Generated Electricity More Competitive.” According to a speech on the floor of the House by Kevin McCarthy via the Congressional Record, “By extending the PTC through 2020, my bill would create long-term fiscal stability primarily in the wind energy market. This certainty is vital to wind energy project planning and development. By providing a long-term credit, wind energy developers can attract investors and plan out schedules for project development, thereby creating an efficient and cost-effective process for allocating resources and encouraging investment in this industry. This alone has the potential to reduce the costs associated with many of these projects thereby making wind-generated electricity more competitive with other types of electricity that is generated.” [Kevin McCarthy – Speech on House Floor via Congressional Record, [3/26/09](#)]

McCarthy Criticized Allowing PTCs To Expire And Said They Contributed To A Boom-Bust Cycle In Development. According to a speech on the floor of the House by Kevin McCarthy via the Congressional Record, “Unfortunately, since its creation in 1992, the PTC has been allowed to expire three times, only to be retroactively renewed and extended. In addition, Congress has very nearly allowed this credit to expire many times, but then has passed 11th hour extensions of the provision. The 3-year extension of the PTC included in the recently-enacted stimulus bill is a good start; however, given the history of extending this credit, such uncertainty in this process is a major disincentive to long-term wind and renewable energy development. This situation has led to a boom-bust cycle in wind energy rather than a consistent, longterm investment in one of our nation’s limitless green energy resources.” [Kevin McCarthy – Speech on House Floor via Congressional Record, [3/26/09](#)]

Recent Reversal & Turn To Anti-Environmentalism

Roll Call: “When The Pontiff... Called For The U.S. To Take Action On Climate Change, McCarthy Stayed Seated As Many Fellow Lawmakers Stood To Applaud.” According to Roll Call, “In September, with a battle of government spending looming, [Kevin] McCarthy led the GOP caucus through a month where they seemed preoccupied with everything but a potential shutdown, including a visit by Pope Francis. When the pontiff, in his address to Congress, called for the U.S. to take action on climate change, McCarthy stayed seated as many fellow lawmakers stood to applaud.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

Kevin McCarthy Signed AFP’s No Climate Tax Pledge. According to Americans for Prosperity, “The California chapter of the free market grassroots group Americans for Prosperity (AFP-CA) today applauded U.S. Representative and Chief Deputy Whip Kevin McCarthy (22nd District) for signing the group’s “No Climate Tax Pledge.” McCarthy joins more than 625 bipartisan lawmakers and candidates on the federal, state and local levels pledging to ‘oppose legislation relating to climate

change that includes a net increase in government revenue.” [Americans for Prosperity, [8/10/10](#)]

McCarthy Led The Charge To Block A 30 Percent Reduction In Carbon Pollution From The Power Sector And Used The Drought As An Excuse To Attack Endangered Species Act Protections. According to Earthjustice.org, “Stanford scientists forewarned that human-caused climate change was ‘very likely’ contributing to California’s drought. But Rep. McCarthy chose to ignore them and instead reward the polluters that have bankrolled his campaigns. Last Congress, House Republicans voted 236 times to block action on climate change. Now Rep. McCarthy is leading the charge to block a 30 percent reduction in carbon pollution from the power sector. He is also using the drought as an excuse to attack Endangered Species Act protections in California’s Bay-Delta ecosystem that safeguard native salmon plus thousands of farming and fishing jobs in the Bay-Delta and beyond.” [Earthjustice.org, [4/10/15](#)]

McCarthy Vowed To Try To Stop The EPA’s New Carbon Rules From Multiple Angles, Ranging From Passing Standalone Legislation To Nix The Rule And Launching A Website Criticizing Various EPA Regulations. According to the Wall Street Journal, “Mr. McCarthy vowed to try to stop the Environmental Protection Agency’s new carbon rules from multiple angles. In addition to passing standalone legislation that nixes the rule and launching a website criticizing a host of different EPA regulations, Mr. McCarthy said his party is likely to try to stop the rules via the appropriations process, something Republicans have tried—but failed—to do in the past with other EPA rules. ‘We have legislation moving here from appropriations and others that we do a lot of our different riders on,’ Mr. McCarthy said. ‘That becomes some of the most effective areas to combat it.’” [Wall Street Journal, [6/13/14](#)]

McCarthy On Whether Climate Change Exists: “I Think There Are Changes In The Environment. There Are A Lot Of Items To Contribute To It.” According to the Guardian, “McCarthy was a vocal opponent of Obama’s announcement last June of new emissions rules for coal-fired power plants. At the time he prepared legislation to hamper the EPA in its regulatory role, in what may be a preview of the Republican strategy to come. ‘We have legislation moving here from appropriations and others that we do a lot of our different riders on,’ McCarthy said. ‘That becomes some of the most effective areas to combat it.’ As for whether climate change exists: ‘I think there are changes in the environment,’ McCarthy has said. ‘There are a lot of items to contribute to it.’” [Guardian, [11/17/14](#)]

McCarthy: We Have A Major Drought. Everyone Is Concerned About Today. The President Comes Out And Says He Has A Solution. He Stands Up And Says It’s Climate Change. Well, That Does No One Any Good.” According to the Wall Street Journal, “‘I think there are changes in the environment. There are a lot of items to contribute to it,’ Mr. McCarthy said when pressed about whether he thinks humans’ burning of fossil fuels is exacerbating climate change, which most scientists agree to be the case. He didn’t connect his state’s historic drought to climate change and criticized President Barack Obama’s visit to California earlier this year to talk about the issue. ‘We have a major drought. Everyone is concerned about today,’ Mr. McCarthy said. ‘The president comes out and says he has a solution. He stands up and says it’s climate change. Well, that does no one any good, [farmers] sitting there who can’t grow, they find their prices are higher and now they’re out of work.’” [Wall Street Journal, [6/13/14](#)]

McCarthy On Wind Energy Subsidies: “I’ve Always Supported That In The Past Temporarily. But, Look At Where They Are Today. Are They At Parity Now That They Can Sustain Themselves? I Think They’ve Had Their Time.” According to the Wall Street Journal, “Mr. McCarthy no longer supports extending the production tax credit, a temporary subsidy the wind industry has been receiving on a sporadic basis since 1992. ‘I’ve always supported that in the past temporarily,’ Mr. McCarthy said. ‘But, look at where they are today. Are they at parity now that they can sustain themselves? I think that they are at this point.’ Mr. McCarthy, who touts the fact that his district also boasts wind energy, supported the last temporary extension that Congress approved at the end of 2012. He says he wouldn’t again: ‘I think they’ve had their time.’” [Wall Street Journal, [6/13/14](#)]

McCarthy “Made His Presence Known In California By Clashing With Democrats And Environmentalists Over His Efforts To Bring More Water To Farmers.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “Since being elected to Congress in 2006, McCarthy made his presence known in California by clashing with Democrats and environmentalists over his efforts to bring more water to farmers, and by aggressively opposing any federal involvement in the high-speed rail system championed by Gov. Jerry Brown.” [Los Angeles Times, 9/28/15]

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS / WOMEN’S HEALTH

California

1996: McCarthy Said Republicans Focused Too Much On Abortion, That It Was A Personal Issue.

