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The Neal Asbury Show
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Congressman Mack Urges President Obama to Start Placing Less Value on the Government and More Value on the Average American.



Kicking off his nationally syndicated "The Neal Asbury Show" on WZAB-AM, Neal Asbury opened the show by expressing surprise that in his State of the Union Address, President Obama finally advocated support for the three pending free trade agreements and promised that U.S. exports will double over the next five years. "I was as stunned to hear this as if he said that we were establishing a permanent colony on Mars," said Asbury. "The trouble is that he has no game plan to accomplish this. A big stumbling block is that the president has no authority for passing free trade agreements, so he must rely on a Democratic Congress that decidedly is anti-trade and pro Union. I hope he carries through on his promise – it would be the greatest thing for America," added Asbury.

Neal's first guest was Connie Mack (R-FL),

elected to his third term in the United States Congress in November of 2008 to represent Florida's 14th Congressional District. He currently serves on three committees -- Transportation and Infrastructure; Budget; and Foreign Affairs, on which he is the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere.

"The thing that really hit me about President Obama's State of the Union Address is that he said that the American people didn't listen or understand his healthcare plan. It was just the opposite. They did hear it, loud and clear, but rejected it," remarked Congressman Mack. "They did not want to see the government take over healthcare, because it would be a first step toward taking down the country and the people of this country," he added.

But Congressman Mack noted that while many things about the speech bothered him, he did agree with three ideas advocated by the President: support for nuclear energy, eliminating the capital gains tax, and passing the three pending Free Trade Agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea. He noted that Republicans are anxious to have the vote on the Trade Agreements come to the floor for a vote, but Democrats are holding it back.

"I have reached out to the President and took him up on his offer for bi-partisanship. I told him that I'm willing to work with him and the White House. I have heard nothing back," said Congressman Mack.

Picking up on the export topic, Congressman

Mack said he is very concerned about the falling value of the American dollar around the world, which hurts exports. He admitted that it started under the Bush administration, but Obama has done nothing to strengthen the dollar either.

"We have to prevent China from playing games with their currency. We need to demand that China address the issues of their currency and intellectual property – two issues that undercut us around the world," said Congressman Mack.

Also joining the discussion was A. Paul Anderson, former commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission, who has his recurring "Anderson Report" on The Neal Asbury Show. Anderson wondered whether Congressman Mack thought that the President was putting on a big show when he addressed the recent Republican Party conference, or sincerely wanted to reach out to Republicans for their input on his policies.

"I hope he was sincere. But all we are really seeing is more talk than action. He seems to be out of touch with the American people. His words don't match his actions. The American people are tired of political games – the back room deals and lack of



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transparency. The American people are smart but they are being underestimated. They know what's going on. They are very forgiving, but you have to be straight with them," suggested Congressman Mack.

Congressman Mack believes that the pending mid-term election will restore the Republican majority in the House and Senate. "People are looking for a party that will stand by its principles. And one of these principles is to create an environment so that entrepreneurs will take the risk and create new jobs," he said.

Paul Anderson rejoined the discussion to revisit Congressman Mack's support for nuclear energy, and whether he thought that this was an issue that will receive bi-partisan support, based on Obama's support during his national address. "It is the single most important initiative to push the economy forward so America can stop its reliance on foreign oil," said Anderson.

"Our obligation as Republicans is to meet with him on the issue of nuclear power and see if it moves forward," said Congressman Mack.

"People are frustrated. They want to get involved. Call, write letters and send emails to your state and national representatives. Believe me, they pay attention to you. You should also attend local events where your voice can be heard. These town hall meetings are very constructive. People are watching, and representatives should know that voters are noticing how they vote on issues that are important to them," said Congressman Mack.

He concluded by downplaying the perception of Republicans as the party of "NO."

"We haven't been shy about putting out our ideas. But we cannot support a political agenda that puts more value on the government, and less value on the American people."

Joining the discussion was Herbert I. London, president of the Hudson Institute, a world renowned think-tank in Washington DC. He is professor emeritus and the former John M. Olin Professor of Humanities at New York University. He also is a noted play write.

"I listened to the President's State of the Union Address, and I found it contained nothing but internal contradictions. On one hand he says he's cutting spending by \$25 billion but is adding a new jobs bill that will cost \$85 billion. He says he's cutting out lobbyists, but 14 members of his staff are former lobbyists. He says he's bringing down the debt, but it has quadrupled since he took office; and is expected to hit \$1.6 trillion in 2011. And he says he wants an open administration, but everything he has done, especially the healthcare bill, was done in secrecy," said London.

London echoed Neal Asbury's contention that to fund the government's programs it was printing "vapor paper" – dollars that are worthless. London predicted the coming of double-digit inflation.

"The problem with the government is that it is so seductive. Everybody wants to be in the government. But they go in comparing it to a cesspool, but when they get there, it turns into a hot tub. Over time, they lose their sense of what is going on in the country. We need to find leaders who will stand up for their principles and stop borrowing money against the future. But somewhere along the line, we're going to have to pass

some bills that won't be popular," said London. Some of these unpopular ideas are: raising the age for drawing social security, and reducing Medicare payouts.

"I like to quote Abraham Lincoln, who once wrote: 'You can't make a poor man rich by making a rich man poor'", said London. "If the government takes the decision on our healthcare away from us, our personal liberty is jeopardized. That's why the Tea Party movement has energized thousands of people, many of them Independents who wanted change, but not the kind of change they are seeing," concluded London.

London invited listeners to visit his website at: www.hudson.org

The Neal Asbury Show tackles free trade and enterprise issues every Friday from 5:00 PM until 6:00 PM on WZAB-AM 880 and is co-hosted by Richard Roffman, a veteran 30-year publisher with extensive domestic and international experience. The show is streamed live on line at WWW.880THEBIZ.COM, which is affiliated with Bloomberg Radio and CNBC, and can be heard nationally on 920-WGKA (Atlanta); KSEV (Houston); 1500 AM (Washington D.C.); 1220-KDOW (San Francisco); and 1300-KKOL (Seattle).



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