

LIBERTY IN ACTION

2022



**LEADING THE FIGHT
FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE**



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

AMERICA IS HANDS DOWN THE GREATEST COUNTRY IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND. FOUNDED ON THE PROMISE THAT EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUCCEED, AMERICA HAS PROVEN TO BE A BASTION OF TRIUMPH AND INNOVATION. FROM THE LIGHT BULB TO THE SPACE SHUTTLE, AMERICAN INGENUITY HAS MADE THE ENTIRE PLANET AN INFINITELY BETTER PLACE—AND A SAFER PLACE AS WELL.

"At the Goldwater Institute, I can promise you: We will fight the socialist onslaught every single step of the way."

-Victor Riches, President and CEO at the Goldwater Institute

For 250 years, our country has fought against tyranny and oppression across the globe. We've spread the ideas of freedom and equality to nearly every continent, and in so doing defended our liberties here at home. But today, there's a different, dangerous idea that's taking hold—and it's happening in our own government. Leftists are trying to change the very core of what it means to be an American: promoting socialism, raising taxes, increasing government dependency, and indoctrinating our children with Marxist ideas like Critical Race Theory.

We're in the fight of our life—America's life. The Goldwater Institute is leading that fight, and we know that our country's core principles—those enshrined in our Constitution—are essential to securing the American Dream for everyone.

We're proud to be the only organization in the country that works in courtrooms, capitols, and communities every single day to defend individual liberties and pass laws that stop government oppression. Since our founding in 1988, we've scored hundreds of victories for liberty and improved the lives of countless Americans.

The Goldwater Institute is a tenacious—and successful—defender of our constitutional principles. In the last year alone, we have achieved several monumental victories. We beat the largest tax increase in the country, expanded school choice in a dozen more states, made it possible for thousands of Americans to work in their chosen profession, and enacted lifesaving innovations in healthcare.

With your support, we work day and night because we know that the spirit of America must be saved. No matter where the battle takes us—from classrooms to Capitol Hill—we'll never stop fighting to preserve the freedom that ensures all of us can achieve the American Dream.

Sincerely,



Victor Riches
President and CEO
The Goldwater Institute





10



22



26



34



42

LEADING THE FIGHT
FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE

10

STOPPING CRITICAL
RACE THEORY

12

2021: THE GREATEST
SCHOOL CHOICE YEAR EVER

16

DEFENDING
SCHOOL CHOICE

20

THE TAX HIKES
STOP HERE

22

THOUSANDS OF
AMERICANS FREE TO WORK

24

MILITARY FAMILIES
SUCCEED

26

28

HEALTHCARE
INNOVATION

32

LITIGATING
FOR FREEDOM

34

ENDING
GOVERNMENT THEFT

36

FREE TO SPEAK
ON CAMPUS

38

BIG GOVERNMENT'S
BIG HANDOUT

40

STANDING UP TO
GOVERNMENT UNIONS

42

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS



**GOLDWATER
SECURES MORE
FREEDOMS FOR
AMERICANS**

Americans should be free to make their own decisions about how to live their lives, follow their dreams, and pursue their happiness. This belief inspires everything we do at the Goldwater Institute—and you can see it in the important work we're accomplishing. In an era when governments at all levels have been clamping down on our individual liberties, Goldwater is winning more freedom for more Americans.



THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS FREE TO WORK

Government kept businesses shuttered during COVID, yet Goldwater made it possible for thousands of people to get to work. We have passed our Breaking Down Barriers to Work law in nearly two dozen states, eliminating regulations so that people can work.

TAX CUT VICTORY

As Washington is trying to raise taxes by trillions of dollars, Goldwater defeated one of the largest tax hikes in America, won the battle for a flat tax in Arizona, and made it one of the lowest-tax states in the country.

2.5%

FLAT TAX IN ARIZONA

MORE SCHOOL CHOICE IN 19 STATES

Teachers unions want to keep schools closed, but Goldwater expanded school choice in nearly twenty states. We also celebrated the 10th anniversary of Education Savings Accounts (ESAs), a program created by the Goldwater Institute to put educational choice in parents' hands. Last year, we established or expanded ESA access in 6 states, and we won't stop until parents have school choice in every state in the nation.

HEALTHCARE INNOVATION

Goldwater enacted the first-ever telemedicine law to increase access to healthcare services for people who can't travel far (or at all) to doctors.





**LEADING THE
FIGHT FOR
AMERICA'S
FUTURE**

CRITICAL RACE THEORY IS INVADING AMERICA'S CLASSROOMS. GOLDWATER IS FIGHTING TO STOP IT.

It's happening in classrooms across the country. Children are being indoctrinated with racially divisive political ideologies that cast aside foundational American principles such as equality before the law, hard work, and personal accountability. This year, one mom took a stand against this radical Leftist movement, and the Goldwater Institute's team of attorneys is representing her in the fight.