McCarthy: “The Draw To The Party Is Over Economic Issues... Abortion, This Is Something You Should Talk To Your Minister, Rabbi And Your Family (About).” According to the Orange County Register, “Young Republican officials agree and encourage the GOP to stress taxes and college costs when speaking to younger voters. ‘The draw to the party is over economic issues,’ [Kevin] McCarthy said. ‘Abortion this is something you should talk to your minister, rabbi and your family (about).’” [Orange County Register, 8/17/96]

Pro-Choice In 2003

2003: McCarthy “Supports Most Abortion Rights, But Opposes Spending Tax Dollars On Abortion.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “[Kevin] McCarthy leans to the middle. He supports most abortion rights, but opposes spending tax dollars on abortions.” [Los Angeles Times, 11/3/03]

Multiple Attempts To Install A Pro-Choice Head Of The California State GOP

2001: McCarthy Backed An “Unsuccessful Drive By... Moderates” To Install A Moderate As Head Of The State GOP, Arguing That GOP Losses Were “Partly Due To Defections Of Women And Moderates Turned Off By The Party’s Hard-Line Stance Against Abortion And Gun Control.” According to the California Journal, “The [Bill] Thomas-[Kevin] McCarthy wars with the state party leadership apparently peaked in 2001. That's when they backed the unsuccessful drive by Bob Larkin and other moderates to install moderate former Assemblyman Brooks Firestone as head of the state GOP organization. They argued that GOP defeats at the ballot box in recent years were partly due to defections of women and moderates turned off by the party's hard-line stance against abortion and gun control.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

2003: McCarthy Supported Silicon Valley Lawyer Duf Sundheim Over California GOP Vice Chair Bill Back For The California Party Chairmanship. According to the Fresno Bee, “Delegates will select a party chairman to replace Shawn Steel, which may explain why party activists are starting to joke about the ‘circular firing squad.’ Indeed, it seems the state GOP spends more time attacking each other than taking on Democrats. Here in the Valley, most people are backing Silicon Valley lawyer Duf Sundheim over Bill Back, the party's vice chairman. Among Sundheim's supporters are GOP strategist Michael Der Manouel Jr., Assembly Members Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, and Steve Samuelian, R-Clovis; Reps. Devin Nunes, R-Visalia, Bill Thomas, R-Bakersfield, and George Radanovich, R-Mariposa; and party activists such as Carol Chandler and Tal Cloud.” [Fresno Bee, 2/8/03]

McCarthy Supported Duf Sundheim For Party Chair, Who Pledged To Remove An Anti-Abortion Plank From The State Party Platform. According to the California Journal, “Last year, the battle lines between conservatives and moderates became somewhat blurred during the contest for the party chairmanship between Duf Sundheim and Bill Back. Back was endorsed by the conservative California Republican Assembly, although Sundheim was considered at least as conservative as Back. When Sundheim won, he pledged to try to make the party more attractive to women and moderates without offending conservatives by removing the anti-abortion plank from the party's official platform. For the record, [Kevin] McCarthy supported Sundheim.” [California Journal, 11/1/03]

Defended A Pro-Choice Schwarzenegger Appointee: “The Budget Is About Numbers, Not About Social Issues.”

Schwarzenegger Announced That Former South Bay Republican Rep. Tom Campbell, A “Social Moderate” Who Was Pro-Choice, Would “Head His Finance Department.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said he won't listen to ‘losers’ in the Democrat-controlled Legislature who advocate raising taxes to close a looming budget deficit as he announced that former South Bay Republican Rep. Tom Campbell will head his finance department. Campbell, a social moderate, will take a leave from his current job as the dean of the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley to join the administration, replacing Donna Arduin, who left after just a year. [...] Democrats praised the selection of Campbell, hoping they can work better with a pro-choice, pro-gun control and pro-environment director than they did with Arduin, who came to the state with a reputation as a budget slasher.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 11/5/04]

McCarthy: “The Budget Is About Numbers, Not About Social Issues.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “‘The budget is about numbers, not about social issues,’ said Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield. ‘He

[Tom Campbell] has expertise in California, has a national perspective and has been in the private sector. That gives him a unique perspective.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 11/5/04]

2005: Defended A Second Pro-Choice Schwarzenegger Appointee

Schwarzenegger Appointed A Pro-Choice Former Republican State Sen. Bruce McPherson As His Chief Elections Officer. According to the Los Angeles Times, “Choosing a Republican ally whose politics mirror his own, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Friday nominated former state Sen. Bruce McPherson as California's chief elections officer. [...] John Burton, a former Senate leader, said it would be a mistake to consider McPherson a bipartisan selection. ‘Bruce is a nice guy, but Arnold's obviously making a political appointment,’ Burton said. ‘He's putting Bruce in, I assume, to strengthen the political bench. Bruce was pro-choice, good on the environment and good on gun control, but other than that, Bruce is a Republican.’” [Los Angeles Times, 2/12/05]

McCarthy: Democrats Would Be “Playing Politics” If They Didn’t Support McPherson. According to the Los Angeles Times, “Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield said Democrats would be ‘playing politics’ if they didn't support McPherson” [Los Angeles Times, 2/12/05]

Was Opposed To A Bill Requiring Pharmacies To Carry Birth Control For Free Market Reasons, Didn't Cite Religion

Daily News Of Los Angeles: McCarthy Cited The Free Market In Opposition To A Bill Requiring Pharmacists To Fill Birth Control Prescriptions Regardless Of Their Religious Beliefs. According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, “Pharmacists would be required to fill prescriptions for contraceptives even when it goes against their religious or moral beliefs under a bill proposed by Assemblyman Lloyd Levine, D-Van Nuys. [...] Assembly Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, said the state shouldn't decide what pharmacists should or should not sell. ‘Now the state government is going to start dictating what we have in pharmacies?’ he said. ‘I don't think we're the best to do that. I think the consumer and the free market have determined what sells inside a business. I'm not into telling pharmacies what they have to sell.’” [Daily News of Los Angeles, 12/31/04]

