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Made in America Panel Urges the U.S. Government to Create an Immigration Policy that Encourages Trained Foreign Engineers and Tech Experts to Stay in America

Neal Asbury began his nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America by questioning why the U.S. isn't working harder to streamline legal immigration for qualified immigrants instead of concentrating on the more divisive issue of illegal immigration. "We shouldn't be making immigration a political issue. We should be encouraging foreign engineers and technology students to remain in this country. These future entrepreneurs will help build our economy. This is the discussion we should be having on immigration. We need to create an accepting environment that will encourage more immigrants to take the legal route to citizenship," said Asbury.

Joining the show as a returning guest was Republican Representative, Kevin Brady, a pro-family, pro-small business conservative representing the 8th District of Texas. He holds key leadership posts in Congress including Deputy Whip and top Republican on the Joint Economic Committee. He is also a senior member of the House Ways & Means Committee.

"We've had the lowest number of small business start-ups in Texas than in the past 17 years. Our small businesses are being cautiously optimistic, but they can't commit to job creation when they are facing the uncertainties of Obamacare and higher taxes. They want to get back in the game but Congress is standing in their way," said Brady.

Congressman Brady related that he had recently visited a Texas company that builds oil rigs and has 1,200 employees. But the oil industry is under attack by the Obama administration and he doesn't think that the company will be able to grow.

He noted that Texas, Alaska and North Carolina combined are the biggest energy producers in the world, but the U.S. government is holding them back. Brady stated that he has never seen the U.S. energy industry being under attack the way it is today.

"I hope people can see what is happening today in energy. Obama turned down the Keystone project, gas prices are soaring and the EPA just issued 600 pages of new regulations. The future of the energy industry has never been brighter, but we need a change in government that will shape our industry. Our kids and grandkids deserve energy independence, but shame on the U.S. government for depriving them of this future," concluded Brady.

The discussion between Neal Asbury and co-host Dr. Rich Roffman returned to the immigration issue.

"The Obama administration has effectively marginalized the Republican Party when it comes to immigration by characterizing Republicans as anti-Latino, which is nonsense. Republicans are simply demanding that the government follow current immi-

gration law, which means that immigrants need to go through the proper steps to become a U.S. citizen – something that immigrants have been doing for more than 150 years. Behind the scenes, Republicans are actually looking at the relationship between streamlining legal immigration to promote entrepreneurship and job creation," said Asbury.

He reminded listeners that the U.S. was founded by immigrants. He quoted a new report from the Partnership for a New American Economy that found more than 40 percent of Fortune 500 companies were founded by immigrants or their children. Eighteen percent (or 90) of the 500 companies had immigrant founders. The children of immigrants started another 114 companies.

"The U.S. is a country of immigrants. That's our common denominator. Yet, the Democrats want to concentrate on illegal immigration. They are just pushing numbers to create an atmosphere of anti-immigration. But we need to keep the immigrants in this country that contribute to advances in physics and engineering," said Dr. Roffman.

Joining the show next was Chuck Whitlock who has devoted himself to fighting fraud beginning in the early 1990s. Easy Money, his latest book, exposes cons and con artists, and is an easy-to-use reference for readers. He works as an investigative television correspondent and producer who



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helps protect people and their money from the criminals and con artists looking to make a fast buck.

"Hundreds and thousands of American jobs are lost through fraud. It is the biggest expense impacting credit card companies and small businesses. And it's not just a U.S. problem – it impacts business throughout the world. It affects everything from job creation to mortgages," said Whitlock.

The worst part of fraud, according to Whitlock, is that it's nearly impossible to stop it. People are illegally selling access to your private information. Whitlock suggested that every time people use their credit cards, they are putting their private information at risk, including employees at department stores and restaurants.

"Fraud adds ½ to one percent to the fees that companies are paying to offer credit card transactions. This causes prices to increase, impacts vendor fees, and ultimately impacts hiring. There's a real chance that fraud will put companies out of business because they can no longer afford the fees they are being charged to cover fraud costs," said Whitlock.

Joining the show was Michelle Minton, a Fellow in Consumer Policy Studies at the Competitive Enterprise Institute. The issues she manages include property insurance, credit unions, gambling industry regulation, and beverage industry regulation. Ms. Minton also leads many efforts and coalition building between CEI and other area think tanks.

Currently, Minton is leading a fight to stop a tax hike on liquor in Washington D.C. that threatens to put small bars and restaurants out of business.

"This tax is a sneaky way to get money from consumers and retailers. They say it will add only 6 cents per drink but it actually will be closer to 25 cents per drink. People will be so angry about the increase in drinks that they will tip less. In addition, wholesalers will increase their prices, putting more pressure on small establishments that serve alcohol. They don't like calling it a sin tax, but it really is that, no matter what you call it. Small start-up breweries will be especially hit hard," said Minton.

Once again, Asbury and Roffman introduced their "Cronyism Report," an ongoing look at how federal funding payouts are wasting taxpayer dollars.

Dr. Roffman revealed that of the \$831 billion earmarked for the stimulus program to create U.S. jobs, \$34 billion of it actually went to off-shore companies that created foreign jobs instead of U.S. jobs.

Dr. Roffman also noted that Obama, in his first term, has held more fund raisers than all the last five presidents combined. He facetiously suggested that this is Obama's job creation program since so many servers and clean up personnel are getting work.

Finally, Roffman reported that the last job numbers released by the Obama administration reported that an additional 365,000 initial jobless claims were listed bringing

the four-week average to 383,000—the number of jobs that were lost. New jobs created were listed at 119,000...a very poor number. Remarkably, in spite of these numbers, the unemployment rate, released by the Obama administration, was pegged at 8.1%--a drop of .1%. What isn't highlighted by the Administration is that the total US workforce is at its lowest level since 1981. As the overall workforce is reduced—a bad omen-- the unemployment rate drops as well! Not exactly an honest approach to what's really happening on Main Street. He warned listeners to take the job numbers released by the Obama administration with a grain of salt.

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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