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Response to the *Ledger-Independent* Editorial Board

Recently the Editorial Board of the *Ledger-Independent* endorsed my opponent, Geoff Davis, in the upcoming congressional election for KY-04. The Board seemed to view Davis as “most experienced.” I submit that Geoff Davis has the wrong kind of experience. Here are a few things the Ledger-Independent Board seems to have overlooked when evaluating Congressman Davis’ record:

Geoff Davis has voted with a majority of his Republican colleagues 94% of the time during the current Congress. The Republican philosophy has led our nation to the brink of disaster, demonstrating that Davis’ lock-step support of the GOP is the wrong kind of experience.

In one of Davis’ most outrageous offenses against the common morality of his constituents, **Davis voted against HR976, a bill which would have expanded healthcare for children.** The non-partisan Children’s Defense Fund ranks Davis among the “Worst Representatives for Children.” As a pediatrician, I find Davis’ rejection of legislation that would greatly help our kids – who are our future – to be despicable. Neglecting kids is the wrong kind of experience.

Davis also voted to allow our government to spy on us without oversight (S1927) and we have recently learned these broad spying powers are being abused. Davis voted repeatedly against a timeline to withdraw our troops from Iraq, even though the American public made it clear in 2006 that we want our troops and our treasure to come back home. On HR4, Davis voted against allowing the government to negotiate directly with drug-makers for lower prescription drug prices for individuals using Medicare. Davis also voted against HR1, a bill to implement the remaining 9/11 Commission recommendations, such as funding first-responders and improving cargo security. All of the above were party-line votes – the wrong kind of experience.

The Ledger-Independent Editorial Board also mentions that Congressman Davis has offered Congressional access as well as federal funding to the Maysville area citizens. This is laudable, and if elected I intend to follow suit.

But in my opinion, Davis has trickled down a few crumbs to the Maysville area citizens while neglecting to prevent a financial catastrophe that will cost the Maysville area far more than Davis has ever delivered in federal funding. Rather than use his power on the House Financial Services Committee to help avert the recent Wall Street disaster, he used his power to shake down Wall Street lobbyists for campaign cash. This shameful abuse of power was recently documented by the Lexington Herald Leader. The article reveals that in recent months Congressman Davis has been sending out fund-raising invitations to Wall Street firms such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, promising lobbyists “intimate” meetings in exchange for thousands of dollars in suggested campaign contributions. Congressman Davis, one of the Representatives responsible for overseeing Wall Street on our behalf, was instead busy trading access for cash. **The Center for Responsive Politics reports that Davis has raised around 1.5 million dollars from the financial industry in the last three years.** Taking special interest cash to look the other way is the wrong kind of experience.

Perhaps I have displayed “naivete” as the Board suggested. First, I have refused to prostitute my integrity for any special interest cash that might have helped to counter Geoff Davis’ ill-gotten gains. Just minutes of