

It's time to change the course of America in November

by Randy Bright <http://www.tulsabeacon.com/?p=5263>

Back in 2005, I wrote an article about how the government was systematically cleansing certain rural areas through imposition of regulations and judicial orders. In fact, rural areas of America and other countries have been in decline for some time.

Loss of manufacturing to Mexico, China and India has played a large part in the decline. Once a large source of low-cost labor (and few regulations), small towns in rural areas provided the bulk of the manufacturing base, but when the factories pulled up stakes and left for even cheaper labor and fewer regulations overseas, small towns began to suffer severely. Businesses began to close, forcing families to leave in search of jobs. Then more businesses closed, and more people left, until eventually the grocery stores, the banks and even some schools closed. When that happens, a town is essentially finished, leaving mostly elderly populations to deal with aging and crumbling infrastructure.

Even if we could convince industries to move back to rural American towns, it would be a hard sell considering that industries depend greatly on functional communities to support their employees and to create an environment that would attract young families. And they certainly will never return if they must deal with outrageous and oppressive regulations and taxes.

Even New Ruralism, a movement whose name seems to imply some hope for rural areas, focuses not on rural areas per se, but on the “preservation and enhancement of urban edge rural areas as places that are indispensable to the economic, environmental, and cultural vitality of cities and metropolitan regions.”

But fear not. The administration has a plan.

In the midst of the Anthony Weiner scandal, Obama signed Executive Order 13575, creating the “White House Rural Council.”

According to executive order, “Sixteen percent of the American population lives in rural counties. Strong, sustainable rural communities are essential to winning the future and ensuring American competitiveness in the years ahead. These communities supply our food, fiber and energy, safeguard our natural resources, and are essential in the development of science and innovation. Though rural communities face numerous challenges, they also present enormous economic potential. The federal government has an important role to play in order to expand access to the capital necessary for economic growth, promote innovation, improve access to health care and education and expand outdoor recreational activities on public lands.”

The executive order also creates another bureaucracy (the White House Rural Council), which will consist of at least twenty five department heads and czars, all appointed by Obama. It also allows for an ever-expanding web of “executive branch departments, agencies, and offices as the

President or Secretary of Agriculture may, from time to time, designate.” The open-ended nature of this new department should be very concerning, especially if its designees do not have to be approved by Congress.

It appears that this administration is following suit with rural areas just as it has with the unions, the bailouts, the stimulus and the nationalization of the auto and banking industries. They are not unlike the fireman who goes about setting fires in order to have the opportunity to extinguish them. In this case, American industries have left America to escape high wages, high taxes and oppressive regulations, eventually bringing about the demise of rural America. Then the same federal government who created the crisis exercises its power in order to provide the solution; and the solution will be the same as it was for all of the other problems it has “solved” - more regulations, more debt and more inflation. It is ironic that an administration that touts sustainability as a reason to save rural America uses such unsustainable tactics.

We don't need more regulations, taxation or government. If America is to ever recover, we need far less of them all, and we need a return to solid Constitutional principles.

We have an opportunity to stop this insanity in November of next year, and it will probably be the last chance we will ever get to bring about the correction that will put America back on the path of greatness. There are still enough of us who remember what it was like before, so it is up to us to tell the generations that follow us that what we are seeing today just isn't the American way.

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