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Georgia Senator Johnny Isakson Believes that Passing Card Check Act will be Last Nail in the Current Economy Coffin



Making his first appearance on the nationally syndicated The Neal Asbury Show on WZAB-AM, Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA) a businessman, a public servant and family man whose common-sense approach and conservative values have made him a leader in Georgia for over 30 years, laments the lack of support being given to entrepreneurs and small businesses that account for 73 percent of all U.S. jobs. As an entrepreneur himself, having served as president of Northside Realty for 20 years – today the largest independent residential real estate brokerage company in the Southeast – he said “it’s time to give positive economic incentives to small business instead of punishing them with higher taxes.”

business, they will continue to move offshore, depriving the U.S. of millions of jobs. We can’t keep printing new money to pay for programs, because we are mortgaging our grandchildren’s future at a rate that is unsustainable,” he added.

Weighing in on energy policies, such as Cap and Trade (which Senator Isakson predicts will not pass in the senate), suggested that it will have no effect on reducing the world’s carbon footprint or greenhouse emissions if the largest pollution-producing nations such as China and India don’t agree to the act’s provisions.

Senator Isakson would like to see a greater U.S. reliance on nuclear energy, and more domestic exploration for natural gas, which he suggests has even greater capacity than coal. He also advocates for more investment in solar energy, biodiesel, biomass, and drilling in U.S. protected land. He does not support ethanol made from corn, but sees a future for ethanol if it can be made of more abundant sources. “All of our energy solutions are right here at home,” he added, urging Americans to charge the course of the country by voting. “Vote with your pocketbook and interest, because history has proven that when Americans vote together, we have always been able to right our ship.”

Also joining the show was Rick Krug, who is the “Chief Creator” of Team Dream World Wide, “the only known 30 day business startup and turn around company in the United States,” and which helps entrepreneurs succeed.

Krug believes that potential entrepreneurs are being scared off of starting their own businesses because they are losing their sense of optimism. What’s worse, many are looking at the federal government for answers, which actually contributes to dissuading entrepreneurs from starting their own enterprises.

“When I chose to become self employed, I realized I was working for an idiot. I found I should have been working on my company, not in it. So I reached out to people smarter than me, who could contribute to my company’s growth,” said Krug, who is a former pastor and once ran unsuccessfully for mayor of Flagstaff, Arizona.

“You have to be willing to take a risk when you start a business. But if you are spending your time worrying about the future of your current job, take that time and energy and apply it toward starting your own business,” he added. He invited listeners to visit his website at www.teamdreamworldwide.com.

John Manzella, President of Manzella Trade Communications and a world-recognized author and speaker on U.S. and global business and Washington politics, joined the discus-

sion as he does each week with his Manzella Report. Manzella voiced concern that as a result of current government economic policies, today’s children will not be better off than their parents, backed up by a recent Rasmussen survey that indicated that 62% of respondents believe today’s children will not be better off than their parents. This disturbing figure is up from 53% in July and 47% since the beginning of the year.

Just as the previous guest, Rich Krug decried the lagging sense of public optimism, Manzella partially attributed the sense of pessimism to the current 9.8% unemployment rate, which is the highest rate in 26 years, and which is likely to surpass 10% and remain high through 2010.

Giving credence to the perceived erosion in national optimism are Rasmussen survey figures that have found that: 61% of respondents believe the nation is heading in the wrong direction; 72% have an unfavorable opinion of Congress; and 67% lack confidence that Congress knows what it is doing.

Manzella is concerned about ever higher proposed tax increases, and its effect on employment. “I don’t believe companies will hire more workers if they see a heavier tax burden on the horizon. And raising the minimum wage last July certainly didn’t help,” he said, but added that the one piece of good news is that economists predict a permanent payroll tax cut is likely to help spur job growth.

“This lack of optimism ignores our strengths, our achievements, and so much that is American. Even though this recession has temporarily dampened many dreams, our free enterprise system, our incredible entrepreneurialism, and the American Can-Do attitude will ensure our children do better than their parents. The American capitalist system will, once again, become a powerful engine for economic growth. And remember, no other economic system has so rapidly raised the living standards of the poor, so thoroughly improved the conditions of life, or generated greater social wealth,” concluded Manzella.

One of those perceived “punishments” is the proposed Employer Free Choice Act (Card Check), which would enable a simple majority of workers to effectively sign-up to establish a union and avoid the holding of a secret-ballot election.

“Passing the Card Check Act would be the last nail in the current economy coffin. Ironically the secret union ballot was something that unions had advocated for many years, and now they want to repeal the law. Eliminating the secret ballot so that workers can be intimidated by union bosses is the most intense attack on small business that I have seen in my lifetime,” said Senator Isakson, who is a member of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee and is a member of the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee.

Another attack on small business, according to Senator Isakson, are the five proposed health care programs being debated by the House, with only one (from the Finance Committee) that doesn’t call for a public option.

“The public health care option will make it impossible for small businesses to afford health insurance for their employees. It is disingenuous for this administration to say that asking for \$850 billion to fund the new program won’t come out of taxpayers’ pockets. I want to see the administration explain honestly how this program will be funded, without the use of smoke and mirrors,” said Senator Isakson.

One of Senator Isakson’s priorities is giving small business and entrepreneurs the support they need to succeed, including providing bigger tax credits for R&D and retaining the capital gains tax at 15 percent.

“If the current trend continues of overtaxing American



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