Supported State Budgets Which Included Taxpayer Funding For Abortion

2004:

McCarthy: “Is There Something In This Budget For All Of Us To Hate? Yes... Anybody In This Room Can Find A Reason To Say No. But A Little More Important Is Finding A Little Leadership To Say Yes.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “The Assembly's approval comes with the budget already four weeks late. ‘Is there something in this budget for all of us to hate? Yes,’ said Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy during Wednesday's debate. ‘Anybody in this room can find a reason to say no. But a little more important is finding a little leadership to say yes.’” [Los Angeles Times, 7/29/04]

Los Angeles Times: “The 11 Republicans And Democrats Who Voted Against The Bill Cited A Number Of Reasons, Including Opposition To Abortion Funding.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “The 11 Republicans and Democrats who voted against the bill cited a number of reasons, including opposition to abortion funding and concern about the amount of borrowing.” [Los Angeles Times, 7/29/04]

2005:

Associated Press State & Local Wire: A “Number Of Conservative Lawmakers... Consistently Vote Against The State Budget... On Moral Grounds, Objecting To State Tax Dollars Being Used To Support Abortion Services.” According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “A further obstacle is the number of conservative lawmakers who consistently vote against the state budget. Some oppose it on principle, saying spending should be reined in. ‘Democrats have not addressed the structural spending problem,’ said Assemblyman Russ Bogh, R-Beaumont, who supported the budget last year but noted that many of his colleagues did not. ‘Until they do and until the numbers look right to us, we're not going to vote for it.’ Others oppose it on moral grounds, objecting to state tax dollars being used to support abortion services. Planned Parenthood scored 20 members of the state Assembly as ‘anti-choice’ based on their voting records.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 6/29/05]

Associated Press State & Local Wire: “McCarthy Has Said He Supports The Governor’s \$115.7 Billion Budget.”

According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “The political equation places the Assembly's minority leader, Bakersfield Republican Kevin McCarthy, in a position of elevated influence. Republican lawmakers found themselves at odds with the governor during last year's negotiations, but McCarthy has said he supports the governor's \$115.7 billion budget and isn't looking for anything more. The Democratic plan would spent about \$1 billion more. McCarthy said Republicans are concerned about ongoing deficits and automatic spending increases. Needing more GOP votes to pass the budget can only improve the final plan, he said.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 6/29/05]

Los Angeles Times: On The Budget, “Republicans Were Rebuffed In Their Attempts To... Ban The Medi-Cal System From Buying Or Selling Aborted Human Embryos.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “And in what has become an annual budget-vote tradition, Republicans were rebuffed in their attempts to amend four bills to require parental consent for minors to obtain abortions, ban use of state money for late-term abortions, ban the Medi-Cal program from buying or selling aborted human embryos and limit state funding for abortions to \$3 million.” [Los Angeles Times, 7/8/05]

Los Angeles Times: On The Budget, “Republicans Were Rebuffed In Their Attempts To... Require Parental Consent For Minors To Obtain Abortions... And Limit State Funding For Abortions To \$3 Million.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “And in what has become an annual budget-vote tradition, Republicans were rebuffed in their attempts to amend four bills to require parental consent for minors to obtain abortions, ban use of state money for late-term abortions, ban the Medi-Cal program from buying or selling aborted human embryos and limit state funding for abortions to \$3 million.” [Los Angeles Times, 7/8/05]

San Francisco Chronicle: After “Unsuccessful Attempts By Four Republicans To Insert Amendments Banning The State From Spending Any Money On Family Planning And Abortion Clinics... McCarthy... Spoke On The Floor About The Bipartisan Compromise It Took To Get A Deal.” According to the San Francisco Chronicle, “The budget debate in the Assembly was unusually calm for the often-raucous house. Aside from unsuccessful attempts by four Republicans to insert amendments banning the state from spending any money on family planning and abortion clinics -- an annual occurrence -- there was little drama. [Kevin] McCarthy and Nez spoke on the floor about the bipartisan cooperation it took to get a deal, and both noted how quickly the budget agreement had been reach compared with past years.” [San Francisco Chronicle, 7/8/05]

Endorsed A Candidate Accused By His Opponent Of “Being Soft On Abortion.”

McCarthy Endorsed Mike Villines Over “Uber-Conservative Christ Mathys,” Mathys Accused Villines Of “Being Soft On Abortion.” According to the California Journal, “The two main slingers were uber-conservative Chris Mathys, a one-time member of the Fresno City Council, and Mike Villines, a one-time aide to former Gov. Pete Wilson and chief of staff to area Sen. Chuck Poochigian. Trying to keep to the slippery high road was a third candidate, former Assm. Mike Briggs. Villines was the clear choice of the Republican establishment, having earned the backing of former governors Wilson and George Deukmejian, Assm. GOP Ldr. Kevin McCarthy, U.S. Senate candidate Bill Jones, most members of the Assembly GOP caucus, most Republican state senators and area congressmen, and most local mayors. Mathys countered that endorsement edge with a whack-and-whomp campaign that tried to paint Villines as - gasp - a moderate, accusing him of being soft on abortion and in favor of gun control because he once worked for Wilson.” [California Journal, 4/1/04]

Co-Hosted An Event With The Leader of A Pro-Choice Republican Group

OC Register: “Paul Makarechian, 31, Showed Up In Jeans To Host An Event With Assembly GOP Leader Kevin McCarthy Of Bakersfield.” According to the Orange County Register, “Paul Makarechian, 31, showed up in jeans to host an event with Assembly GOP Leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield. That was at Fashion Island's trendy Ozumo Japanese restaurant. Another of the group's events, this one featuring a congressman, was held at Costa Mesa's hip Sutra Lounge.” [Orange County Register, 6/27/05]

Makarechian Was A Member Of “New Majority,” A Group That Touts An “Open Mind Towards Abortion” And Promoted A Candidate Because They Liked “That He Favors Abortion Rights.” According to the Orange County Register, “In broad terms, their stance is similar to that of the New Majority, a county group of multimillionaire businesspeople who tout fiscal responsibility and business-friendly government while advocating an open mind toward abortion, gun control, gay rights and immigration. Indeed, Makarechian and Kanatsiz are also members of the New Majority. [...]The group is backing Michael Davidson to head the College Republican National Committee -- between group and individual donations, they've contributed nearly \$50,000. This is the guy with the spiky hair, whom they see as a good

spokesman for the generation and a future leader. They like that he favors abortion rights and is sensitive to environmental issues.” [Orange County Register, 6/27/05]

