



## Congressman John Fleming Fears Obama Administration Will Dismantle Best Healthcare System in the World.



Leading off the discussion on the nationally syndicated "The Neal Asbury Show" on WZAB-AM, host Neal Asbury suggested that the Tea Party movement is "firing up liberals the way the town hall meetings did last year. I am really angry that the media characterizes the Tea Party movement as a fringe movement made up of crazies when it is actually made up of good, loyal Americans that hate deficits and unchecked government spending."

Neal's first guest was Congressman John C. Fleming M.D. (R-LA), a family physician from Minden, LA, who was elected to Congress in December 2008. Fleming represents Louisiana's Fourth Congressional District, and is focused on sound economic policy to

grow and create jobs, reducing the tax burden for all Americans, sensible health care reforms, a sound energy policy and representing Northwest Louisiana's traditional values.

Congressman Fleming recently introduced House Resolution 615 which suggests that any politician who votes to approve the public option in the proposed healthcare bill should be among the first Americans to sign up for it. No Democrats have signed on to the resolution.

"The liberals in the administration are elitists who don't think that the rules apply to them," proposed Congressman Fleming.

He is concerned that the take over of the nation's healthcare policy will interfere with the doctor/patient relationship. He does not think any American wants a bureaucrat with no medical training to get between the doctor and patient.

"We're talking about dismantling the best healthcare system in the world. In other countries death is an acceptable outcome for some conditions. Patients need to wait in line for life saving procedures that Americans have access to when they need it. I don't understand why we're still talking about the proposed healthcare policy," said Congressman Fleming. "The administration thinks this is a marketing problem.

It's not. It's about passing common sense solutions."

As a physician and entrepreneur with 500 employees, Congressman Fleming is looking for more government support for small business. He thinks the current jobs bill is a waste of money and labels it "Son of Stimulus." He does not agree with some stipulations of the bill that call for employers to confine job offers to unemployed workers, instead of trying to match the job with the best candidate.

Congressman Fleming listed the top three things that the administration can do to get the country working again: immediately cut spending; make the Bush tax cuts permanent; and kill the current healthcare bill and Cap and Trade bill.

"I remember the swagger of Democrats when Obama won. Their attitude was that they didn't need Republicans any more. But the public soon began resenting this attitude and objected to the stimulus plan. Then last August everything exploded, and the GOP found itself in a game changer.



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# The Neal Asbury Show

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The Democrats didn't catch on until a few months ago, but they were late. Now we're seeing Democrats retiring instead of running against opponents that they can't beat," said Congressman Fleming. "And I'm really disappointed in the Blue Dog Democrats who were created by Rahm Emanuel as conservative-leaning Democrats, but who wound up following everything Nancy Pelosi wants. I know refer to them as "Nancy Pelosi Lap Dogs."

Congressman Fleming sees the GOP winning back both Houses of Congress in the mid-term elections.

Joining the discussion was Andrew Langer, President of the Institute for Liberty, an advocacy organization dedicated to "fighting the petty tyrannies of government and protecting America's right to be free." Langer's group was one of the original supporters of the Tea Party movement that found some 600,000 disenfranchised citizens.

"The mainstream press likes to put things in boxes. But the Tea Party movement doesn't fit in any of these boxes. They can't define it so they dismiss it," said Langer.

He suggested that people don't understand the people that make up the Tea Party movement. "They assume that it is made of moderate independents, but it is really made up of new unaffiliated voters with a strong Libertarian streak. They want to be left alone from government interference. These are people who never before got

involved in the political process, but after voting in 2006 and 2008 thinking they were sending a message to Washington, they recognized that Washington didn't get it. Now they want their voice heard," said Langer.

He contends that President Obama's biggest mistake was misreading the election and what the American public wanted. "The problem is that the Republicans lost their position as a standard bearer, and were perceived as reneging on their promise to America. The GOP stopped being the GOP," said Langer.

Langer noted that the Tea Party movement has two top priorities: reduce the size of the government; and reduce government spending.

Langer participated in the show's discussion from his home in Washington D.C. where he was snow bound from the storm that hit the Northeast. He joked that "nobody noticed the government was shut down," and led him to paraphrase a remark from humorist Mark Twain: "Nobody's pocket book is safe when Congress is in session."

The recurring "Anderson Report," featuring A. Paul Anderson, former commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission, tackled the federal deficit.

Anderson was highly skeptical that President Obama would be able to drop the federal deficit to \$706 billion by 2014 since it is

based on faulty assumptions. Particularly that the US will experience GDP growth of 4 percent annually from 2011-2014—which is unprecedented.

"If you ran a company and told your Board that the company would have a deficit for the next ten years, you would be fired," said Anderson. "But the US has been experiencing a budget deficit of 3 percent a year since 1960. In essence, we've been seeing taxes at 18 percent of the economy, while spending is at 20 percent of the economy. As things stand now, taxes will represent 15 percent of GDP, rising to 20 percent by 2020. The deficit will rise to 77 percent of our economy by 2020," predicted Anderson, "the highest rate since 1950."

Langer contends that Obama hasn't gotten the message. "Americans are frustrated and angry over government spending. They are seeing a 10 percent unemployment rate and a bigger government. A grass roots revolt is brewing and Congress will have to answer to the American people for their votes," concluded Anderson.



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