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11/12/2016

Made in America Panel Looks Forward to Watching Trump Implement his Strong Pro-Business Agenda

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 some 70 affiliates) noting the irony that while Obama had an approval rating of 55 percent, more than 70 percent of the population believed that the country was heading in the wrong direction. That may explain why Obama's approval rating did not transfer to Hillary Clinton's campaign.

The first guest on Made in America was Raymond J. Keating, chief economist for the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council), who co-authored a piece entitled "The Perils of Protectionism: Lost Opportunities for Small Businesses and the U.S. Economy." He notes that from 2000 to 2015, the growth in real U.S. exports equaled 22.5 percent of the growth in U.S. real GDP, and the expansion in real total trade (i.e., exports plus imports) came in at 41.6 percent of real GDP growth. As of 2015, exports had jumped to 12.56 percent of GDP, imports to 15.53 percent, and total trade to 28.09 percent of the U.S. economy.

"If we focus on very small firms in the international marketplace, 37.1 percent of exporters have less than 20 employees, and among importers, 42.6 percent also have less than 20 workers. International trade is very much about small business. So hyper regulatory measures and a non-working tax system have greatly impacted small businesses," according to Keating.

Keating noted that Obama began his term in office as a protectionist, but gradually moved toward trade acceptance in his second term, signing the three free trade agreements started under George Bush. But Keating also was alarmed that Obama insisted on adding environmental language to trade agreements that delayed them or left them unsigned.

While Trump has not shown much enthusiasm for trade agreements, Neal applauded Trump for indicating that he would like to see the U.S. and U.K. build a closer working trade relationship.

But Neal was not as complimentary to Trump's aggressive stance against TPP, reminding listeners that China has dominated Asia and is building closer ties to many countries in Asia, leaving the U.S. out in the cold.

"Signing TPP would be a shot across China's bow telling them that the U.S. is not

going to cede Asia to China," proposed Neal.

Neal and Dr. Roffman segued to a discussion about the anticipated changes in the Supreme Court, moving from a 4-4 tie that kept trade unions from pushing their agenda on a larger portion of businesses, to an ultimate 7-2 conservative majority.

The next guest on Made in America was Stephen Moore, senior economic advisor to president-elect Trump, who is looking forward to orchestrating the biggest changes in the federal tax policy since the Reagan administration.

Dr. Roffman gave kudos to Moore for helping to draft the speech that Trump gave before the Economic Club of New York that positioned Trump as a serious candidate with sound economic ideas.

Moore agreed, allowing leaders to see that Trump's business sense could shape a new approach to the economy that will get the government off the backs of workers and create jobs.

"If Obama can use executive orders to pass his agenda, Trump can use his executive orders to reverse these orders. People really got to see the failure of Obamacare when the new soaring premium charges became public. Suddenly, Trump's desire to reverse Obamacare looked like a really good idea to people who didn't initially support him. Obamacare is essentially Obamagone," quipped Moore.

Moore predicted some big changes over the first 100 days of the Trump administration, with Trump reaching across the aisle – something that Obama never did during his eight years in office.

"I think we'll get regulatory and tax reform moving, and we will change Obamacare to a free market system that allows for medical savings accounts and allow people to buy insurance across state lines," proposed Moore.

Moore sees Trump surrounding himself with real economic experts, like Larry Kudlow, and even moving across the aisle to tap Jamie Dimon. He also sees Dodd-Frank being replaced, which he called "the ultimate example of unintended consequences," since it shot down access to small community banks.

Neal and Dr. Roffman concluded the show by reviewing the momentous week that just passed, predicting a sound future for the country and a wonderful new day in America.

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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