House of Representatives

McCarthy: “Defunding Planned Parenthood And Saving Newborns Is The Right Thing To Do, And The House Is Going To Do It.” According to Roll Call, “Two weeks before the government would run out of money, [Kevin] McCarthy announced a pair of bills that would have restricted funding to Planned Parenthood, the object of an undercover video sting many Republicans say showed the group profits from the sale of fetal tissue for medical research. ‘Defunding Planned Parenthood and saving newborns is the right thing to do, and the House is going to do it,’ he said.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

FAIR PAY

House of Representatives

2009: Representative Kevin McCarthy Voted Against The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. According to Gov Track, California Representative Kevin McCarthy voted against the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009. [GovTrack.us, Accessed [9/25/15](#)]

2008: McCarthy Voted Against The Paycheck Fairness Act, Which Made It Easier For Women To Successfully Sue Their Employers Over Unequal Compensation. In July 2008, McCarthy voted against a bill that, according to Congressional Quarterly, “would make it easier for women who are paid less than their male counterparts to bring suits against their employers and receive compensation. Employers seeking to justify unequal pay would have to prove that disparities are job-related and required by a business necessity. Workers who won wage discrimination cases could collect compensatory and punitive damages. As amended, it would specify that punitive damages could only be awarded to plaintiffs who prove intentional discrimination.” The House passed the bill, named the Paycheck Fairness Act, by a vote of 247 to 178. The Senate took no substantive action on the measure. [House Vote 556, [7/31/08](#); Congressional Quarterly, [7/31/08](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 1338](#)]

2009: McCarthy Voted Against Requiring That Employers Prove That Instances Of Unequal Pay For Men And Women Were Job Related. In January 2009, McCarthy voted against a bill that according to Congressional Quarterly “would [have] require[d] employers seeking to justify unequal pay for male and female workers to prove that such disparities are job-related and required by a business necessity. It would [have] bar[red] retaliation by employers against employees who share salary information with their co-workers. Workers who won wage discrimination cases could collect compensatory and punitive damages.” The House passed the bill by a vote of 256 to 163. The text of the bill was appended to the end of H.R. 11 as new matter. H.R. 11 was passed by the House, but the Senate took no substantive action. [House Vote 8, [1/9/09](#); Congressional Quarterly, [1/9/09](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 12](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 11](#)]

2009: McCarthy Voted Against The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. In 2009, McCarthy voted against the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which allowed lawsuits for pay discrimination to be filed within 180 days of any discrimination-affected paycheck, even if it was the result of discrimination that occurred more than 180 days ago. The bill effectively overturned the Supreme Court’s 2006 ruling in Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. According to The New York Times, in that case, “A jury found [Ledbetter’s] employer, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company plant in Gadsden, Ala., guilty of pay discrimination. But in a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court threw out the case, ruling that she should have filed her suit within 180 days of the date that Goodyear first paid her less than her peers.” According to the New York Times, the Ledbetter Act “restarts the six-month clock every time the worker receives a paycheck.” The bill passed the House, 250 to 177, and President Obama signed it into law on January 29, 2009. [House Vote 37, [1/27/09](#); Public Law 111-2, [1/29/09](#); New York Times, [1/29/09](#)]

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

Previous Support

McCarthy’s Newfound Ex-Im Opposition Was Contrary To His Position In 2012, “When He Voted To Renew The Bank’s Charter And Raise Its Lending Cap To \$140 Billion.” According to Politico, “Fox News interviewer Chris Wallace asked McCarthy directly if he ‘would allow the Ex-Im Bank to expire in September?’ ‘Yes, because it’s something the private

sector can be able to do,' replied McCarthy, reversing the position he held in 2012, when he voted to renew the bank's charter and raise its lending cap to \$140 billion." [Politico, [6/22/14](#)]

House Conservatives Approached McCarthy With Ideas To Reform The Bank And Were “Were Told Very Politely... ‘Thanks, But We Don’t Need Your Votes’” To Reauthorize. According to the Hill, “A group of core fiscal conservatives were not swayed, and some appeared disaffected with GOP leadership on Wednesday. ‘We went to our leadership — in fact, conservatives in both the House and the Senate went to the leadership of both bodies and said, ‘Look, here’s some conservative reforms.’ And we were told very politely on both sides of the building, ‘Thanks, but we don’t need your votes,’” Rep. Mick Mulvaney (R-S.C.) lamented. Mulvaney and others had been floating reform ideas to House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), an aide explained. Asked if he was concerned that GOP leaders were not interested in conservative input, Mulvaney replied: ‘Does it concern me that they’re negotiating with the Democrats? They’ve been doing that for the last 16 months. Does it concern me? Yes. Does it surprise me? No.’” [The Hill, 5/10/12]

The New American: McCarthy Was A “Chief Arm Twister” For Speaker John Boehner On The 2012 Ex-Im Bank Reauthorization. According to an opinion by John McManus for The New American, “The recent reauthorization of Ex-Im won approval in the House of Representatives by a vote of 330 to 93. All 93 ‘No’ votes were from Republicans, but 147 members of the GOP went along with Democrats to extend this outrage. The bill was heavily promoted by House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio), who received help from his chief arm twisters, Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Va.) and Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.)” [John McManus – The New American, 6/25/12]

McCarthy Spoke At Rep. Peter Roskam’s “Exports Mean Jobs Forum,” Which Featured A Speaker From The Export-Import Bank On A Panel Entitled “Local Resources To Expand Into Foreign Markets.” According to a press release from the office of Rep. Peter Roskam, “Today, Rep. Peter Roskam (IL-06) hosted the Exports Mean Jobs Forum in Chicago for over 100 area business people. Participants heard featured remarks about the value of trade and specifically the three new pro-export trade agreements from Rep. Roskam, House Majority Whip Rep. Kevin McCarthy (CA-22), Rep. Bob Dold (IL-10), and Tom Downey, Senior Vice President of Communications, The Boeing Company. The event was held at the Illinois Institute of Technology's Stuart School of Business. [...]The panelists on ‘Going Global: Local Resources to Expand Into Foreign Markets’ were Adam Pollet of the Illinois Office of Trade and Investment, Michael Howard of the U.S. Export-Import Bank, and John Coronado of the U.S. Department of Commerce's U.S. Commercial Service.” [Press Release – Rep. Peter Roskam, [11/29/11](#)]

