POLITICALLY SPEAKING PRESENTS:
“Ban the Box”

South Bend— On Sunday, March 8, WNIT’s POLITICALLY SPEAKING will look at the “Ban the Box” campaign. This is an effort by advocates for ex-offenders to have employers remove the box asking about criminal history on job applications. Such policies are designed to improve employment opportunities for applicants with criminal convictions, giving them an opportunity to explain their circumstances in person to a potential employer if they are selected for an interview.

Hosted by IU South Bend Professor Elizabeth Bennion, Politically Speaking is broadcast live on WNIT 34.1 each Sunday at 2pm and rebroadcast 5pm Monday on WNIT 34.2 and 7 pm Thursday, again on WNIT 34.1. All times are eastern.

Last month, Georgia became the 14th state to adopt some type of ‘Ban the Box’ policy. Fourteen states and nearly 100 cities ban public agencies from including questions about prior convictions on job applications, and six states have extended this ban to applications for private employment.

“This is an important issue,” said Dr. Bennion. “We’ll hear from advocates seeking to smooth the reintegration process for former inmates, as well from HR professionals who will discuss the pros and cons of such policies from a human resource standpoint.”

This week’s guests:
Carolina Arroyo, Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Political Science, University of Notre Dame
Cheryl Ashe, Founder, Ex-Offender Information and Referral Services
Attorney John Kuehn, Partner, LaDue Curran & Kuehn LLC
Harry Vasilopoulos, Lecturer in Human Resources, Indiana University South Bend

Viewers are encouraged to call in with their questions at 574-675-9648. Advance questions for guests may be posted on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/WNITpoliticallyspeaking.
Past episodes are available on line: www.wnit.org/politicallyspeaking.

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