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## Made in America Panel Ponders Disconnect Between Trump's Low Approval Ratings and New High in Consumer Confidence

Host Neal Asbury, together with co-host Dr. Rich Roffman, opened their nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America (aired by almost 100 affiliates) by giving high marks to Trump's congressional address for ushering in a new sense of confidence and a renewed sense of optimism.

"Trump understands what America wants to hear: creating and saving American jobs. Obama was all talk – Trump is all about action. He has already made good on his promise to save American jobs," proposed Dr. Roffman.

The first guest on Made in America was Karlyn Bowman, Senior Fellow for Public opinion and polls, U.S. politics and Media for the American Enterprise Institute.

"Trump's speech sent a different message. It was one that centered on jobs – something that seemed to have escaped the Democrats during the election. The country was really despondent after the 2008 economic collapse and now they have a new sense of optimism. It's all about jobs," suggested Bowman.

Neal agreed, adding that Trump's proposed \$1 trillion infrastructure is a great step toward creating millions of jobs. "It's a far cry from Obama's \$1 trillion stimulus package that did nothing, except enrich Obama's cronies."

Bowman predicts that in the mid-terms Democrats will be in trouble if Trump's jobs program takes off. People are paying attention to Trump's program to bring back American jobs and cut regulations so companies can invest and hire.

"I don't understand how Trump's approval ratings are at 38 percent while consumer confidence is at the highest level in 15 years. There is a huge disconnect," maintained Dr. Roffman.

Bowman suggested that Trump's poor approval rating can be attributed to his behavior and his over tweeting.

Neal and Dr. Roffman returned to Trump's congressional address, incredulous that Democrats sat stone-faced even when Trump proposed ideas that Democrats should have embraced.

"I think Democrats still can't believe they lost the election. And as they have discovered, unions that they counted on for votes, went for Trump. Only union leaders voted for Hillary because of their crony relationship,"

suggested Dr. Roffman.

Neal agreed, adding that people should really have approved of Trump's suggestion that he was not elected president of the world. His job is to be president of the United States.

The next guest on Made in America was Rodrigo Masses, President of the Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association, a private, voluntary, non-profit organization established for the purpose of uniting all Puerto Rico's manufacturers and service industries into a strong and effective body in order to further their mutual interests as they relate to the private and public sectors of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

"Puerto Rico buys American and hires American workers. We want to help bring jobs back to America. We play a big part in growing American manufacturing. Even though we're an island, we use a lot of local products for our manufacturing. We have great logistics management that brings down costs, and we think we can compete with mainland manufacturers," related Masses.

Dr. Roffman is impressed that setting up a manufacturing plant in Puerto Rico is easier than setting one up on the mainland. And corporate taxes are only at four percent.

The final guest on Made in America was Rachel Bovard, Director, Policy Services, Policy Services and Outreach for The Heritage Foundation, who agreed with Neal's assessment that there are far too many people employed by the federal government whose responsibilities are questionable.

"A good example is the commerce department, which many people call 'the broom closet' since it seems to be staffed by people who had no other place to be categorized. Trump's contention that he doesn't need to fill every government spot makes sense. There are thousands of civil service jobs, but he really can only appoint about 2,000 positions. It doesn't help that the Democrats have vowed to slow down any appointments. Let's face it, even with a fully staffed government, it still wasn't running efficiently. So missing some people shouldn't be a factor," concluded Bovard, who agreed with Neal and Dr. Roffman that the EPA should be a prime candidate for a smaller work force.

The discussion turned to the University of California-San Francisco, where 49 IT workers were dismissed so their jobs could be outsourced

to India.

"This is the kind of thinking that Democrats have historically engaged in -- bad policy, like pushing for the \$15 an hour wage which will only eliminate non-skilled service jobs. Wendy's has invested in 1,000 robots to replace human workers to lower manpower costs," according to Neal.

Dr. Roffman added that this is expected to save 31 hours of labor costs a week, by using electronic kiosks and other technologies.

"It's an old saying that Democrats have ignored: Be careful what you wish for," concluded Dr. Roffman.

Each week Neal Asbury's Made in America provides Neal's insights into the week's top news stories and their impact on the worlds of entrepreneurship, small business ownership and the overall economy. Neal's analysis, together with co-host Dr. Richard Roffman, a veteran 30-year publisher with extensive domestic and international experience, takes a non-biased approach based on real life experience in business as an American manufacturer and exporter. Made in America airs nationally each Saturday from 7-8:00 PM on Radio America. Link to Made in America at <http://www.nealasalburysmadeinamerica.com>.



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