- **The Event Was Co-Hosted By The Illinois Chamber Of Commerce.** According to the Chamber Dispatch, “Today the Illinois Chamber of Commerce International Business Council (IBC) hosted its first public event with the help of Congressman and Chief Deputy Majority Whip Peter Roskam (IL06). Titled the Chicagoland Export Forum, the event was opened by Reps. Roskam, Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (CA22) and Bob Dold (IL10) who pointed to the recently passed Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with South Korea, Colombia and Panama as proof that Congress can work together in a bipartisan manner to create jobs. Tom Downey, Sr. VP with Boeing spoke to the US jobs created when new markets open up overseas and highlighted Boeing’s involvement with President Barack Obama’s Export Council.” [Chamber Dispatch, [11/29/11](#)]

In 2014, McCarthy Reversed His Position

New York Times: “Just Days After... Eric Cantor Was Defeated By A Tea Party Challenger In A Republican Primary, Mr. McCarthy Suddenly Announced That He No Longer Supported The... Export-Import Bank.”

According to the New York Times, “In June 2014, just days after the then-House majority leader, Eric Cantor, was defeated by a Tea Party challenger in a Republican primary, Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy suddenly announced that he no longer supported the existence of the federal Export-Import Bank.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

- **New York Times: “That Position Put Mr. McCarthy In Line With Representative Jeb Hensarling... Who Was Widely Rumored To Be Considering A Challenge To Mr. McCarthy For Mr. Cantor’s Leadership Post.”** According to the New York Times, “That position put Mr. [Kevin] McCarthy in line with Representative Jeb Hensarling, Republican of Texas, who was widely rumored to be considering a challenge to Mr. McCarthy for Mr. [Eric] Cantor’s leadership post.” [New York Times, 9/30/15]

Roll Call: McCarthy “Surprised Some By Endorsing A Favorite Conservative Cause To Let The Export-Import Bank Charter Expire.” According to Roll Call, “Shortly after he [Kevin McCarthy] was elected majority leader, he surprised

some by endorsing a favorite conservative cause to let the Export-Import Bank charter expire June 30, with the argument that the private sector can handle its functions of financing exports.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

Headline: “McCarthy: Allow Ex-Im Bank To Close” [Politico, [6/22/14](#)]

McCarthy Aide: “Leader McCarthy Has Two Priorities: To Make Sure Must-Pass Bills Pass And To Continue The Fight Against Ex-Im.” According to The Hill, “McCarthy was traveling on Monday and unavailable for comment. But when asked about whether the leader would bring up a Senate highway bill with an Ex-Im provision, an aide replied: ‘Leader McCarthy has two priorities: to make sure must-pass bills pass and to continue the fight against Ex-Im.’” [The Hill, [7/7/15](#)]

McCarthy “Quickly Made Clear That The Bank's Charter Should Expire” After Becoming House Majority Leader. According to the L.A. Times, “Andy Roth, vice president of government affairs at Club for Growth, said a turning point came a year ago after House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Va.) suffered a stunning primary loss to a tea party challenger who had made the bank one of his issues. Cantor's successor as majority leader, Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield), quickly made clear that the bank's charter should expire. ‘It was no longer us shouting from the cheap seats,’ Roth said. ‘Leadership was echoing.’” [L.A. Times, [7/2/15](#)]

- **House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy On Financing Exports: “The Private Sector Can Do It.”** According to Politico, “New House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy said on Sunday he favors closing down the U.S. Export-Import Bank when its charter expires in September because the government does not need to be involved in financing exports. ‘I think Ex-Im Bank is ... something government does not have to be involved in. The private sector can do it,’ McCarthy (R-Calif.) said in an interview on Fox News Sunday. ‘One of the biggest problems with government is they go and take hard-earned money so others do things that the private sector can do. That’s what the Ex-Im Bank does,’ McCarthy said.” [Politico, [6/22/14](#)]
- **McCarthy Spent 2015 “Positioning Himself As An Ardent Foe Of The Bank, Which Finances Overseas Investments For U.S. Companies.”** According to The Hill, “A possible House vote this month on whether to renew the Export-Import Bank carries big risks for Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy. The California Republican has spent the past year positioning himself as an ardent foe of the bank, which finances overseas investments for U.S. companies.” [The Hill, [7/7/15](#)]
- **McCarthy Aligning Himself Against Renewal Ahead Of A Possible Speakership Race Could “Bolster His Conservative Bona Fides.”** According to The Hill, “In doing so, McCarthy has aligned himself ahead of a possible Speakership race next year with a growing faction of GOP conservatives who blast the bank as a blatant example of corporate welfare. Killing off the bank would give McCarthy, the No. 2 House leader, something to bolster his conservative bona fides. The Ex-Im charter expired at the end of June, and its opponents have its headstone in their sights. The problem is that Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) has signaled he’ll allow a vote on renewing the bank’s charter later this month.” [The Hill, [7/7/15](#)]

Former GOP Aide: McCarthy “Walking Lockstep With Him On Ex-Im Keeps Hensarling From Having A Wedge Issue To Tout Against Him” In Seeking The Speakership. According to The Hill, “A former GOP aide said it makes sense for McCarthy, who once backed the bank, to oppose it so that he and Hensarling have the same position. ‘McCarthy’s change of tune certainly makes a lot of sense considering one of his most talked-about challengers for Speaker is chairman Hensarling. Walking lockstep with him on Ex-Im keeps Hensarling from having a wedge issue to tout against him in the future,’ the former aide said.” [The Hill, [7/7/15](#)]

FOREIGN POLICY

McCarthy Said The United States Was “In A Time Reminiscent Of 1979.” According to the Washington Post, “I asked him in a brief phone interview why he had wanted to give this speech now. For him, we are in a time reminiscent of 1979. ‘I really think the world is back in that place. You get us out by a strong economy and foreign policy.’” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy: “When It Comes To Dictators, Tyrants And Terrorists, Strength And The Threat Of Force Is The Only Language They Understand.” According to a speech from Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “When it comes to

