

The Star Ledger says “No matter what Trump does, Kean has his back.” Tom Kean, Jr. will support Donald Trump’s agenda of gutting protections for people with pre-existing conditions, defunding Planned Parenthood and restricting a woman’s right to choose.

**Star Ledger Editorial Board: “And No Matter What Trump Does, Kean Has His Back.”** “And no matter what Trump does, Kean has his back. He opposed an effort in the state Senate to condemn Trump’s Muslim ban, instead voting in favor of allowing the Port Authority to help enforce it at our airports.” [Star Ledger, Editorial, [10/11/20](#)]

**Tom Moran, Star Ledger Editorial Board Member: “A Kean Victory Could Strengthen Trump’s Hand” On Trump’s Agenda.** “In Sunday’s debate, Kean presented himself as a moderate, as Lance always did, a man who would seek bipartisan deals in a polarized Washington. But he’s shown no independence from President Trump. He’s endorsed Trump, he attended his rally in Wildwood in January, and he hasn’t offered a peep of protest over Trump’s statements and actions. Still, he says anti-Trump voters should not hold that against him. ‘I’m supporting the president,’ he said during the debate. ‘But the real question is who would be in the House seat.’ That’s a tough sell. Politics is a team sport, and a Kean victory would undoubtedly strengthen the hand of Republican leaders in the House, all of whom support Trump with religious fervor. That puts Kean in a Catch-22. [...] “The same Catch-22 applies to climate change, the pandemic, and race issues. A Kean victory could strengthen Trump’s hand on all those fronts.” [Star Ledger, Tom Moran, [9/20/20](#)]

**Kean Said He Disagreed With The Affordable Care Act.** “Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean Jr., R-Union: He approves of Christie’s decision on Medicaid. ‘This is a fiscally responsible move. And while I disagree with the Affordable Care Act, this is a practical solution.’ He also supports the governor’s approach to unemployment. ‘There are far too many people who are looking for jobs right now. And that is why the governor has focused through his entire tenure on job creation and tax reduction.’” [Record, 2/27/13]

**Kean Voted Against Urging Governor Not To Join A Lawsuit Against Enforcement Of Affordable Care Act.** Kean voted against SCR108, which “Urges Governor not to join lawsuit against enforcement of new federal health reforms.” [[SCR108](#), 6/21/10]

**The Affordable Care Act Ensured That People With Pre-Existing Conditions Cannot Be Refused Insurance Or Charged More.** “Under the Affordable Care Act, health insurance companies can’t refuse to cover you or charge you more just because you have a ‘pre-existing condition’ — that is, a health problem you had before the date that new health coverage starts. They also can’t charge women more than men.” [US Department of Health & Human Services, [7/14/20](#)]

**The Trump Administration Filed A Lawsuit To Strike Down The Affordable Care Act, Which Would Gut Protections For People With Preexisting Conditions.** “The Trump Administration

and 18 Republican state attorneys general are asking the Supreme Court to strike down the entire Affordable Care Act (ACA) as unconstitutional. Oral arguments are scheduled for November 10, with a decision likely next spring. The ACA remains the law of the land for now, and legal experts across the political spectrum view the case against it as extremely weak. But if the courts 'terminate' the ACA, as President Trump again urged in May, some 20 million people would become uninsured — likely many more when accounting for COVID-19's effects on ACA participation. In addition, if the Administration prevails, millions more could be charged more or denied coverage altogether because they have a pre-existing condition or would lose other important protections." [CBPP, [8/21/20](#)]

**Kean Voted Against Restoring Funding To Family Planning Clinics.** "In the past, the Republican Party resisted pressure to cut funding for family planning clinics, which provide contraception and pregnancy counseling. But Christie's budget called for a \$7.5 million wipeout of the funding, a move startling even some moderates who staged a mini-revolt of sort on Monday. A bill restoring that money passed with veto-proof majorities when seven Republicans supported the bill. But the measure passed with a new string attached — the money cannot be used for abortions, lawmakers said. And it was also telling that a pro-choice Republican Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean Jr. voted against restoring the money, stressing economic reasons." [Northjersey.com, 6/29/10]

**When Christie Vetoed Bill To Restore Funds, Kean Opposed Overriding It, Saying It Was "The Time For Fiscal Discipline."** "When the state Senate voted to restore \$7.5 million in family planning funds in June, 30 of the 40 senators supported it - more than enough to override Gov. Chris Christie if he vetoed the measure. Christie did veto the bill, and Democratic lawmakers today will kick off their effort to override it in a Statehouse news conference. But GOP leaders say their members will not defy the Republican governor. 'There will not be enough votes in the Senate to spend money that we don't have,' Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean Jr. (R-Union) said Monday. 'This is the time for fiscal discipline, and the members of the Republican caucus recognize that.'" [Today's Sunbeam, 8/02/10]

**Bill Would Have Funded 29 Of The 58 Clinics That Were Defunded Were Run By Planned Parenthood.** "Christie did not reference abortion when he vetoed the bill, but the issue looms large among conservatives in the party because 29 of the 58 clinics the bill would have funded are run by Planned Parenthood." [Today's Sunbeam, 8/02/10]

**Kean Voted No To Override The Veto.** "'If they're telling us there's no money I think it would be irresponsible to vote for it,' said state Sen. Sean Kean (R-Monmouth), who originally voted yes. In addition to Kean, state Sens. Christopher Connors (R-Ocean), Robert Singer (R-Ocean) said they would switch their votes to no in an override attempt." [Today's Sunbeam, 8/02/10]

**Kean Supported Expanding Restrictions On Abortion, Including Parental Notification And Bans On "Partial-Birth" Abortions.** "Kean Jr. voted against legislation to allow domestic

partnerships for gay and lesbian couples, and he supports new restrictions on abortion, including parental notification and a ban on so-called partial-birth abortion.” [Star-Ledger, 5/05/04]

**Trump Pledged To “Fully Defund” Planned Parenthood If Reelected In 2020.** “With your help, I will win re-election, ensuring we have another four years to fight in the trenches for unborn children and their mothers. Together we will work to: [...] Fully defund the big abortion industry such as Planned Parenthood of our tax dollars.” [Pro-Life Voices for Trump, Letter from Donald J. Trump, [9/3/20](#)]

**Trump Supported Banning Abortion With Only Exceptions In Cases Of Rape, Incest, Or “if The Mother Is Close To Death.”** “Donald Trump, in an exclusive sit-down interview with NBC’s Chuck Todd on Meet the Press, said he has ‘evolved’ from a pro-choice businessman to an anti-abortion Republican presidential candidate. Trump said he favored abortion rights in cases of rape, incest and the health of the mother ‘if the mother is close to death.’ ‘I’m talking about death,’ he reiterated when Todd asked him about the health of the mother. ‘If the mother will die and we’re going to know that. The problem with [saying health] is, what, you have a cold and you’re having an abortion?’” [Deadline, [8/16/17](#)]