

February 8, 1999

TO: Alan Holmer
FROM: Barry Caldwell
RE: Meeting with Senator Mitch McConnell

We are scheduled to meet with Senator McConnell tomorrow February 9 at 3:00 PM in his office at 361A Russell. McConnell is now the senior Senator from Kentucky (Wendell Ford retired; Jim Bunning is the junior Senator). He chairs the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC). He also chairs the Senate Rules Committee and is a member of the Agriculture and Appropriations Committees.

You are meeting with the Senator principally in his leadership role as chair of the NRSC. In that regard, industry has been a solid supporter (see attached correspondence [based on FEC records] reflecting industry support for the Republican Party during the 1997-98 election cycle). As a member of the Appropriations Committee, particularly the Agriculture Subcommittee (which funds FDA), and a former member of the Labor Committee (105th Congress), Senator should have some familiarity with industry issues.

Objectives:

- 1) personal introduction of you to him;
- 2) apprising him of industry's concern with attention on pharmaceutical costs and efforts by Democrats to demagogue the issue at Republican expense, e.g. Sen. Kennedy prepared to force Republicans to choose between a tax cut for the rich and a drug benefit for seniors;
- 3) soliciting the Senator's views on issue; and
- 4) expressing PhRMA'S willingness to be a resource, substantively and politically, to assist in maintaining a Republican majority in 2000.

Also attached are biographical materials on the Senator.

Attachments

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COUNSEL ONLY