



WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

May 29, 2015

DNC Research Director Lauren Dillon on Medium: Something's Rotten in Madison

I'm going to tell you a story about a mismanaged agency within Wisconsin's government.

Still awake?

You should be. The details of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation start with Scott Walker's failure to deliver on his jobs promise, and end with loans and tax credits going out to his political donors. And here's why that matters.



The Beginning

Scott Walker campaigned in 2010 on the notion that he'd create 250,000 private sector jobs by the end of his first term in 2015.

To meet that goal, he created the WEDC, which he claimed would play an integral role in keeping that promise.

"Our number one priority is to create an environment that allows the private sector to get 250,000 people back to work by 2015. The WEDC will play an integral role in achieving this goal."—Walker

The WEDC would give out loans to hundreds of companies in the hopes of spurring growth, but that growth never came, and the agency quickly devolved into a mismanaged mess.

The Wheels Fall Off

Things went south quickly. The WEDC missed its goals in 2012, and missed its goals for helping businesses in over half of its economic development programs in FY13. In fact, one agency in Wisconsin found that WEDC was so poorly run that it was impossible to determine how many jobs it created.

This raised a number of flags for auditing agencies and the public at large. First, there was the mismanagement. WEDC staff used taxpayer funds to pay for iPads, alcohol, and football season tickets.

On top of all of this, the WEDC lost track of \$69 million in funds loaned out to companies. Eventually, it was revealed that Walker's WEDC gave financial assistance to ineligible projects, companies with known financial issues, and even companies who made it clear from the start they were planning to lay off Wisconsin workers.

At least six companies that received substantial awards from the WEDC laid off Wisconsin workers and sent their jobs overseas.

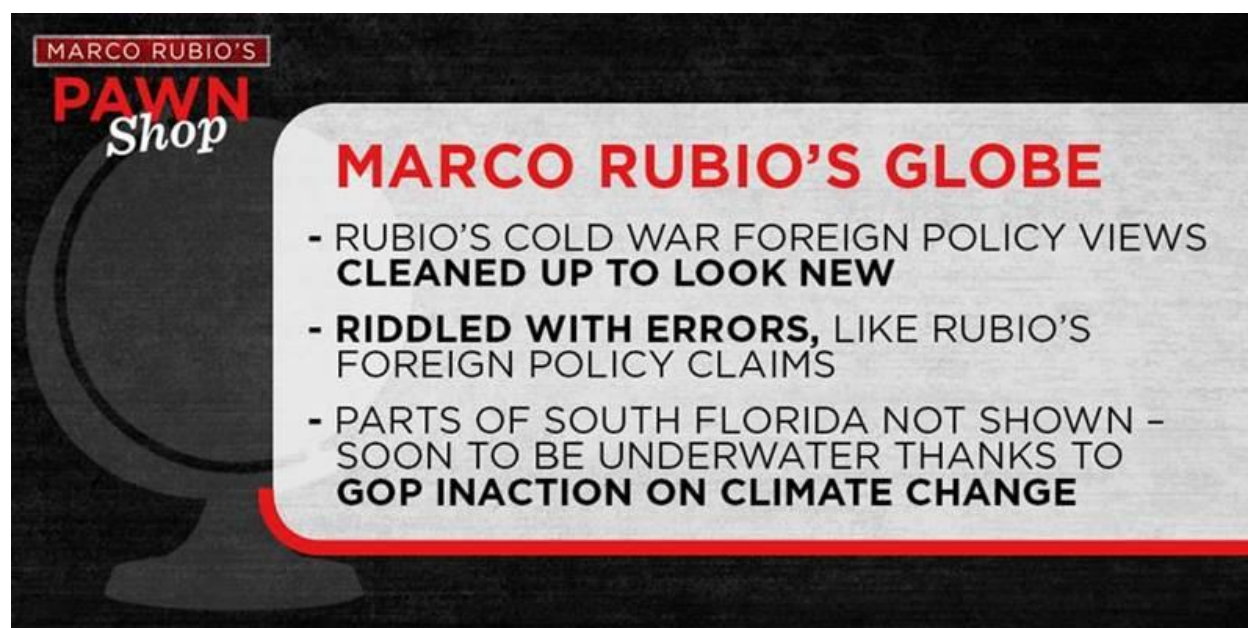
As of the beginning of his second term, Scott Walker fell 120,869 jobs — 48% — short of his promise.

View [here](#) to read the rest of this Medium post.

DNC Holds Marco Rubio Accountable for Pawning Off Old, Failed GOP Ideas as New

On Thursday, Marco Rubio attended a fundraiser with the host of Pawn Stars. This is a fitting theme for Mr. Rubio, as his entire campaign is pawning off old, failed GOP ideas as new. He supports the old, rejected GOP policy of ending Medicare as we know it. He opposes comprehensive immigration reform. The "21st century candidate" opposes marriage equality and equal pay legislation. Dusting off these old ideas and trying to pawn himself off as something new isn't going to work.

Democrats rolled out a digital series to hold Marco Rubio accountable for polishing worn-out GOP ideas and trying to sell them back to voters as new.



