

**MCCONNELL V. FEC, ANOTHER UNFORTUNATE
DEMONSTRATION OF JUDICIAL DISREGARD FOR THE
VALUE OF BREVITY: A CONCISE ANALYSIS**

VIC SNYDER, J.D., M.D.*

United States Supreme Court opinions are too long.¹

* In his fifth term, U.S. Representative Vic Snyder of Arkansas serves on the House Committees on Veterans Affairs and Armed Services. He is a family physician and also received his J.D. from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

1. It is also apparent, as evidenced by *McConnell v. FEC*, that United States Supreme Court opinions contain too many footnotes. 540 U.S. 93 (2003). Of the footnotes included, many are of such length as to provoke a motivated reader to cry out, "Why? Why now? Why have this information in a footnote expecting the reader to break stride in such a way that the flow of reading the opinion is broken? And why, if this information is so gosh darned important, wasn't it included in the text of the opinion?"

