



Made in America Panel Warns that Medicare for All is Actually Health Insurance for None

The news about the coronavirus is going from bad to worse as China finally admits they have under-reported the outbreak's severity; Tennessee is leading the way in launching apprenticeship programs to upgrade skills of its residents; the skills gap is encouraging employers to adapt more apprenticeships; as a right-to-work state Tennessee is attracting manufacturers, especially auto companies, that have a need for trained workers; many Democrats don't like Bernie Sanders' Medicare for All healthcare program—especially trade unions that don't want to change their healthcare plans; the Sanders program is sure to alienate 90% of people who despite liking their healthcare plans would be forced to end it to meet the needs of the 10% of people without coverage; movie stars should not be dictating to the American people about how we should act and think, 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 globally on the Armed Forces Network).

Neal and Dr. Roffman began the show with the alarming news that China has grossly under-reported the severity of the coronavirus outbreak, and now have invited international help to contain it; although they have yet to invite the CDC and WHO.

"The coronavirus is roiling the global economy, especially in China, where many factories are closed, even those of American manufacturers like Ralph Lauren. The problem is exacerbated by the many workers who are quarantined and may not be able to return to work," noted Neal.

The first guest on Made in America was Kenyatta Lovett, Assistant Commissioner for Tennessee's Workforce Services Division Apprenticeship, which is a statewide initiative powered by the Tennessee Workforce Development System (TWDS) developed to create a greater awareness of apprenticeship opportunities for employers and workers in every area of Tennessee.

"To help foster a better understanding of the benefits of apprenticeships, Tennessee has established an Office of Apprenticeships, with three regional directors to serve the state. These apprenticeship experts work directly with employers, communities, associations, and organizations to develop and implement new programs," according to Lovett.

Dr. Roffman is pleased that apprenticeship programs are gaining new respect, with bankers

like Jaime Diamond advocating for their support.

"When people like Jaime Diamond speak, you listen. He understands that we have a skills gap and need trained workers in occupations like agriculture, where drone technology is emerging. Automobile plants are converting from gasoline to electric powered cars and will need trained workers. Colleges of Applied Technology are supporting this effort for us by helping speed through paper work so even smaller companies can participate in the apprenticeship programs," noted Lovett.

Dr. Roffman noted that as a Right-to-Work state, Tennessee is attracting more and more companies in need of workers, positioning Tennessee as a state with a bright economic future.

The next guest on Made in America was Chris Jacobs, the Founder and CEO of Juniper Research Group and author of The Case Against Single Payer, who has over a decade of experience in a variety of policy roles on and off Capitol Hill.

He shared Neal's and Dr. Roffman's view that Bernie Sanders would be in for a rough ride in the Nevada caucus since the powerful Culinary Union in Nevada is warning that Sen. Bernie Sanders "Medicare for All" plan would "end" their health care plan. They went so far as to distribute flyers warning of Bernie's program. (note: this program aired prior to the caucus, and Bernie did get attacked by unions and by his fellow Democrats).

"The Left doesn't know what the Far Left is doing. People are finally taking a close look at Bernie's plan and they don't like what they are seeing, especially trade unions, that don't want to end their current health plans. This lack of union support would sink the Democrats in November," according to Jacobs.

Dr. Roffman is skeptical that voters will embrace Bernie's plan to have government take control of healthcare and everything else in life.

"If Bernie goes through with his plan, 90-95% of the population with healthcare coverage will lose it. Instead Bernie will sacrifice this coverage to satisfy the needs of 10% of the population without health insurance, many of whom are undocumented workers. This harkens back to Obamacare, which was launched to satisfy the needs of the 10% of citizens with preexisting conditions. In addition, Bernie's single payer system will put the private insurance companies out of business, impacting the 500,000 workers employed by insurance carriers," predicted Jacobs.

Jacobs noted that Bernie has been able

to persuade other Democratic candidates to adopt his single payer plan, including Mayor Pete, who initially was against it. Jacobs predicted that healthcare will be the issue driving the Democratic election bid.

"The problem with Medicare for All is that it is actually Medical Healthcare for None," concluded Dr. Roffman.

Since the Oscars were recently telecast, Neal and Dr. Roffman reviewed the telecast, agreeing that each year, the Oscars become more irrelevant.

"Why should anyone listen to movie stars for advice about life and politics? They offer nothing," maintained Neal.

Dr. Roffman took exception to the movie American Factory, partially financed by the Obamas, due to its message that Workers of the World Should Unite, the Communist manifesto.

The program concluded with a discussion about the bankruptcy filing of the McClatchy newspaper chain, owner of the Miami Herald, Kansas City Star and other newspapers.

"It tells us something that our newspaper choices are rapidly shrinking. I just hope that the New York Post doesn't stop operating. I love their headlines," opined 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.

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