Democrat Carolyn Bourdeaux has been endorsed by President Obama and Joe Biden because she is an advocate for quality affordable health care and puts working people first during the economic recovery. Republican Rich McCormick sides with the racist agenda of Donald Trump and supports the Trump plan to kick millions off health care and allow insurance companies to discriminate against those with pre-existing conditions.

President Obama And Vice President Biden Endorsed Bourdeaux For Congress. “The 7th Congressional District race got another injection of presidential politics on Wednesday when former Vice President Joe Biden endorsed Carolyn Bourdeaux in the congressional race — and then got another when former President Barack Obama endorsed her on Friday. Biden praised Bourdeaux for focusing on health care and said she will unite people. Obama also cited healthcare but also said he looks forward to Bourdeaux and other Democrats running this year tackling the post-COVID economy.” [Gwinnett Daily Post, 9/23/20]

Both Obama And Biden Praised Bourdeaux’s Health Care And Economic Recovery Positions. “The 7th Congressional District race got another injection of presidential politics on Wednesday when former Vice President Joe Biden endorsed Carolyn Bourdeaux in the congressional race — and then got another when former President Barack Obama endorsed her on Friday. Biden praised Bourdeaux for focusing on health care and said she will unite people. Obama also cited healthcare but also said he looks forward to Bourdeaux and other Democrats running this year tackling the post-COVID economy. ‘Carolyn Bourdeaux knows what it’s like for families across the country who struggle to pay for health care — she’s lived it,’ Biden said. ‘Carolyn will listen and bring people together to overcome this crisis. I’m proud to endorse Carolyn for Congress.’ Obama said, ‘I’m proud to endorse these outstanding Democratic candidates who will work to get the virus under control, rebuild the economy and the middle class, and protect Americans’ health care and pre-existing conditions protections from Republican assault. They’re dedicated to shoring up and strengthening our democracy, a project that’s going to take time and require all of us — but it begins by electing Democrats right now. So give these candidates your vote — and vote early if you can, either by mail or in person.’” [Gwinnett Daily Post, 9/23/20]

McCormick Appeared On “Malcolm Out Loud” And Peddled A Conspiracy Theory That George Soros Put $20 Million Into GA-07. MCCORMICK (23:19) “And so the 7th (District) is their next battleground. They’re going to be investing millions and millions – tens of millions of dollars into this race. We just saw I think Soros put $20 million into this area…” HOST: “Wow!” “-… basically trying to turn this into a blue district and it’s going to be a battleground…” [America Out Loud - Malcolm Out Loud, 7/2/20]

McCormick Had Previously Claimed George Soros Donated $20 Million To Black Lives Matter Through ActBlue “As A Way To Incite More Violence And Unrest To Get People Out To Vote The Wrong Way.” MCCORMICK: “And if you look at what Soros did, I just heard today, and – I don’t want to get conspiracy [sic] on you or anything – but $20 million was donated to Black Lives Matter basically through ActBlue. Basically, as a way to incite more violence and unrest to get people out to vote the wrong way based on a narrative that we know is false.” [Patriots Soapbox News via YouTube, 6/19/20]

HuffPost: McCormick Appeared Twice On A QAnon Hub, Patriots’ Soapbox News Network. “Consider Rich McCormick, who is running for a toss-up open seat in Georgia’s 7th Congressional District and has been retweeted multiple times by Trump. McCormick has appeared twice on a livestreamed YouTube program that is part of the Patriots’ Soapbox News Network, a QAnon hub. In one appearance, he promoted a debunked racist and anti-Semitic far-right conspiracy theory about George Soros and Democrats’ laundering money through a front group to fund Black Lives Matter. A version of this false claim was first circulated by a QAnon account.” [Huffington Post, 7/4/20]

NBC News: Patriots’ Soapbox Was A Round-The-Clock Livestreamed YouTube Channel For QAnon Study And Discussion. “Kicked off Reddit, Rogers hatched a new plan. He would replace the mainstream media — often a target of Q’s posts — with a constantly streaming YouTube network made up of the self-described ‘researchers’ who were putting together Q’s clues. Within a month, Rogers, 31, and his wife, Christina Urso, 29, had launched the Patriots’ Soapbox, a round-the-clock livestreamed YouTube channel for
Qanon study and discussion. The channel is, in effect, a broadcast of a Discord chatroom with constant audio commentary from a rotating cast of volunteers and moderators with sporadic appearances by Rogers and Urso. In April, Urso registered Patriots’ Soapbox LLC in Virginia.” [NBC News, 8/14/18]

