Wisconsin Data Points for Manufacturing Day

Written by Priorities Wisconsin, Cassidy Geoghegan Thursday, 03 October 2019 09:43

http://newiprogressive.com/images/stories/S5/wisc-dairy-farm-s5.jpg



Wisconsinites are struggling under Trump's trade war, and a number of Wisconsin manufacturing leaders are considering shifting production overseas as a result of it.

MADISON - Ahead of Manufacturing Day, happening tomorrow, October 4, I wanted to pass along some data points that help tell the story of what is happening in Wisconsin's manufacturing sector. Despite Trump's <u>claim</u> at a rally in Green Bay that he "found the magic wand" to bring back manufacturing jobs, <u>a new</u>

<u>survey</u>

of U.S. manufacturing showed Trump's trade war is contributing to a manufacturing downturn the likes of which haven't been seen since the Great Recession.

The truth is, Wisconsinites are struggling under Trump's trade war -- thousands have lost their manufacturing jobs and companies are having to consider shifting production overseas, leading <u>experts</u> to say that Trump is heading into reelection in a manufacturing recession.

So as we celebrate the hard work of Wisconsin manufacturers, we think it's important to acknowledge how Trump has let down Wisconsin factory workers:

Wisconsin had the second highest number of manufacturing job losses of any state in the past

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year, losing over 5,000 jobs, despite Trump's claims that "assembly lines are roaring."

<u>Ten Wisconsin counties</u> that Trump won in 2016 have experienced manufacturing job losses during his presidency. These are the workers that Trump promised to fight for and the jobs he promised to protect.

<u>Two Wisconsin counties</u> that Trump won in 2016 – Trempealeau and Rusk County – had the highest percentage declines in manufacturing jobs in the state during Trump's presidency.

While <u>Tramontina USA</u> announced it would end manufacturing operations at Tramontina U.S. Cookware in Manitowoc causing 145 Wisconsin workers to lose their jobs, the company announced it was expanding its presence in Brazil.

A number of Wisconsin manufacturing leaders are even saying they've considered shifting production overseas as a result of Trump's tariffs:

<u>CFO Of Sheboygan Manufacturer The Vollrath Co.</u>: "These tariffs are now forcing us to aggressively look at foreign sources and potential acquisitions abroad," as domestic suppliers were raising prices too high.

<u>Wisconsin Cookware Manufacturer Regal Ware</u> said Trump's tariffs put about 50 jobs at risk and forced the company to "explore the possibility of manufacturing some of our product overseas."

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<u>Waukesha Metal Products</u> said that many of its largest customers asked that it move production to Mexico, where it already has a plant, to get lower material costs.

<u>HUSCO International</u>, a Waukesha manufacturer of vehicle and construction parts, said that outsourcing production was "on the table" as a result of Trump's tariffs.

If you want to talk through any of this, let me know. Happy to jump on the phone to provide additional information or comment.

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