

Kentucky Senate

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THE ISSUES

MITCH McCONNELL

REPUBLICAN • INCUMBENT



AMY McGRATH

DEMOCRAT

See Guides.vote for online guides with links and sources	Volunteer for Mitch McConnell teammitch.com	Volunteer for Amy McGrath amymcgrath.com
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT Support Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as Obamacare?	No. Led Senate attempt to repeal the ACA , calling it a “failed law.” Said ACA continues to inflict “pain” on families.	Yes. “It’s more important than ever to preserve and expand access to care.” Committed to fixing problems with ACA.
CAMPAIGN FINANCE Require political ads to disclose their largest funders?	No. Opposed the DISCLOSE Act requiring this, saying the Democrats sought “to shield themselves from average Americans exercising their First Amendment rights.”	Yes. “Large undisclosed, unlimited corporate donations directly undermine the wants and needs of ordinary, hard-working citizens.” Overturn Citizens United decision.
CLIMATE CHANGE Consider human-caused climate change a serious threat?	Mostly no. Historically has rejected human-caused climate change. More recently said he believes humans are causing it , but address “through technology and innovation,” not regulation.	Yes. Says climate change is happening and a major national security threat, from rising sea-level threatening naval bases to increased floods, hurricanes, and desertification fueling refugee migration.
CLIMATE CHANGE Tax or regulate greenhouse emissions and support renewable energy?	No. Supported withdrawal from Paris climate agreement , saying it would “handcuff” the U.S. economy; opposed Obama’s Clean Power Plan . Recently refused to extend solar and wind subsidies.	Yes to renewables; unclear on regulation. Invest in infrastructure to support alternatives to coal jobs . Expanded solar and wind will reduce electricity costs and “bring energy-related jobs.”
CONTRACEPTION Require health plans to cover birth control?	No recent position found. In 2012 opposed requiring employer health plans to cover contraception.	Yes. “To deny mandatory coverage is ... denying ... women the opportunity to be productive members of society.”
COURTS—SUPREME COURT Pick Ruth Bader Ginsburg replacement now or let November winner choose? See CEEP Supreme Court guide .	Yes. In Feb. 2016, when Justice Scalia died, said, “This vacancy should not be filled until we have a new president,” to reflect the voters’ will. Replacing Ginsburg is different, McConnell now says , because voters elected Trump and a Republican Senate.	No. “You can’t say in 2016 that in an election year, you’re going to hold up a Supreme Court nominee, and then turn around and then four years later say, you’re not. ... It’s wrong.”
COVID-19 RESPONSE Support Trump administration’s response to coronavirus pandemic?	Yes. Trump “took positive steps very early on for which he should be applauded, not criticized.”	Criticizes McConnell for “dereliction of duty,” pre-COVID cuts to public health. Questioned lack of oversight and corporate tax breaks in CARES Act, lack of support for state efforts, failure to extend benefits.
FINANCIAL REGULATION Tighten or loosen regulation of banks and credit card companies?	Loosen. Opposed creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Voted to roll back Dodd-Frank banking regulations, which he called “heavy-handed.”	Tighten. Criticized attempts to roll back Dodd-Frank banking regulations. Noted payday lenders are “preying on anyone who is low-income.”

ISSUES	McCONNELL (R)	McGRATH (D)
GUN RULES Enact more restrictive legislation on guns?	No. Opposes gun control laws. Sees school security as the best way to stop school shootings . Will follow Trump's lead on gun control legislation.	Supports measures with broad support like preventing mentally ill from buying guns, background checks at gun shows and bump stock restrictions .
IMMIGRATION Create path to citizenship for "DACA" participants brought to the U.S. as children?	Mixed. Supported some protections for DACA recipients in exchange for strongly restricting legal immigration . Rejected House bill offering a path to citizenship , though might consider in broader deal.	Yes. "Congress needs to extend DACA or enact legislation that will give DREAMers a chance to become full citizens."
IMMIGRATION Support expanded border walls?	Yes. Supported emergency declaration for border wall funding .	No. "I think a wall is stupid ... an 8th-century solution to a 21st-century problem."
IMPEACHMENT Supported Trump's impeachment?	No. "The House made a partisan political decision to impeach."	Yes. Trump "withheld vital national security assistance to Ukraine ... to pressure them to investigate a political opponent."
IRAN Oppose military attacks on Iran or Iranian leaders without congressional approval?	No. Voted against War Powers resolution requiring congressional approval .	Yes. Congress must fulfill duty as "the only branch of our government with constitutional authority for war-making."
LABOR Support "right to work" laws, eliminating union ability to mandate union dues?	Yes. Has "continually supported legislation at the federal level to enact right-to-work nationwide."	No. "Unions have protected Kentucky workers for generations." Celebrates "the progress of organized labor in this country."
LEGAL ABORTION Keep legal or ban?	Ban. Supports speaking up "for unborn children whom our legal system has denied the right to life." Said recent passing of anti-abortion laws "gives us an opportunity to begin to pick away at Roe v. Wade."	Legal. Current restrictions are "reasonable." Concerned with attempts to criminalize abortion in cases of rape, incest, or the life of the mother . Supports women making choices without government interference .
LGBTQ Rights Support Gay Marriage and LGBTQ Rights?	No. "I've always felt that marriage was between one man and one woman." But sees 2015 Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage as "the law of the land."	Yes. Supports the "freedom to marry who you want to marry." "No Kentuckian should be discriminated against because of their sexual orientation."
MINIMUM WAGE Raise federal hourly minimum wage above current \$7.25?	No. A minimum wage hike would "kill jobs and depress the economy."	Yes. Supports a gradual rise to \$15 an hour .
PLANNED PARENTHOOD Support Planned Parenthood's receiving public funds for non-abortion-related care?	No. Led efforts to remove federal funding for Planned Parenthood .	Yes. "I think it's an important institution. We should be funding it because it helps women."
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID Support free or subsidized tuition for lower-income individuals?	No. But supports tax-advantaged education savings plans .	No. But supports "a debt-free higher education in exchange for paid service back to our communities."
TAXES Support Trump administration's \$1.9 trillion (2017) tax cuts?	Yes. Called the bill "major tax relief for middle-class families and small businesses."	No. Called the bill "a massive tax scam that showered tax cuts and benefits on corporations and the wealthiest 1%."
VOTING RULES Support federal initiatives to address COVID's impact on voting?	No. Opposed funding for states to implement vote by mail . Said Democrats used "the virus as cover to implement sweeping changes to election laws."	Yes. "During a global pandemic in Kentucky ... we should be passing laws that allow more people to vote, not more voter ID laws."

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