Agenda

Wednesday, April 22nd

11:30am  Conference Registration
         Willard Room

12:00pm  Lunch is Served
         Welcome and Introduction: Steve Odland, CEO, CED
         Willard Room

12:15pm  Ensuring a Competitive Workforce for the Global Economy
         U.S. companies face unprecedented competition from abroad and an economy that puts a growing premium on knowledge. In just four decades, the percentage of jobs requiring some form of postsecondary education has skyrocketed—from 28 to 59 percent. To succeed, employers must make a stronger commitment to ensure that employees are prepared and afforded the opportunity to learn key skills. The economy’s growing dependence on a highly skilled workforce raises a critical question: What is being done to improve the educational attainment of our workforce? How can business play a role?

12:15pm  Keynote Remarks: Ed Rust, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company

12:35pm  Panel Discussion: Business Strategies for Improving Educational Attainment
         What must be done by the public and private sectors to ensure individuals are ready and can succeed in the 21st Century workplace?
         Moderator: John Colborn, Director, Aspen Institute Skills for America’s Future Initiative
         Carl Camden, President and Chief Executive Officer, Kelly Services
         Byron Auguste, Co-Founder, Opportunity@Work
         Chauncy Lennon, Managing Director, Global Philanthropy, JPMorgan Chase Foundation
         Teresa Carlson, Vice President Global Public Sector, Amazon Web Services
         Ed Rust, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
1:30pm Break

1:45–2:45 What Does Economic Inequality Mean for the Future of Capitalism?
Willard Room

Income inequality and wealth inequality have been rising in the United States for the past 40 years and are now reaching levels last seen in the United States in the 1920s. Some in American business express concern about this trend and its potential ramifications for our capitalist system and society. Capitalism, as an imperfect system, has been threatened as long as it has been in existence; and business and government have responded to the challenges of the times to adapt and evolve. As CED’s founders did in 1942 and thereafter, CED intends to leave a legacy to future generations by offering reasoned solutions from business in the nation’s interest. How can capitalism evolve to preserve and strengthen freedom, economic opportunity, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all?

Keynote Remarks: Betsey Stevenson, Member, Council of Economic Advisers

Panel Discussion
Moderator: W. Bowman Cutter, Senior Fellow and Director, Economic Policy Initiative, The Roosevelt Institute
Panel Discussion:
Linda McMahon, Principal and Former CEO, WWE
Bernard Bailey, Chairman and CEO, Authentix
Kevin Hassett, State Farm James Q. Wilson Chair in American Politics and Culture; Director of Economic Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute (AEI)
Beth Ann Bovino, Chief Economist, McGraw Hill Financial (MHFI)

2:45-3:00 Break

3:00-4:00 U.S. and Global Debt: Finding Stability in an Indebted World
Willard Room

A recent McKinsey Global Institute report shows that seven years after the financial crisis, total global debt (public and private) has continued to grow, rising by $57 trillion since 2007. The U.S. debt situation looks relatively positive compared with other countries, as there has been substantial debt reduction in the private sector, although offset by the continued rise in government debt. Most other countries have seen growth of both private-sector debt and public sector debt. A range of countries have reached new peaks in household debt, in Northern Europe, Canada, Australia, and Singapore. In China, total debt has quadrupled since 2007, driven by a soaring, debt-financed real estate market. And in global corporate finance, there has been a dramatic shift in sources of debt from the banking sector to non-bank intermediaries. Does all this point to the risk of another debt crisis? This panel will discuss today’s US and global debt landscape, the driving forces affecting both the public and private sectors, where the risks remain (and are emerging), and how to promote financial stability in an increasingly indebted world.
Presenter and Moderator: Susan Lund, Partner, McKinsey Global Institute

Panel Discussion
Doug Holtz-Eakin, President, The American Action Forum
Joseph Kasputys, Chief Executive Officer, Economic Ventures, LLC
Maya MacGuineas, President, Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget
Sabrina Schaeffer, Executive Director, Independent Women’s Forum

4:00-4:15  Break

4:15-5:15  Judicial Selection Reform: Creating a Fair and Impartial Judiciary
Willard Room

In the American system of justice, judges are expected to perform their role apart from the “political thicket,” free of political pressure and indifferent to public opinion. Yet today, in most states, this basic requisite of independent and impartial administration of the rule of law is imperiled. Where judges hold or retain office by election, the independence of the judiciary is at risk. Elections encourage judges to solicit campaign contributions and appeal to voters. They provide special interests with substantial opportunities to politicize decisions and influence judicial behavior. How can this system be reformed to ensure the impartiality of the American judiciary?