dictators, tyrants and terrorists, strength and the threat of force is the only language they understand.” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy: “Wherever We Look, The World Is Less Safe And Less Secure Because America Is Less Engaged.” According to a speech from Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “Wherever we look, the world is less safe and less secure because America is less engaged.” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy “Called For Us To Stop ‘Letting Putin Set The Agenda. Stop Turning A Blind Eye To Russian Aggression. It Is Time For America To Step Up... And That Starts With Providing Ukrainian Fighting Forces Lethal Aid.’ According to the Washington Post, “As for Vladimir Putin, he called for us to stop ‘letting Putin set the agenda. Stop turning a blind eye to Russian aggression. It is time for America to step up, not back down, and that starts with providing Ukrainian fighting forces lethal aid.’ He decried Obama’s decision to sit down with Putin for a chat, instead calling for supply of weapons to Ukraine, lifting of the ban on U.S. crude oil and going after Putin personally. (‘The president’s response to Putin’s aggression should not be to sit down and talk, but to consider serious sanctions that target him, the oligarchs who sustain his reign and their cronies that help them avoid sanctions.’)” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy Said Obama’s Withdrawal From Iraq Led “To The Creation And Expansion Of ISIS, To The Mass Executions Of Moderate Muslims, To The Slaughter Of Coptic Christians.” According to a speech from Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “I have yet to hear a Democratic candidate asked: if you knew our total, unconditional withdrawal from Iraq would lead to the creation and expansion of ISIS, to the mass executions of moderate Muslims, to the slaughter of Coptic Christians, to Syrian children washing ashore as they fled a butcher like Assad: Would you still support the president’s complete withdrawal from Iraq? Would you still defend drawing red lines that get crossed without consequences?” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy Said “Increases In Military Spending Must Be Accompanied By Reforms In Entitlements.” According to the Washington Post, “I asked him [Kevin McCarthy] about military sequestration, which Obama refuses to lift without a tax hike. ‘This is what he always does. ‘It’s the Iran deal or war.’ It’s the same thing here. He puts a hurdle [to increased military spending] and says it is his way or no way.’ He continues, ‘He’s the commander in chief. Wouldn’t he value having the strength and force?’ He argues that increases in military spending must be accompanied by reforms in entitlements and reforms in the Pentagon, for which he credits Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Tex.). Whether the House can pass such a budget remains to be seen.” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

Iran

Roll Call: “McCarthy Also Denounced What He Called A ‘Bad’ Nuclear Deal With Iran This Year.” According to Roll Call, “[Kevin] McCarthy also denounced what he called a ‘bad’ nuclear deal with Iran this year.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

McCarthy: “This Agreement Fails To Achieve What We All Want: Safety, Security And Stability In The Middle East, And Across The World.” According to a speech from Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “The people of the Middle East deserve an agreement that dismantles, rather than delays, Iran’s nuclear weapon capability. For these reasons and more, I stand with a majority of the American people and oppose the nuclear deal with Iran. Why? Because this agreement fails to achieve what we all want: safety, security and stability in the Middle East, and across the world.” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

McCarthy Criticized The “Humiliating Concessions” In The Iran Deal. According to a speech from Kevin McCarthy via the Washington Post, “Iran’s increased funding for terrorism is the greatest fear I hear from our allies in the region as a direct result of the humiliating concessions made by President Obama and Secretary of State Kerry.” [Washington Post, [9/28/15](#)]

UNIONS

California

McCarthy Supported Reagan’s Re-Election “Which Meant Going Against The Strong Pro-Union Sentiment In His Family. His Father Belonged To The Firefighters Union, And His Grandfather Was A Railroad Worker.” According to Roll Call, “He [Kevin McCarthy] supported President Ronald Reagan’s re-election in 1984, which meant going against the

strong pro-union sentiment in his family. His father belonged to the firefighters union, and his grandfather was a railroad worker.” [Roll Call, [9/25/15](#)]

After The Speaker Adjourned The Assembly While McCarthy Was In A Meeting, Avoiding A Vote Republicans Wanted, McCarthy Said “I Guess This Is Where You Learn This Stuff: In Labor Unions.” According to the Daily News of Los Angeles, “Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, made an end run around Republicans - who were planning to call for the measure to be voted on - by adjourning Friday's session without alerting GOP lawmakers. Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy and other Republicans sprinted into chambers in an unsuccessful attempt to stop the adjournment motion. McCarthy acknowledged that Nunez's tactics were legal, but called them ‘dishonest.’ Nunez adjourned session while he was meeting with Schwarzenegger in the governor's office; Assembly Majority Leader Dario Frommer, D-Glendale, carried the motion. ‘Here we are, the Republicans want to stay here this weekend, solve this budget, and they're shutting the floor down,’ McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, said. ‘I guess this is where you learn this stuff: in labor unions.’” [Daily News of Los Angeles, 7/3/04]

McCarthy Called A Law Allowing Workers To Sue Their Bosses Over Labor Law Violations “An Open Invitation To Disgruntled Workers To Sue Their Bosses.” According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Also hanging up a budget agreement is another little-known law, SB 796, that allows workers to take their employers to court over labor code violations. Schwarzenegger said the law allows frivolous lawsuits and needs to go, while Democrats said it protects workers from dangerous working conditions at a time when there are far too few state regulators. Signed into law as one of the last acts of former Gov. Gray Davis before the recall election, it has become a huge issue for business groups including the California Chamber of Commerce. Even the law's author, Sen. Joe Dunn, D-Santa Ana, said he's surprised Davis signed it. The former governor overruled his staff's advice, Dunn said, because of his concerns the state lacked the resources to do the necessary work place inspections. But Republican Assembly leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield calls the law an open invitation to disgruntled workers to sue their bosses. He points out there's even a guidebook on the market advising workers how to use the new law.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 7/16/04]

IMMIGRATION

House of Representatives

McCarthy Told The Former Mayor Of Los Angeles He'd Be Willing To Chat With The Archbishop Of Los Angeles About Immigration Issues, The Mayor Said This Was Proof McCarthy Was “Very Open-Minded.” According to The Los Angeles Times, “[Former Los Angeles mayor Richard] Riordan is excited to bankroll [Kevin] McCarthy because he sees him as a flexible moderate. ‘He is very open-minded,’ Riordan said. When the archbishop of Los Angeles asked Riordan whether McCarthy might be open to chatting about immigration issues, Riordan said, ‘I called Kevin up and within a minute he said yes.’ Yet many in the tea party also consider McCarthy to be on their side. Many tea party-influenced members, who typically view the GOP as too prone to compromise and too attentive to the interests of big business rather than conservative, populist concerns, owe their seats in Congress to him. He recruited them. He raised money for them. He doesn't scold when they rebel against positions taken by the GOP leadership, they say. Instead, he often takes them to dinner to discuss what his campaign statement called ‘the common goal to establish a freer and more prosperous country.’” [Los Angeles Times, [6/5/15](#)]