HuffPost: McCormick Promoted A Debunked Racist And Anti-Semitic Far-Right Conspiracy Theory About George Soros And Democrats’ Laundering Money Through A Front Group To Fund Black Lives Matter. “Consider Rich McCormick, who is running for a toss-up open seat in Georgia’s 7th Congressional District and has been retweeted multiple times by Trump. McCormick has appeared twice on a livestreamed YouTube program that is part of the Patriots’ Soapbox News Network, a QAnon hub. In one appearance, he promoted a debunked racist and anti-Semitic far-right conspiracy theory about George Soros and Democrats’ laundering money through a front group to fund Black Lives Matter. A version of this false claim was first circulated by a QAnon account.” [Huffington Post, 7/4/20]

HEADLINE: A Debunked Conspiracy Theory About Black Lives Matter, ActBlue, And Democrats Was First Circulated By A QAnon Account. “A false money laundering conspiracy theory regarding the Black Lives Matter movement's use of a payment processing company for donations has gained traction online among right-wing figures and can be traced back to far-right message boards. The conspiracy theory alleges that the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement is some kind of a front to launder money to Democrats because the BLM website uses ActBlue to process its online fundraising payments. ActBlue is a payment processor used widely by progressive groups and organizations affiliated with the Democratic Party, and the Republican Party has an equivalent processing company called WinRed. As the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics has noted, “many candidates use [ActBlue] to process donations but that money isn't pooled to be shared across candidates or groups,” and “a donation to BLM through ActBlue goes just to BLM, not any other group.” But the conspiracy theory still has earned well over a million shares and views on social media and has been amplified by a Fox Nation host. A review by Media Matters found that before it gained traction, the conspiracy theory had been circulating for days on far-right message boards. The earliest mention our review found was at the beginning of June on Twitter, when an account that has pushed the slogan for the QAnon conspiracy theory repeatedly tweeted the claim on June 1 and June 2. The account claimed it had sent the conspiracy theory to the FBI and President Donald Trump, and it urged the Ohio Police Department to investigate the claim.” [Media Matters, 6/12/20]

HEADLINE: McCormick Said Black People See Themselves As “Victims.” “And there’s a movement right now – I don’t know if you’ve heard about it – but it’s called “Blexit.” And “Blexit” is for real. And President Trump, as much as he’s been labeled as a racist, is more popular with Black voters than Bush is by double. How is that possible? Bush is the first one to put Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice in the most powerful appointed positions in American government in history. And then was demonized as a racist constantly. And I think Trump has made the point that, “Hey, what do you have to lose?” They’ve been demonizing Republicans since Reagan, calling Reagan a racist. And once you see that unemployment rate creep down, and all of a sudden these people have an opportunity to move up and match anybody by just hard work and opportunity. And say, “Wow, I can be President of the United States someday if I just work hard, and I’m not a victim.” And that’s the victim card the Democrats have been playing all along, keeping people in their place, making sure they get rid of their babies, making sure that they do everything people in that welfare state.” [Common Ground (11:00), 4/21/20]

Trump Pushed A Conspiracy Theory That George Soros Orchestrated And Funded Protests Over Police Killings Of Black People In The U.S. “U.S. President Donald Trump pushed the conspiracy theory that George Soros is funding Antifa during an interview with Fox News on Wednesday. In a wide ranging interview with ‘Fox & Friends,’ Trump and the co-hosts were discussing the recent wave of protests in the U.S. and was asked who is funding the protesters. Trump responded, ‘You have Democrats funding them. They say Soros and they say other people.’ Trump was referring to George Soros, the billionaire investor and philanthropist who has long been a
target of conspiracy theories. Soros has recently been falsely accused of orchestrating and funding the protests over police killings of Black people that have roiled the United States. Amplified by a growing number of people on the far right, including some Republican leaders, online posts about Soros have skyrocketed in recent weeks. They have been accompanied by online ads bought by conservative groups that call on authorities to ‘investigate George Soros for funding domestic terrorism and his decades-long corruption.’ As some of the protests that broke out in the wake of the killing of George Floyd turned violent, many pointed their finger at the far-left group in addition to far-right groups, claiming they came to stoke more unrest.” [Haaretz & Associated Press, 6/8/20]

CNN: The Trump Administration Will Continue To Push The Supreme Court To Invalidate The Entire Affordable Care Act. “The Trump administration will continue to push the Supreme Court to invalidate the entire Affordable Care Act, President Donald Trump said Wednesday, rejecting a last-minute attempt by Attorney General William Barr to change course. ‘We're not doing anything. In other words, we're staying with the group, with Texas and the group,’ Trump told reporters in the Oval Office.” [CNN, 5/6/20]

