Rep. Tom Emmer on Finnerty

Newsmax

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ROB:

With us now, the current House Majority Whip and newly elected Minority Whip, Minnesota Congressman Tom Emmer. It's good to see you, Congressman. Congratulations on the election yesterday. Jim Jordan, elected minority leader. So how do you undo what happened last week over the next two years?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, it's great to be with you, Rob. And by the way, before we start, happy Veterans Day. We're grateful for everyone who has served this country and their families. It's a great question. What I would do is turn you back to after the 2018 cycle, when Republicans lost 40 seats in the House. They told us that it was going to be several cycles to win back a majority, multiple cycles. We don't take that for, we don't believe that. We went after it to flip the House in a two-year presidential cycle for the first time in 50 years. You know what? We've only taken two or three seats of actually doing that in 2020. We finished the job in 2022. So now it's a much deeper hole and they're like, how are you going to win back 40 some seats? Right. Well, you just made the point at the opening of this interview, the target rich environment that we're dealing with. We've got somewhere between 38, 39 seats that two years ago, Republicans owned with Donald Trump by 10 points or more or five to 10 points. These are the beginning of the new majority. And then you're going to have to figure out where we end up, how many more you need. We've done this before, Rob, and we're going to do it again. And why? Because the Democrats lied to the American public. Listen, these are the people who destroyed the economy, right? Literally, you have rehired the arsonist to come back and put out the fire that they started. We've got to do a better job of addressing the prices, the costs and talking to the American people.

ROB:

Well, Van Jones, and I laid this out in the monologue, the Democrats lied to the American people deliberately. They conned him into getting their vote and it worked. I don't know if it lasts. John Thune reelected yesterday to lead the Senate. Can I ask you why Republicans in the Senate would do this?

REP. TOM EMMER:

I think they're looking for consistency. And look, the real issue is what does John have to work with? Right. What does he have to support him in doing right now? You're not going to have a majority come January. So you should look at the good of the country, not your individual agreements and disagreements. Pass the Save America Act. Why not? What do you have to lose? And the American people can win.

ROB:

I'm sorry to cut you off, sir. You say consistency. And I think what happened last Tuesday, I think people are looking for Jim Jordan and you and something like that in the Senate and not more of John Thune. All due respect. But where is the consistency besides the Save America Act? What got done? Nothing, including the big, beautiful bill. Nothing got done, including the Save America Act.

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REP. TOM EMMER:

You asked me what they were looking at. If you ask me what I'm looking at, I'm looking at rocking the Democrats world. These Marxist, socialist anarchists that got elected to Congress on a lie. Our job for the next two years is to hold them accountable every single day and expose them to the American people for who they actually are. And you know what, Rob? We can win back a majority in 24 months.

ROB:

OK. Quick soundbite here. A lot of questions about House Speaker Mike Johnson's future. Take a look.

CLIP:

There is a trend that we have seen in recent years where when the speaker loses power, they then leave Congress early. Do you commit to serving out your term of the 120th Congress?

SPEAKER JOHNSON:

Well, we're focused on finishing the 119th strong. We're going to do that. I'm still in charge here until early January. And after that, my my commitment and my objective is to help my team ensure that the Republican Party has a very successful 120th Congress.

ROB:

So he just won reelection. But it sounds like there's a chance he resigns between now and January. What can you tell us? Is he going to stay?

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, I think Mike's done a fine job. I think he's a true patriot and I see no reason why he won't stay. I mean, a typical political answer. You don't want to give any real information one way or the other, especially when it comes to this. I know what Mike Johnson will do. He's going to do what is best for his family and what is best for his country, regardless.

ROB:

OK, so that means stay in Congress for the next two years.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Well, if that's what's best for his family and his country, he'll stay.

ROB:

OK, you just gave me one of those answers where you didn't really commit. You just gave me that answer. All right. You're a Minnesota congressman as well. Ilhan Omar spoke to a Newsmax reporter this afternoon on Capitol Hill. Take a look.

CLIP:

You have been accused of marrying your brother and of committing some type of immigration fraud. So is there any validity to that?

ILHAN:

No, ma'am.

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REPORTER:

I know you said to not to your knowledge, he wasn't your brother, but what does that mean?

ILHAN:

No, not to my knowledge. That wasn't the answer. But thank you.

ROB:

OK, so condescending congressman. If she is indicted between now and January 3rd, is there a chance that you hold a vote while you've got the majority to expel her from Congress?

REP. TOM EMMER:

I don't think we're going to need to. I think Ilhan Omar, she's a dishonest, anti-American individual who has lied about her age for years. Rob, why did she lie about her age? She lied because you get naturalized as a citizen with your natural parent when they are naturalized. If you are under the age of 18, well, she was not under the age of 18. She lied about that so she could be naturalized. Sean, Sean, Rob, sorry, Rob. It's OK. At the end of the day, that's the easiest thing. She would have to reapply to be a citizen. It's an administrative procedure. She shouldn't be in Congress.

ROB:

So are you saying you're going to hold a vote to expel her?

REP. TOM EMMER:

No. I didn't say I said we don't have to. I think what's going to happen is they're going to confirm that her birth date was actually over the age of 18 when she claimed to be a minor, to be naturalized.

ROB:

OK, so you're saying she'll be indicted. That'll be the accusation. And then she'll have to that'll have to go to a trial or

REP. TOM EMMER:

I don't. The indictment's completely separate. And that will go through a court. What I'm saying is the birth date is an administrative procedure. And once it is established that she was over the age of 18 when she claimed to be a minor, she's no longer a citizen of the United States, Rob. And when she's no longer a citizen, she's not entitled to serve in Congress.

ROB:

So she's never seated again as a member of the United States Congress. Is that what you're saying?

REP. TOM EMMER:

If the birth date is is confirmed and she's gone

ROB:

how does that who confirms that?

REP. TOM EMMER:

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I think the Department of Justice is finalizing that.

ROB:

OK. And if there is an indictment,

REP. TOM EMMER:

I'm not in there doing it. But my understanding is there are four different things that are being looked at. And that is one of them.

ROB:

OK. And the clock's ticking. Congratulations to you on the win yesterday, Tom Emmer. Look forward to having you back.

REP. TOM EMMER:

Thank you. Thank you, Rob.

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