That mom is Nicole Solas, a stay-at-home parent in Rhode Island who asked her daughter's school a simple question: What will she be learning in kindergarten? Instead of answers, Nicole got threats from the school

district, a whopping \$74,000 bill for public records from the school, and a lawsuit from the National Education Association (NEA) teachers union, who sued to keep the information secret. The Goldwater Institute is representing Nicole in her quest for the truth, and we've already had success in the case.

"This brazen and unprecedented act of intimidation by the NEA will not stand," said Nicole's attorney, Goldwater Institute Director of National Litigation Jon Riches. "Nicole does not deserve to face legal action just for asking questions any concerned parent would ask, and Goldwater is going to fight to get the answers Nicole deserves."

GOLDWATER'S SOLUTION: ACADEMIC TRANSPARENCY

Schools can get away with teaching radical ideas to our children for one simple reason: They're doing it in secret. Incredibly, many schools don't inform parents of the curriculum that makes its way into the classroom. Goldwater has a plan to change that—a commonsense yet revolutionary new law called the Academic Transparency Act.

A parent's ability to make decisions about their child's education is more important than ever. In many schools, students are taught that America is based on hateful ideas, and that the color of their skin matters more than who they are as individuals. And many parents have no idea this is happening.

That's why the Goldwater Institute created the Academic Transparency Act, a law that mandates that public schools publish their curriculum online so parents know exactly what their children are being taught. Our law is being considered in several states, and we are working to bring it to classrooms across the country.

DEFENDING PARENTS' RIGHTS

"I ENCOURAGE ALL PARENTS TO ASK QUESTIONS, SO THAT THEY ARE EMPOWERED TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS REGARDING THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION."

Nicole Solas



VICTORY IN VIRGINIA

Public school bureaucrats are trying to bully parents into silence, threatening them with lawsuits to shut down their speech. Thanks to the Goldwater Institute, two moms beat back those bureaucrat bullies.

Debra Tisler and Callie Oettinger wanted to know how their Virginia school district was spending taxpayer money. Debra filed a Freedom of Information Act request to find out how much the district was paying for its legal bills, and after the School Board turned over 1,300 pages of documents, Callie posted some of them on her website.

But when the district realized that the documents were embarrassing to school officials who had spent astronomical amounts on legal bills, they unfairly lashed out at the moms and sued to shut down their speech. That's when Goldwater's attorneys stepped in and won a resounding victory in court, protecting parents' right to know how school districts are spending their money—and to share that info with other taxpayers.

