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Made in America Panel Predicts that America Will Reach an Historic Moment when the Tax Bill is passed

Neal Asbury, together with co-host Dr. Rich Roffman, opened the nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America (aired by almost 100 affiliates) with the prediction that once the tax bill is approved, America will have reached an historic moment, noting that the Dow was up 356 points (during the week preceding airing of the program).

The first guest on Made in America was Rachel Bovard, Senior Director of Policy for the Conservative Partnership Institute, who is optimistic that the senate will follow the House's decision to pass tax reform (Note: the show was taped before the final senate vote).

"It looks like the senate is on board, but some are calling for a corporate tax rate of 22 percent. This is higher than ideal, but it has to do with the Byrd Rule – an accounting procedure that calls for any tax cut to be matched by an increase in revenue. But I think this will be tweaked before it goes to Trump for his signature," predicted Bovard.

Dr. Roffman was concerned that Senator Marco Rubio could undermine the voting with his own amendment; to the point that people are calling Rubio's amendment the Rubio-Schumer Amendment since Chuck Schumer has signed onto it.

"Rubio really wants to get his amendment passed and will need Democratic support. This does not impact the bill –which will get no Democratic support -- but just his amendment. The big question is whether the individual mandate will be maintained," according to Bovard, who added Mitch McConnell has things well in hand and is busy making deals to get tax reform passed, but there is still no certainty it's a done deal.

Neal and Dr. Roffman, in no uncertain terms, want the individual mandate to be overturned, and both blame Supreme Court Justice Roberts for not overturning Obamacare when he categorized Obamacare as a tax.

Bovard shared their concern and predicted that if it isn't overturned now, the process has already started by no longer making it mandatory to enroll. They will be chipping away at it further over the coming months. "It's in a death spiral," notes Bovard.

Neal concurred and wants to see the senate finish what the Supreme Court failed to do when they let Obamacare continue.

Dr. Roffman segued to the show's recurring theme that under Trump the economy is booming.

"The GDP rose 3.3 percent this past quarter --something we haven't seen for a very long time.

The market hit 24,000, and the value of homes is way up," noted Dr. Roffman.

Neal agreed, adding that we also have to take it account the new jobs being created—numbers that will soar once tax reform is passed.

"When the corporate tax rate drops, companies will use the new revenue to grow their business and the economy, while helping taxpayers. Who can object to being able to not pay taxes on the first \$24,000 in income? The idea that the rich are getting giant tax breaks is nonsense. Business owners will be investing the money in technology and hiring. The now-robust economy will more than compensate for the reduced tax revenue," suggested Neal.

Dr. Roffman quoted a Wall Street Journal story that proposed that the U.S. economy is now running at its full potential – something that hasn't occurred in more than a decade. This flies in the face of a New York Times story that urged readers to derail the tax plan.

"The Times is about activism, not journalism," quipped Dr. Roffman.

The next guest on Made in America was Montez L. King, the new Executive Director of The National Institute for Metalworking Skills, who used his own biography to underscore the value of trade schools and learning a skill such as metalworking.

"I have a cousin who lorded over me that he was attending college while I was attending a trade school to learn metalworking. As a metalworker who learned the craft in an apprenticeship program, I have earned far more money than my cousin and I have a skill that I can use anywhere in the country, where the demand for metalworkers is sky high. My cousin is part of what I call The Walking Dead—college students who walk aimlessly around campus without any idea what they will do when they graduate," related King, who in 1991 when he got his first job that paid \$10,000, was making double the salary of his mother.

King wants to see a movement to reach middle school and high school students and educate them about the benefits of attending trade schools, so it is elevated as an option. He noted that there were many trade schools 30 years ago, which have now dwindled. The nation needs skilled workers and we have to do a better job moving students away from college and into trade schools.

The final guest on Made in America was Paul Graney from Marcum LLP, who agreed with Neal that states like Florida and Texas, with no state

income tax, have to subsidize other states who mismanaged their economy.

"High state taxes are causing an exodus of business owners and wealthy individuals who no longer want to pay high income and property taxes. Massachusetts has instituted a millionaires' tax that is driving people out of the state. This is counterproductive if you're trying to attract new businesses to the state," according to Graney.

It was hard to ignore the rash of sex scandals surrounding celebrities and members of congress, so Neal and Dr. Roffman had to weigh in.

"Matt Lauer? Never thought I'd hear something like that about him. It's all very strange," according to Neal.

"It's gotten so bad that there's a suit against Rin Tin Tin for his relationship with Lassie. It's gotten out of hand. You've got sexual misconduct charges against Congressman John Conyers. I mean who wants to see him in his underwear? Then you've got Al Franken. They've got photos of him molesting a sleeping woman. But nothing's being done. You would be fired or asked to resign if this occurred at any company, but members of congress seem to be free of punishment," remarked 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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