HEADLINE: Amid pandemic, Trump administration asks Supreme Court to overturn Obamacare. [ABC News, 6/26/20]

ABC News: In The Middle Of A Pandemic And Without An Alternative Health Plan, The Trump Administration Formally Called On SCOTUS To Completely Strike Down The ACA. “In the midst of a pandemic and without an alternative health plan of its own, the Trump administration formally called on the U.S. Supreme Court to completely strike down the Affordable Care Act. The administration makes the case in a legal brief filed late Thursday in the case brought by 20 Republican-led states that want to completely invalidate the law.” [ABC News, 6/26/20]

CAP: If Successful, The Trump Administration’s Lawsuit To Invalidate The ACA Would Cause 19.9 Million People In The U.S. To Lose Health Care Coverage. “A ruling that invalidates the ACA or eliminates core features of the law would have a devastating effect on American families. Select your state from the drop-down list below to see some of the harms that would result from ACA repeal. 19.9 million people in the United States would lose coverage, raising the nation's uninsured rate among the nonelderly population from 11.1 percent to 18.3 percent. 135.4 million people in the United States with preexisting conditions could face higher premiums, face benefit exclusions, or be denied coverage altogether—a discriminatory practice outlawed by the ACA nationwide—if they ever needed to turn to the individual market for coverage.” [Center for American Progress, 3/2/20]

2020: In An Answer To A Candidate Survey By Campaign For Liberty, McCormick Stated That He Supported The Full Repeal Of The ACA. “7. Will you support legislation to fully repeal ObamaCare and oppose efforts to give the federal government more control of health care? […] Rich McCormick […] Yes.” [Campaign for Liberty, accessed 7/28/20]
The Affordable Care Act Prevented Insurers From Denying Coverage Or Charging More If An Individual Had A Pre-Existing Condition. “In the old days, insurance companies had ways to avoid selling policies to people who were likely to cost more than insurers wanted to spend. They might deny them coverage outright, or exclude coverage for a known condition, or charge so much that insurance became unaffordable. The Affordable Care Act boxes out the old insurance practices with a package of legal moves. First, it says point-blank that carriers ‘may not impose any preexisting condition exclusion.’ It backs that up with another section that says they ‘may not establish rules for eligibility’ based on health status, medical condition, claims experience or medical history.” [Politifact, 10/17/18]

2017: Repeal Could Have Denied Coverage To As Many As 133 Million Americans. “This analysis updates that earlier study. It confirms that a large fraction of non-elderly Americans have pre-existing health conditions: at least 23 percent of Americans (61 million people) using a narrow definition based on eligibility criteria for pre-ACA state high-risk pools, or as many as 51 percent (133 million people) using a broader definition closer to the underwriting criteria used by insurers prior to the ACA. Any of these 133 million Americans could have been denied coverage, or offered coverage only at an exorbitant price, had they needed individual market health insurance before 2014.” [HHS.gov, Issue Brief, 1/5/17]
AP: COVID-19 Could Be Considered A Pre-Existing Condition, Stamping A Person “Uninsurable” If Not For The ACA. “COVID-19 could have stamped a person “uninsurable” if not for the Affordable Care Act. The ban on insurers using preexisting conditions to deny coverage is a key part of the Obama-era law that the Trump administration still seeks to overturn. Without the law, people who recovered from COVID-19 and tried to purchase an individual health insurance policy could be turned down, charged higher premiums or have follow-up care excluded from coverage. Those considered vulnerable because of conditions such as respiratory problems or early-stage diabetes would have run into a wall of insurer suspicion.” [Associated Press, 5/3/20]

Mayo Clinic: Research Increasingly Shows That Racial And Ethnic Minorities Are Disproportionately Affected By COVID-19. “Research increasingly shows that racial and ethnic minorities are disproportionately affected by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the United States. According to recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native people had an age-adjusted COVID-19 hospitalization rate about 5.3 times that of non-Hispanic white people. COVID-19 hospitalization rates among non-Hispanic Black people and Hispanic or Latino people were both about 4.7 times the rate of non-Hispanic white people. While there's no evidence that people of color have genetic or other biological factors that make them more likely to be affected by COVID-19, they are more likely to have underlying health conditions. Having certain conditions, such as type 2 diabetes, increases your risk of severe illness with COVID-19. But experts also know that where people live and work affects their health. Over time, these factors lead to different health risks among racial and ethnic minority groups.” [Mayo Clinic, 8/13/20]