

WEINER & LASKY: DNC PLATFORM IMPORTANT FOR LAWS TO COME BUT BIDEN MUST STILL GO TO WISCONSIN TO WIN

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, August 13, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Former White House spokesman Robert Weiner and policy analyst Ben Lasky have published an article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel asserting that the DNC platform still matters, but former Vice President Joe Biden must return to Wisconsin later in the campaign.

Weiner and Lasky begin, "While some events will still take place in Milwaukee during the Democratic National Convention next week, it's sad that the city will not be the site of Joe Biden's acceptance speech. He could have spoken to a room of a hundred people spaced out in a ballroom. In 2012, President Barack Obama moved his acceptance speech from a stadium for 65,000 people to a smaller indoor arena for 17,000. The convention local organizing chair, former Charlotte mayor and Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx, told us that he agreed that many were angry and that the action may have cost Obama the state in the general election. He had won the state in 2008. People of North Carolina felt dissed."

They continue, "It is important that Biden return to Wisconsin many times



Robert Weiner



before the election to show the importance that he places on the state.”

They write, “However, the convention still matters. In Congress, one of the enormous and regularly missed media opportunities is all the committees' annual reports that lay out their agendas. Stories on those would be scoops on the bills to come.”

They contend, “That's what the Democratic Platform does, except sooner.”

They go on, “The upcoming convention won't have the pomp and circumstance that it has in the past. Major speeches will take place in the speaker's home or city (Wilmington, Del.). But Biden's campaign has worked with many of his former competitors in the primaries for months to put together the platform.”

They explain, “Right after the opening ceremonies on Monday, the body will hear and vote on the Platform Committee report. It's one of the least visible but most important parts of the convention. If Democrats win control of the presidency, House and Senate in November, much in the platform will become legislation. Beyond the general themes of the convention the Biden campaign outlined Aug. 7 (America coming together, providing leadership and integrity, creating a more perfect union, and using principles to guide the nation), the platform states the bills and actions that will happen during his presidency.”

They point out, “Biden and Bernie Sanders released platform recommendations from their ‘unity task forces.’ Biden has worked similarly with Sens. Elizabeth Warren, Amy Klobuchar, and most of the candidates.”

They assert, “Democrats will repeal the Trump tax cuts, reform the bankruptcy code, and set price caps on prescription drugs. The platform addresses the Biden strategy to recover after Covid-19 with testing, social distancing, meeting limitations, and research cooperation worldwide — no head in the sand, rosy scenario approach. The platform would reverse the Trump Administration's lack of strategy that has resulted in more than 165,000 dead so far, three times the number of Americans who died in the Vietnam War.”

They continue, “The platform largely adopts Elizabeth Warren's plan for student debt relief and tax fairness. It reverses the Trump cuts for the top 1%.”

They write, “Much like Biden's position during the Democratic primary, the task force called for improving on the Affordable Care Act over Medicare for All. However, Medicare for All as an ultimate objective will be acknowledged for the first time in a major party's platform: ‘Generations of Democrats have been united in the fight for universal health care. We are proud our party welcomes advocates who want to build on and strengthen the Affordable Care Act and those who support a Medicare for All approach.’ It goes on, ‘Health care is a human right.’”

They go on, “The platform proposes reducing Medicare eligibility from 65 to 60. In addition, it

adds a "federal option" to Obamacare, as Biden and Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) said during the primaries was a realistic step that can be passed."

They explain, "New Vice Presidential pick Kamala Harris was effective on prescription drugs. On her website, she says, 'In America, nobody should have to wake up at 3 a.m. worried about how they'll afford their prescription drugs and still put food on the table for their family.'"

They assert, "Acknowledging the Green New Deal, the task force led by U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) and former Secretary of State John Kerry, pledged to have a 'goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions' in all new buildings by 2030, a faster timeline than put forth by Biden during the primary."

They continue, "What started off as a punchline grew to be taken seriously now in Andrew Yang's most well-known policy, universal basic income. Americans who have received \$600 a week in unemployment benefits rely on it just to keep them afloat amid an economic catastrophe. The platform endorses the relief."

They write, "For criminal justice after the horrible George Floyd murder, the task force and the platform seek the House legislation banning chokeholds and withholding police immunity."

They contend, "The platform vows to undo Trump's hateful practices of separating families and putting children in cages and decries the bluster about a wall. It calls for an end to the rhetoric of persecution of immigrants, legal and undocumented."

Weiner and Lasky conclude, "Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez will attend the Convention in person. But it is critical that Biden regularly return to Wisconsin before the election to show that he values the state and explain why the proposals in the platform are so important."

Link to published article: <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/solutions/2020/08/13/dnc-milwaukee-matters-but-biden-must-actually-go-wisconsin/3355724001/>

Robert Weiner and Ben Lasky
Weiner Public News
+1 202-306-1200
[email us here](#)

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