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Made in America Panel Applauds Supreme Court Decision to Protect Workers from Paying Dues to Support Unpopular Union Political Decisions

The SCOTUS ruling that supported the Janus suit against public unions, the ruling supporting the travel ban, the ruling by Washington State to ban exports of fossil fuels, and the decision by Harley Davidson to respond to the new tariffs by threatening to move some operations overseas, were among the topics tackled by host Neal Asbury, co-host Dr. Rich Roffman, and a panel of experts on the nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America (aired by almost 100 affiliates and by the Armed Forces Network).

Neal and Dr. Roffman applauded the Supreme Court decision supporting the Janus suit that prohibits public unions from forcing employees to join a union and pay dues if they disagree with the union's political support.

"It's un-American to force someone to pay for someone else's speech. We almost had this ruling before, but Justice Scalia passed away," according to Neal.

Dr. Roffman conjured up visions of the film "On the Waterfront," where corrupt union leaders made money instead of helping their members.

The first guest on Made in America was Deborah La Fetra, a senior attorney at the Pacific Legal Foundation, who agreed with Neal and Dr. Roffman that the Janus decision was a victory for American workers, but will be painful for unions.

"A similar lawsuit was pressed in Wisconsin where people realized that there is a disconnect between union leaders and their membership. Union leaders need to return to the days when they actually gave their members true benefits, instead of getting involved in the political positions of the union's leaders," proposed La Fetra.

Dr. Roffman agreed, noting that if members no longer are forced to pay dues, it will result in a big financial hit to union coffers. "You can't force people to continue the cycle of funding where money from members goes back to the Democrats so that they can continue to support the union's grab of dues," added Dr. Roffman.

"Unions are essentially political corruption, funneling money back to Democrats. It's 'legal corruption,' and it's taking place in Illinois, New York and California," according to Neal.

"Public sector unions are crying bloody murder after the Supreme Court ruling. They don't know how many employees will stop paying dues. It's going to be a bumpy summer. Justice Kennedy will be missed on the court because he was such a strong supporter of the First Amendment, and I hope that his replacement will also be a strong First Amendment supporter who will uphold speech

rights," noted La Fetra.

Neal and Dr. Roffman were disheartened by the hysteria over the Supreme Court's ruling that supported Trump's travel ban from certain countries.

"It's the ultimate responsibility of the president to protect American citizens. So the president has every right to slow down immigration from countries where people have posed a threat to the country. Let's let the vetting process do its work, even if it slows down immigration," maintained Neal.

"There's a precedent to passing stricter immigration laws. Obama did it, even listing the countries posing the greatest threat. Trump used the same list to impose the travel plan. But the Left is losing their mind. If Obama wasn't a racist, then Trump isn't either," opined Dr. Roffman.

Neal was optimistic that the projections for a GDP above five percent will be a reality, despite the outcry about tariffs.

The next guest on Made in America was Peter Tolsdorf, Vice President for Litigation for the National Association of Manufacturers Center for Legal Action, who shared the fact that he helped NAM deliver a victory for manufacturers in a key case that tests the limits on state power to interfere with exports.

"The case involves a harbor owner's plan to construct a \$680 million coal export terminal along the Washington coast. Washington Gov. Jay Inslee's administration refused to grant permits necessary to construct the terminal. The denials cited environmental concerns despite the terminal's strong proposed protections for air and water quality. In numerous public statements about the proposed terminal, the governor and his staff made clear their political opposition to coal exports. It appears the permits were denied because the governor simply does not like coal," according to Tolsdorf.

Dr. Roffman characterized this as Jurassic Park Derangement Syndrome, whereby people become unhinged when it comes to fossil fuel.

"If this law stands, it will be catastrophic not only for the energy industry but for all manufacturers. We can't have 50 states passing their own export laws. Only Congress can pass these kinds of trade regulations," proposed Tolsdorf.

The final guest on Made in America was Tori Whiting from the Heritage Foundation, who is no fan of the higher tariffs announced by the Trump administration that have caused Harley Davidson to consider moving some operations overseas.

Neal, a classic Chevy corvette collector, can't imagine his beloved brand manufactured overseas

and can't imagine the iconic Harley Davidson cycles being built overseas.

"Rather than promoting self-defeating trade policies, the White House should focus on making tax cuts permanent, cutting wasteful government spending and removing burdensome barriers for businesses imposed by Obamacare and other harmful regulations. These tariffs have unintended consequences, so the government should not be interfering in free trade. Not only will the high tariffs impact Harley Davidson's export prices, but the company will pay higher tariffs for the imported steel that they need for manufacturing," noted Whiting.

Neal, playing devil's advocate, wondered what American soybean farmers should do when the higher tariffs on soybean exports go into effect. They can't move their farms overseas.

"Retaliatory tariffs just don't work," concluded Whiting.

While Neal appreciated Whiting's comments, he proposed that sometimes retaliatory tariffs are the only solution, especially when dealing with a country like China that rips off American intellectual property without any repercussions.

"We have negotiated with China for years without any resolution. We have run out of options, so Trump's firmer stance is welcome. We need to hit China hard, and stop putting a pretty face on our negotiations," according to Neal, who added that there's a new sheriff in town.

"China doesn't care about pretty. Being nice to China doesn't work. Look at the harder stand Trump took against North Korea. It worked. People pay attention when Trump warns countries to look out for America," proposed 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.nealasburysmadeinamerica.com>.



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