

2011년 1월 26일 키워드 스피킹 방송 / 주제: 복지논쟁

Paul's Summary (transcribed)

A heated argument over the **proper level of welfare** is dominating Korea's domestic politics these days. It all started with the current opposition party's campaign to **provide free school lunches to all public school students across the board**. This idea is strangely opposed by the mayor of Seoul, who was elected onto the ruling party's ticket to succeed Lee Myung Bak. While the issue of **free meals at school** still remains controversial, the debate has spread over to other areas of social welfare such as "**free**" **childcare and medical services**. The opposition party is officially making the free welfare issue the key to their campaign pledges for the next election. Meanwhile, the ruling party and the current government administration are criticizing the pledge to be **another form of populist campaigning**. They state that the opposition party's welfare policies will seriously **hurt the soundness of the national budget** by **wasting taxpayer money**. Public opinion is split over whether the opposition party's new pledges are **affordable** and can improve the quality of life for **average Koreans**. Proponents say they would **voluntarily pay higher taxes** if a higher level of social welfare is guaranteed. Opponents think the policy of higher taxes and **increased welfare** has already failed in the West and we **should not follow in their footsteps**.

Key Words

1. 소득세 income tax
2. 과세율 tax rate
3. 실업보험 unemployment insurance
4. 성장이나 분배나 growth vs. distribution
5. 예산을 어떻게 확보할 것인가, 재원대책은 무엇인가 allocate/secure the funds for this new welfare program, where would the funding for this new program come from? find the funds for~
6. 무상급식 free school lunches/meals
7. 무상의료 universal healthcare/medical services/coverage
8. 무상보육 free/subsidized daycare/childcare/nursing(영아, 노인에게 한정)
9. 보편적 복지 universal welfare
10. 선별적 복지 selective/non-universal welfare
11. 부자 증세/감세 increase/reduce(lower) the taxes for the rich
12. (부자감세의 효과가) 저소득계층에게까지 도움을 끼치게 하다 help the poor through a trickle-down effect
13. 누구나 복지에의 권리가 있다 everyone has a right to welfare
14. 혜택을 받을 자격이 있는 eligible
15. 세금을 더 내더라도 복지를 늘려야 한다 We should increase welfare budgets even if it means raising taxes; We should voluntarily pay higher taxes if a higher level of social welfare is guaranteed
16. 세금을 올리는 것은 개인과 기업의 **동기유발을 저해**하며 장기적으로 경제에 악영향을 끼친다. 진정한 복지는 **일자리 창출**이다. Tax rate hikes are one of the major **disincentives** for business and individuals. This would have a negative impact on the economy in the long run. Instead of tax hikes, **creating more jobs** has been the only proven method to increase the practical welfare of citizens.
17. ~의 전철을 밟다 follow in their footsteps
18. 정부는 시민에게 더 많은 복지를 제공할 사명이 있다. 필요한 복지프로그램을 위한 예산은 세수를 올리는 대신 **조세 제도를 합리화**함으로써 얻어질 수 있다. The government has a mandate to provide more welfare to its citizens. A balanced budget for necessary welfare programs can be secured by **rationalizing national expenditure**, and not necessarily by raising taxes
19. 정부지출을 삭감하다 (예산집행을 합리화하다) reduce government spending

More Key Words

1. 한파 cold spell
2. 노점상 street vendor
3. 야당 opposition party
4. 전면적으로 across the board
5. 포퓰리즘 캠페인 populist campaigning
6. 모순 oxymoron
7. 복지의 적정선 proper level of welfare
8. 정부지원을 받는 government-subsidized
9. (저소득층을 위한) 식권 food stamp
10. 저소득가정 low-income family
11. 흑백논리로 대하다 go black-and-white on