Panel Discussion
Moderator: Caroline Fredrickson, President, American Constitution Society for Law & Policy
The Honorable Randall Shepard, Former Chief Justice, Indiana Supreme Court
The Honorable Wallace B. Jefferson, Former Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court
Hugh Caperton, Former President, Harman Mining Company
Tony Corrado, Senior Fellow, Governance Studies; Professor of Government, Colby College

5:15pm  Congressman Patrick McHenry (R-NC)

6:00–6:45  Cocktail Reception
Ballroom Foyer

7:00pm  Leadership in the Nation’s Interest Awards Dinner
Ballroom

Since 1942, CED has encouraged America’s business leaders to take a more expansive view of their responsibilities, to be more publicly conscious, and to practice what CED calls business statesmanship—recognizing that business and society are interwoven, and using their positions as business leaders to incorporate societal concerns into their core operations. The Leadership in the Nation’s Interest Award recognizes a corporate executive who leads their company with integrity and purpose, and champions policies for the common good.
Awardee

Introduction: Dan Fulton, Former CEO, Weyerhaeuser
Thomas C. Nelson, Chairman, President & CEO, National Gypsum

8:00-8:30 Fireside Discussion
Steve Odland, CEO, Committee for Economic Development
Thomas C. Nelson, Chairman, President & CEO, National Gypsum

Thursday, April 23, 2015

8:00 am Breakfast in Willard Room
8:10 am Remarks on Social Security Reform: Congressman John Larson, D-CT
Willard Room
8:30–9:30 Trade Agreements: Enabling U.S. Growth and Prosperity
Willard Room

International trade has facilitated U.S. growth and prosperity over our nation’s history. Today, new technologies increase our productivity and our ability to export, while our traditional trading industries – such as agriculture – maintain their comparative advantage. Can a strategic negotiating approach achieve the agreements that yield greater exports and economic growth? CED will convene leaders from industry and government to discuss the short-term and long-term opportunities and challenges in the future of global trade negotiations.

Moderator: Pat Gross, Chairman, The Lovell Group
Hollis Hart, President, International Franchise Management, Citi
Robert Kueppers, Managing Partner, Center for Corporate Governance, Deloitte LLP
Jim Lawrence, Chairman, Rothschild North America
Ambassador Miriam Sapiro, Former Deputy United States Trade Representative; Nonresident Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development Program, Brookings Institution

9:30–10:00 A Conversation with “No Labels,” a Bipartisan Approach for Fixing America’s Pressing Problems

Steve Odland, CEO, Committee for Economic Development
Nancy Jacobson, Founder, No Labels
Congressman Kurt Schrader, D-OR
Congressman Adam Kinzinger, R-IL

10–11:00 Developing an Economic Game Plan in the 114th Congress
Willard Room

The 114th Congress faces continuing economic challenges: a shallow recovery following a deep economic downturn, still-growing public debt, a new and still-evolving health care system, outdated national infrastructure, and concern about energy and the environment, to name just a few. Meanwhile, any national consensus on economic policy has eroded. CED’s expert panel will debate the competing economic policy visions on taxation, the budget, trade, health care, and energy, as well as some emerging issues.
Panel Discussion
Moderator: Greg Ip, Chief Economics Commentator, Wall Street Journal
Alice Rivlin, Senior Fellow of Economic Studies and Director of the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform, Brookings Institution; Founding Director, Congressional Budget Office
Bill Hoagland, Senior Vice President, Bipartisan Policy Center
Justin Wolfers, Senior Fellow, Peter G. Peterson Institute for International Economics
Alan Viard, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

11–11:15 Break

11:15–12:15 It’s All Politics: The 2016 Elections
Willard Room

CED’s expert panel will review the major conflicts facing the 114th Congress, and the early maneuverings in the 2016 election cycle.

Panel Discussion
Moderator: Steve Clemons, Senior Editor, The Atlantic
Jeanne Cummings, Political Reporter, Bloomberg
Michelle Cottle, Washington Reporter, National Journal
Matt Schlapp, Founder, Cove Strategies; Chairman, American Conservative Union
Peter Cook, Chief Washington Correspondent, Washington Bureau, Bloomberg Television

12:15 pm Lunch is Served
Crystal Room

12:30-1:30 Business Perspectives on Health Care Reform
Crystal Room

The United States spends about 17 percent of GDP on health care, and this share is projected to rise sharply in the future. Despite the landmark Affordable Care Act, the cost of access to health care – for families, for businesses, and for government – continues to grow at unsustainable rates, without fair value for the sums that it has paid. Additionally, health insurance remains out of reach for millions of vulnerable Americans. How can we improve affordability, quality, and access for all Americans?

Keynote Remarks: The Honorable Joe Pitts, Chairman of the Health Subcommittee, House Energy & Commerce Committee

Panel Discussion
Moderator: John J. Castellani, President and Chief Executive Office; PhRMA
Ray Gilmartin, Chairman, President & CEO (Retired), Merck & Co., Inc.
Julie Stoss, Vice President of Government Relations, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.
Tom McInerney, President and Chief Executive Officer, Genworth Financial, Inc.

1:30 pm Adjourn