MARCO RUBIO'S

PAWN
Shop

PIGGY BANK

- CAN BE USED AS SAVINGS ACCOUNT WHEN **MARCO RUBIO GUTS SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE, DEREGULATES BANKS**
- CAN BE EASILY BROKEN DURING TAX SEASON, WHEN **AMERICAN WORKERS WOULD PAY MORE IN FEDERAL TAXES UNDER RUBIO**

MARCO RUBIO'S

PAWN
Shop

GRADUATION KIT

- GET YOUR PELL GRANTS TODAY BEFORE **MARCO RUBIO SLASHES THEM!**
- **PRICE OF DEGREE COULD RISE RAPIDLY** THANKS TO RUBIO'S OPPOSITION TO REFINANCING STUDENT LOANS

Jeb's Rough Relationship With Facts

Jeb Bush just can't seem to get it together.

Two weeks ago, he was skewered for his rambling, inconsistent answers to questions over his continued support for the Iraq War.

This past week wasn't any better for him, as he was repeatedly called out for saying stuff that simply wasn't true — about foreign policy, about history, about science, about the Obama Administration's record, and even about his *own* record.

View [here](#) to read the rest of this post on our Factivists site.

Brutal Reviews for Rubio's Latest Anti-LGBT Comments

Marco Rubio's [latest comments](#) that gay marriage proponents pose a "danger" to Christianity are no different than the rest of his platform: stuck in the past, out of touch with 21st Century Americans, and bad for families.

Take a look at the brutal reviews:

- [The Huffington Post](#): Senator Rubio, If You Don't Want to Be Labeled a 'Homophobe,' Stop Attacking LGBT Families
- [Daily Beast](#): Marco Rubio Pathetically Plays the LGBT Victim
- [Tampa Bay Times](#): "Marco Rubio lashed out at gay rights activists in an interview aired Tuesday"
- [MSNBC](#): "Marco Rubio is raising some eyebrows with comments of his own" on marriage equality

Rand Paul: Record vs. Rhetoric

Shot:

Rand Paul said on Tuesday in New York City that "[we need to be a more diverse party](#)."

Chaser:

[Rand Paul on the gender pay gap](#): "I'm sort of a glass half-full" kind of guy

[Rand Paul on the Voting Rights Act](#): "We have an African American president."

[Rand Paul on LGBT rights](#): "I don't think I've ever used the word gay rights, because I don't really believe in rights based on your behavior."

[Rand Paul on the DREAM Act](#): "I would have voted no."

"While Rand Paul may try to hawk books by telling Americans he's a new type of Republican, the fact of the matter is that his record doesn't match his recent rhetoric. Like every other Republican running for their Party's nomination, Rand Paul's views are outdated and way outside of mainstream America. Whether it's in his new book or on the campaign trail, it's clear that the American people cannot trust Rand Paul to tell the truth." – **Michael Tyler, DNC spokesperson.**

In the States

- On Tuesday, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin responded to Gov. Scott Walker's recent hypocritical statement on refusing federal funding to balance Wisconsin's state budget, while relying repeatedly throughout his career on federal dollars to bail out his failed policies. "The only 'fool's bet' is thinking that Scott Walker makes any choices based on what's best for Wisconsin's middle class and not what's best for his political career," Democratic Party of Wisconsin Chair Mike Tate said Tuesday. "He's relied on federal funds in the past when it was convenient for him politically or when his own incompetence and mismanagement ruled out any other option – it's incredibly hypocritical for Walker to now turn down \$360 million that would help balance the budget and help more Wisconsinites have access to affordable healthcare." Read the full press release [here](#).
- On Tuesday, the Ohio Democratic Party and Georgia Democratic Party released the following joint statement on Ohio Gov. John Kasich's decision to make campaign stops for his yet to be announced presidential run while ignoring the problems facing his home state: "On the very day Cleveland is working hard to address serious issues, Ohio's sitting governor is 700 miles away, wining and dining with Republican big-wigs and donors," said Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper. "It's becoming clear that Kasich's number-one priority is serving his presidential ambitions, not working for the people of Ohio." Read the full press release [here](#).
- On Wednesday, South Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Jaime Harrison released the following statement on the failed, middle-class averse records of the Republican Presidential field: "Here's where the Republican hopefuls stand: John Kasich and Carly Fiorina are following Nikki Haley's lead and support tax breaks for the wealthy at the expense of the middle class. Kasich has used Ohio workers and families as pawns in the world of presidential politics. He has lashed out at adult home-care workers just like Nikki Haley, and has thrown up roadblocks to for hardworking people, just like Scott Walker and Bobby Jindal. Marco Rubio says he's a new leader with fresh ideas, but he's a just peddling the same tired Republican playbook." Read the full press release [here](#).
- On Wednesday, Democratic Party of Wisconsin Communications Director Melissa Baldauff released the following statement on Sen. Ron Johnson's patently false attacks on Democratic Senatorial Candidate Sen. Russ Feingold: "Wisconsin can't trust anything out-of-touch multi-millionaire Ron Johnson and his allies are saying after their first two attacks against Russ Feingold have been labeled false by an independent fact checker. Clearly the truth only gets in the way of Ron Johnson and his corporate special interest friends' desperate attempts to hold onto his Senate seat." Read the full press release [here](#).