



Made in America Panel Proposes that The Nation Must Learn to Live with COVID-19

The rise in COVID-19 hotspots is continuing to roll income and jobs in some sectors but the economy is still chugging along; we need to face the fact that we will need to learn to live with COVID-19 for the foreseeable future; one of the unintended consequences of the \$600 unemployment bonus is that many people are making more on unemployment than they did on the job, and are in no hurry to return to work; the May jobs report provided the first indication that the post-pandemic rebound would be something special, revealing that employers had created a record-shattering 2.5 million jobs in a single month; instead of more PPP money, a better option is rolling back employment taxes; in hindsight, shutting down the economy was an over-reaction; while we are focusing just on COVID-19 infection numbers, we are ignoring the effects of the shutdown in terms of substance abuse, mental illness and suicides; there isn't much confidence if Biden is elected that he can sustain the current economic growth; a remarkable U.S. veteran has started a high quality hand sanitizer company that is employing vets while providing income to area brewers and distillers that were suffering under the lockdown; and despite the volatile economy, entrepreneurs continue to rise, were among the topics discussed by Neal Asbury and Dr. Rich Roffman 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).

The first guest on Made in America was Andy Puzder, an American attorney, author, and businessman, who is the former chief executive officer of CKE Restaurants, the parent company of Hardee's and Carl's Jr.. In 2016, he was nominated to be Trump's United States Secretary of Labor. His new book is entitled: The Capitalist Comeback: The Trump Boom and the Left's Plot to Stop It.

"The economy is strong, despite the pandemic. The May jobs report gave us the first indication that the post-pandemic rebound would be something special, revealing that employers had created a record-shattering 2.5 million jobs in a single month, beating economists' expectations for a loss of around 9 million jobs. The only challenge is that too many furloughed workers would rather continue to draw unemployment instead of returning to work where they often made less money," according to Puzner, who added that when the unemployment money dries up, the employment numbers will soar.

Neal, Dr. Roffman and Puzder agreed that

the national lockdown was an overreaction to the pandemic, and in hindsight, it could have been handled differently. This discussion centered on the fact that the data the White House received was flawed predicting that 2 million Americans might die from the COVID-19 virus. While 140,000 Americans have died, which is a tragedy, the numbers do not come anywhere near 2 million.

"What is really upsetting is that most media have completely ignored the other side effects of the lockdown—a rise in mental health issues, abuse issues and even suicides," proposed Puzder.

Dr. Roffman agreed, noting that Peter Navarro, Director of the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy, wrote an OP/ED piece in which he took Tony Fauci to task for some mistakes Fauci has made relating to the virus.

"In my book in 2016, I predicted that the economy would zoom when Trump took office. And it did, until the virus hit. But there are far too many people drawn to socialism, who simply do not understand the value of capitalism and what would happen if Biden is elected. But even they cannot kill the spirit of entrepreneurship that has made this country great," opined Puzder.

The next guest on Made in America was COL (Ret) Bob Morris, who used his experience as a former Army logistics officer to create a consortium made up of the Virginia Craft Brewers Guild, Beer Wholesalers Association, Association of Cider Makers, Wineries Association, and the Manufacturers Association together with participating brewers, cider makers, distillers, wine makers and other participating small businesses to produce and provide hand sanitizer to support the response to the current COVID-19 complex emergency.

"As the coordinating entity, my Center for Applied Innovation, LLC serves as the coordinator for this important work. To fight COVID-19 all authoritative medical experts require hand sanitizer products that are in accordance with CDC and other federal regulatory requirements. The World Health Organization (WHO) formula is the recognized standard for these requirements and in meeting these standards. Our hand sanitizers meet these standards," according to Morris, who noted that a phone call from the Virginia Manufacturing Association put this program into play, as so many small entities were failing due to the COVID-19 virus.

Morris explained that Ian Anderson, from the British rock group Jethro Tull, who does a great deal of charitable and fundraising events in the UK, was drawn to Morris' work with veterans.

"He has been so supportive of our organization, giving veterans free tickets to his concerts and promoting our hand sanitizers. He is truly a humanitarian and has really made a difference in our success. We invite people to support us by visiting <https://caihq.com/covid-19/vahand/>.

"Bob Morris' story is so inspirational. One phone call, and it started a wonderful entrepreneurial story that created jobs, supported veterans and became an asset to first responders," according to Neal.

Dr. Roffman agreed, adding that "when you believe in your project, you have to go for it. Good things will happen."

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. Made in America at <http://www.nealasburysmadeinamerica.com>.



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