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Subject: The Leaflet: Heartland Institute Gives the Gift that Keeps on Giving

Heartland Institute Gives the Gift that Keeps on Giving

This holiday season, The Heartland Institute and all freedom-loving Americans have much to celebrate. Over the past year, a plethora of free-market policies have been instituted at all levels of government, all across the nation. From short-term, limited-duration health care plans to fewer unnecessary regulations, the bright light of freedom is burning brilliantly.

Since 1984, Heartland has carried out its mission to discover, develop, and promote free-market solutions to social and economic problems. We appreciate the thousands of elected officials and policy professionals who find Heartland to be a unique, credible, and independent source of solid public policy research and publications.

A telephone survey of 503 randomly selected state elected officials conducted in 2018 by Victory Enterprises found 78 percent read one or more Heartland newspaper “sometimes” or “always”; 37 percent consider Heartland to be a “very” or “somewhat” valuable source of information; and 45 percent reported a Heartland publication “influenced my opinion or led to a change in public policy.”

Here at Heartland, we believe in federalism. In our view, state legislatures should remain the laboratories of democracy. No wonder Heartland is the go-to resource for state lawmakers. We routinely produce policy studies, *Research & Commentaries*, and all sorts of other valuable materials for lawmakers. For instance, take a look at Heartland’s *Ten State Solutions to Emerging Issues*, a booklet that we sent to every state legislator earlier in 2018.

Ten State Solutions offers a proven, free-market agenda for officeholders, as well as a platform for candidates for public office. In addition to providing numerous free-market solutions in the areas of budget and taxes, environment and climate, health care, and school reform, the booklet also includes contact information for the leading experts on these issues, case studies, and talking points lawmakers can use when discussing important policy issues with their colleagues and constituents.

The Heartland Institute also hosts several events for policymakers each year, including the much-anticipated *Emerging Issues Forum*. This is a must-attend event for elected officials, legislative staff, policy analysts, government affairs professionals—and you!

Time is running out. Please join us on December 14, 2018, in Phoenix, Arizona for the 2018 Emerging Issues Forum. Admission is free for elected officials and their spouses and staff. Heartland is also offering complimentary hotel accommodations and a limited number

of \$350 travel scholarships for members of Heartland's Legislative Forum. For more details about EIF and the [Legislative Forum](#), please contact Arianna Wilkerson, government relations coordinator, at awilkerson@heartland.org or 312-377-4000.

REGISTER HERE!

What We're Working On

Budget & Tax

[An Overview of the Vaping Industry \(Guest: Tony Abboud\)](#)

In this episode of *Voices of Vapers*, State Government Relations Manager Lindsey Stroud talks with Tony Abboud, executive director of the Vapor Technology Association (VTA). The two discuss the current state of the vaping industry, VTA's work in preventing youth access to vapor products, VTA's 50 State Joint Defense Strategy, and the organization's work on ensuring access to flavors for adult e-cigarette users.

Health Care

[The Rise of Telemedicine](#)

In this *Research & Commentary*, Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans discusses how telemedicine can help provide health care to those without access and how the main barrier to telehealth expansion is government regulation. "Telemedicine can provide quality health care services to more people who need them, and they can do so at a lower cost. The only thing holding telemedicine back is interference from government, not technology or unwillingness from health care experts to provide care remotely," Glans wrote.

Education

[Bullying Statistics Show Missouri Needs Child Safety Accounts](#)

This *Research & Commentary* by Policy Analyst Tim Benson looks at a new *WalletHub* report that lists Missouri as having the third biggest high school bullying problem in the United States. The report notes 23.3 percent of Show Me State high school students report being bullied on school property. Another 19.4 percent of Missouri high school students report being bullied online, 6.4 percent of Missouri students missed school out of fear of being bullied, and 8.6 percent attempted suicide. Benson argues these numbers demonstrate it is time for Missouri to enact Heartland's Child Safety Account ESA program, which would help children in unsafe school environments enroll in a safe school.

Energy & Environment

[Debunking Four Persistent Myths About Hydraulic Fracturing](#)

Hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as "fracking," is the process of extracting natural gas and oil situated several miles deep beneath the Earth's surface. Over the past decade, fracking has increased the output of these two vital energy sources by 40 percent and 85 percent, respectively, and the

In the December issue of *Health Care News*, Benjamin Moulton reports on Oklahoma embracing short-term health insurance plans after the Trump administration issued a rule in August that extends the policy period of short-term plans from three months to 12 months. Oklahoma issued guidance in September restricting short-term health insurance plans to six months.

[Budget & Tax News](#)

[Environment & Climate News](#)

[Health Care News](#)

[School Reform News](#)

fracking industry now supports nearly three million U.S. jobs. This *Policy Brief* by Policy Analyst Tim Benson and Heartland intern Linnea Lueken outlines the basic elements of the fracking process and then refutes the four most widespread fracking myths, providing lawmakers and the public with the research and data they need to make informed decisions about hydraulic fracturing and energy development.

From Our Free-Market Friend

[TPPF Files Lawsuit Against the Township of Canton, Michigan](#)

This week, the Texas Public Policy Foundation (TPPF) filed a lawsuit in federal court against the Township of Canton, Michigan. Frank Powelson, the owner of F.P. Development, LLC, was accused of violating Canton's tree ordinance when he cleared shrubbery near a ditch located on his property, and the township now seeks hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines from Powelson. TPPF contends that the township's tree ordinance is unconstitutional under the Fifth Amendment and the fines are excessive, violating the Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.



The Heartland Institute

The Heartland Institute, founded in 1984, is a national non-profit organization dedicated to discovering, developing, and promoting free-market solutions to economic and social problems.

Our Websites

- The Heartland Institute
- PolicyBot
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