ABC News: “McCarthy Hails From A Heavily Hispanic District In California, And Has Spoken Favorably Of Granting Legal Status To Undocumented Immigrants In The Past.” According to ABC News, “[Kevin] McCarthy hails from a heavily Hispanic district in California, and has spoken favorably of granting legal status to undocumented immigrants in the past. While his background could open him up to pressure from immigration reform groups, McCarthy will also feel the heat from House conservatives whose support he'll need to win the Speaker's gavel.” [ABC News, 9/28/15]

Los Angeles Times: McCarthy “Sticks To The Party Line By Calling For Tougher Border Enforcement And Against ‘Amnesty.’” According to the Los Angeles Times, “On immigration, McCarthy takes a more nuanced approach: His district is 35% Latino and dominated by an agricultural industry dependent on farmworkers. The congressman sticks to the party line by calling for tougher border enforcement and against ‘amnesty’ but has expressed support for providing legal documentation for law-abiding migrants to work and pay taxes.” [Los Angeles Times, 9/28/15]

LGBTQ ISSUES

California

McCarthy: “Feng Shui, I Guess, Along With Bird-Weaning And Cross-Dressing, Was A Big Issue Prior To The Recall.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “The Capitol's own less-than-positive work environment has generated much brow-furrowing by political thinkers. Yee's Assembly mate, Republican leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield, in a speech to the California Newspaper Publishers Assn. in Sacramento, used the measure as an example of the Legislature's underlying difficulties. Yee, he said, has introduced a resolution 'to ask California architects that any time you design a building, you now have to do it with feng shui in mind.' The audience -- all those liberal media folk -- laughed. 'Now, I thought, I'd better look at the date and be fair,' McCarthy continued. 'Was this prior to the recall? Because feng shui, I guess, along with bird-weaning and cross-dressing, was a big issue prior to the recall. This was introduced Jan. 5, 2004.' (The bird-weaning measure, by Assemblywoman Ellen Corbett of San Leandro, became law and prohibits pet shops from selling unweaned pet birds, as they already were banned from selling unweaned puppies.)” [Los Angeles Times, 2/2/04]

OIL EXPORT BAN

House of Representatives

Rep McCarthy: “If There Was Ever A Time To Lift The Oil Export Ban, It’s Now...Lifting The Oil Export Ban Will” Help Our Economy And “Also Bolster Our Geopolitical Standing.” According to the New York Times, “Representative Kevin McCarthy, Republican of California and majority leader, said on Tuesday that the House was preparing to vote later this month to repeal a 40-year-old ban on the export of crude oil. [...] ‘If there was ever a time to lift the oil export ban, it’s now,’ Mr. McCarthy said in a copy provided by his office of a speech that was given Tuesday in Houston. ‘Lifting the oil export ban will not only help our economy, it will also bolster our geopolitical standing.’” [New York Times, [9/15/15](#)]

McCarthy: I Ask President Obama, “If We’re Going To Lift The Ban And Let Iranian Oil Sell Around The World, Can’t You At Least Treat Americans Equal? Can’t We Lift The Ban?” According to Your Houston News, “‘Last week we had debates on the (House) floor about the Iran agreement that the president has proposed,’ McCarthy said. ‘I oppose it, but when I look at the White House and wonder if they’ll support lifting the ban, I ask the president one question: ‘Why won’t you do for America what you’re doing for Iran? If we’re going to lift the ban and let Iranian oil sell around the world, can’t you at least treat Americans equal? Can’t we lift the ban?’” [Your Houston News, [9/15/15](#)]

McCarthy: When You See “What Putin Is Doing Now” In Syria And Ukraine, “Lifting The Ban On Oil And Gas Equalizes Everything” By Allowing Allies Of The U.S. To Avoid “Buying Oil From A Dictator In Russia.” According to Your Houston News, “McCarthy said lifting the ban would also be beneficial for American allies overseas who are frequently compelled to import oil from countries like Russia. ‘When you look around the world and see what (Russian President Vladimir) Putin is doing now in Syria and what he’s done in the Ukraine, lifting just the ban on oil and gas equalizes everything. Our allies can say my only option is not buying oil from a dictator in Russia,’ he said.” [Your Houston News, [9/15/15](#)]

PUBLIC LANDS

House of Representatives

Representative Kevin McCarthy Sponsored The Wilderness And Roadless Area Release Act, Which Would “End Protections On 43 Million Acres” Of Land In The West. According to the Bradenton Herald, “Another bill that's pending is the Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act, sponsored by Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. He said the bill would ‘create jobs and grow local communities.’ It would end protections on 43 million acres in the West, lands where Congress hasn't made final decisions about formal wilderness protection.” [Bradenton Herald, [6/13/11](#)]

Oakland Planning Commission Chair Vien Truong: Kevin McCarthy Sponsored The Wilderness And Roadless Area Release Act, Which Guts Environmental Standards. According to an opinion by Oakland Planning Commission Chair Vien Truong for the Oakland Tribune, “I have watched congressional events this summer with a mixture of concern and outright alarm. Week after week, GOP congressional leaders have advanced efforts that would profoundly affect our communities' health, our local economies, our environment and accessibility to our shared outdoors. A leading example is Bakersfield's Rep. Kevin McCarthy and his ‘Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act.’ It guts the environmental standards that keep our air, water and soil free of pollutants.” [Vien Truong – Oakland Tribune, [9/1/11](#)]

Chair Of The City Of Oakland Planning Commission Vien Truong: Representative Kevin McCarthy's Wilderness And Roadless Area Release Act Would "Diminish The Land And Water Conservation Fund." According to an opinion by chair of the city of Oakland Planning Commission Vien Truong, "I have watched congressional events this summer with a mixture of concern and outright alarm. Week after week, GOP congressional leaders have advanced efforts that would profoundly affect our communities' health, our local economies, our environment and accessibility to our shared outdoors. A leading example is Bakersfield's Rep. Kevin McCarthy and his 'Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act.' It guts the environmental standards that keep our air, water and soil free of pollutants." [Fresno Bee, [9/1/11](#)]

MINIMUM WAGE

House of Representatives

McCarthy Voted Against Increasing The Minimum Wage From \$5.15 An Hour In 2007. According to the Washington Post's U.S. Congress Votes Database, "This bill would increase the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour to \$7.25 an hour over two years. It would increase the minimum wage in three increments. Sixty days after enactment, the minimum wage is to be raised to \$5.85. A year after that it will be \$6.55, and a year after that it will be \$7.25. This is the first change to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 since 1997 when the federal minimum wage was increased from \$4.75 to \$5.15 an hour." McCarthy voted no. [Washington Post U.S. Congress Votes Database, accessed [9/25/15](#); House Vote #18, [1/10/07](#)]

- **McCarthy Supported "Keeping The Minimum Wage Down" Because Raising It "Could Hurt Our Economy."** According to National Public Radio, "Senator KEVIN McCARTHY (Republican, California): I think raising of the minimum wage could hurt our economy. We have created 450,000 new jobs in California by keeping the minimum wage down. I don't know that the time is right to raise the minimum wage." [National Public Radio, [1/6/06](#)]

McCarthy Opposed Increasing The Minimum Wage From \$7.25 An Hour In 2013. According to FOX News, "The president, during his fifth State of the Union address, proposed increasing the hourly rate from \$7.25. He said those workers currently have an annual salary of \$14,500. 'Even with the tax relief we've put in place, a family with two kids that earns the minimum wage still lives below the poverty line,' Obama said. 'That's wrong.' However, House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy said Obama's plan would not have the desired effect of getting Americans off government support and improving the economy." [FOX News, [2/13/13](#)]

- **McCarthy: Increasing The Minimum Wage Would Not Improve The Economy.** According to the FOX News, "However, House Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy said Obama's plan would not have the desired effect of getting Americans off government support and improving the economy. The California Republican said increasing the wage would instead put more strain on small business, a huge job creator in the U.S. economy that has struggled now for years." [FOX News, [2/13/13](#)]

WALL STREET REFORM

House of Representatives

House Majority Leader McCarthy Following The Passage Of H.R. 37: "The Number Of Regulations That Have Piled Up Over The Past Six Years Are Compounding And Holding Back Main Street Business." According to a press release by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, "Excess regulations hurt jobs and put added costs on our economy. The number of regulations that have piled up over the past six years are compounding and holding back Main Street businesses." [[1/14/15](#)]

- **McCarthy: "I Am Disappointed That A Fracture In The Democratic Caucus Is Causing So Many Democrats To Switch Their Votes In A Zealous Defense Of Dodd-Frank Regulations."** According to a press release by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, "I thank Representative Mike Fitzpatrick (PA-08) for putting together a good bill that includes a number of provisions to reduce red tape and makes it easier for small businesses to access the capital they need to grow and create good-paying jobs. These provisions have enjoyed overwhelming bipartisan support in the past, so I am disappointed that a fracture in the Democratic Caucus is causing so many Democrats to switch their votes in a zealous defense of Dodd-Frank regulations." [[1/14/15](#)]

- **Bloomberg: Wall Street Lobbyists “Called The Office Of House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy Urging The Republican Lawmaker To Drop” H.R. 37 In The Face Of Democratic Backlash, But “Republicans Proceeded Anyway.”** According to a press release by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, “Soon after, Wall Street lobbyists called the office of House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy urging the Republican lawmaker to drop it, according to three people with knowledge of the talks. The lobbyists told his staff the legislation wasn’t a high priority to big banks and not worth the public backlash being stirred up by Warren, Pelosi and Waters, a California Democrat, the people said. Republicans proceeded anyway.” [Bloomberg, [2/11/15](#)]

EDUCATION

California

Associated Press: “Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy Said Schools Could Save More Than \$300 Million By Being Able To Shop Around For Services – A Large Chunk Of That Coming From Hiring Private Contractors For Busing.” According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy said schools could save more than \$300 million by being able to shop around for services - a large chunk of that coming from hiring private contractors for busing. ‘When it is a time of financial crisis, when we have the opportunity to save money, this law prevents us from doing that,’ McCarthy said.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 5/3/04]

The Law McCarthy Opposed Required School Districts To Prove That Privatizing Would Actually Save Money. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “A law that requires school districts to prove they will save money by contracting for services is costing schools money they can't afford, Republican lawmakers and education officials said Monday, calling for the law to be repealed.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 5/3/04]

McCarthy Sponsored A Bill To Eliminate The Requirement. According to an editorial from the San Jose Mercury News, “A bill introduced this year would repeal the current law, giving schooldistricts the authority they used to have to get the work done as they see fit. (The proposed legislation is AB 2992 by Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield.)” [San Jose Mercury News, 5/4/04]

After An Assembly Committee Rejected His Bill, McCarthy Said He Would “Put It As A Trailer In The Budget.” According to the Orange County Register, “Wednesday the California Assembly PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) Committee voted down a chance to give local school districts more flexibility in meeting the needs of children. It voted against AB 2992, by Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, and supported by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. [...]Assemblyman McCarthy said he would continue to push the repeal bill, AB 2992, and ‘will put it as a trailer in the budget.’” [Orange County Register, 5/6/04]

Republicans Said They “Won’t Support A Spending Plan Unless The Legislature Repeals... A Law That Restricts Schools From Hiring Private Companies For Transportation And Other Services.” According to the Los Angeles Times, “Many GOP lawmakers say they won't support a spending plan unless the Legislature repeals what they call the ‘see your boss’ law, which this year expanded opportunities for workers to file lawsuits against employers. They also want repealed a law that restricts schools from hiring private companies for transportation and other services. ‘These have been topics for Republicans since Day 1,’ said Assembly Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy. Officials with the administration of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger confirmed that the issues are central to budget negotiations. [...]Republicans say they made clear from the beginning of budget negotiations that they expected to see changes in the laws as part of any deal. And GOP legislators pointed to a May hearing at which Democrats suggested that budget talks would be the most appropriate place to bring up such issues.”

McCarthy Said “He Believed His Caucus Would Accept” A Watered-Down Version Of The Law Which Would Protect Worker Wages And Benefits After It Became A Major Sticking Point In Budget Negotiations. According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “The tentative agreement involves revising a law passed in 2002 that largely prohibits schools from hiring private companies to operate district bus systems and perform groundskeeping and janitorial duties. Schwarzenegger and Republican lawmakers had sought a repeal of the law, but Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield said he believed his caucus would accept the proposed compromise in which schools would be allowed the contract out services but worker benefits and wages would also be protected.” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 7/20/04]

McCarthy “Said He Decided To Give Up Efforts To Repeal School Contracting Restrictions When It Became Clear That It Was Holding Up The Budget Agreement.” According to the Associated Press State & Local Wire, “Assembly Republican leader Kevin McCarthy of Bakersfield said he decided to give up efforts to repeal school contracting restrictions when it became clear that it was holding up the budget agreement. ‘I didn't see the sense in making a deal just to make a deal,’ he said. ‘What the Democrats were offering just wouldn't save any money.’” [Associated Press State & Local Wire, 7/27/04]