**"OUR TAX DOLLARS WERE
ACTUALLY BEING WEAPONIZED
AGAINST US. TYRANNY IS NOT
GOING TO SHUT US DOWN."**

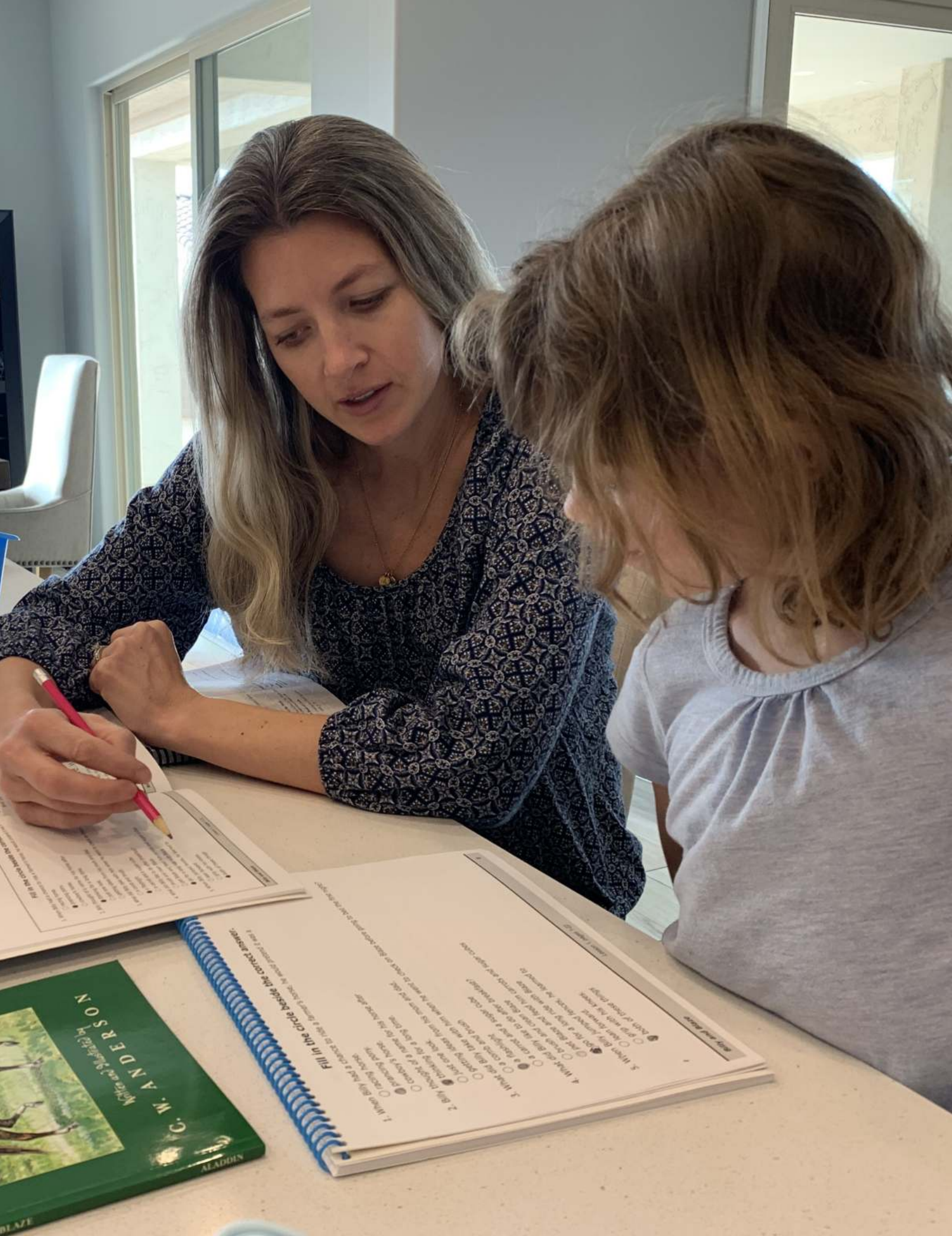
Debra Tisler





2021

THE GREATEST YEAR IN SCHOOL CHOICE HISTORY



GOLDWATER'S DECADE OF SCHOOL CHOICE SUCCESS

Ten years ago, the Goldwater Institute had a bold idea: create an innovative program that gives parents the power to choose the education that works best for their child. A decade later, our idea has spread like wildfire across the United States.

Our idea was called Education Savings Accounts (ESAs). ESAs allow families to receive a portion of the dollars being used on their children's education and instead use that money to pay for tuition, tutors, and teaching tools that best meet their child's needs. Since that time, Goldwater has expanded ESAs across the country to 10 states, and last year shifted into overdrive

as parents clamored for more school choice amid the COVID shutdowns.

Thanks to Goldwater, 6 more states adopted or expanded ESAs over the last year, giving families unprecedented choice in education. In Arizona alone, 10,000 families now benefit from ESAs.

ESAs give students and their families more opportunity to design educational experiences that work for them. The Goldwater Institute is continuing its fight to extend ESAs to more families and expand school choice to make sure that all children have the education they deserve.



DEFENDING SCHOOL CHOICE

Goldwater's attorneys stand up for children's education nationwide, ensuring that bureaucrats don't ignore our school choice laws.

In Arizona, we defended the rights of students and parents participating in the state's ESA program, challenging the arbitrary and often illegal actions of Department of Education officials who administer the program in ways that make it harder for parents to obtain the educational options best suited for their children.

When one family sought reimbursement for the purchase of language software for teaching their child, the Department refused to pay. We filed an appeal, and the Department backed down and agreed to reimburse the family. And when the Department refused to pay another family for seeds that they purchased to teach their child how plants grow, we filed an appeal, and again the Department backed down.

As Goldwater works to expand school choice, our attorneys will remain vigilant in defending those rights in court.



THE TAX HIKES STOP HERE

THE LEFT HAS A NEW STRATEGY TO RAISE TAXES, EXPAND GOVERNMENT, AND SUBSIDIZE PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS. BUT LAST YEAR, THE GOLDWATER INSTITUTE STRUCK A MAJOR BLOW TO THE LEFT'S HIGH-TAX SCHEME.

As small businesses were suffering the effects of the COVID shutdowns, unions and their progressive allies tried to strike another devastating blow to private enterprise—punishing the so-called “rich” with higher taxes in order to fund even more government spending. But higher taxes have harmful effects on everyone—rich and poor alike. It’s a strategy that’s being rolled out nationwide, and Goldwater successfully fought back.

When progressives write such measures, they seek to circumvent state constitutions, and they have no qualms with misleading voters about how their money is being spent. This happened in Arizona in 2020. The education unions and their liberal allies spent \$25 million of out-of-state special interest money

to pass Proposition 208, which doubled the income tax for individuals and small businesses who make \$250,000 or more.

That’s when Goldwater took action. We challenged this Leftist power grab all the way to the state’s Supreme Court, which recently ruled against Prop. 208 on nearly all legal questions. And we won a massive legislative victory when we enacted a new flat tax to make Arizona one of the lowest-taxing states in the country.

Goldwater’s victory is a major blow to the Leftist agenda, it’s a boost for families and business owners, and it’s an example for the rest of the nation to follow.



THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS FREE TO WORK



America's economy is stuck in first gear, with economic growth stagnating, unemployment lingering, and a troubling inability for businesses to find enough skilled workers to fill scores of job openings. Our country is suffering the symptoms of government policies gone wrong, but there is one bright spot, thanks to the Goldwater Institute.

Goldwater has passed its Breaking Down Barriers to Work law in nearly two dozen states, a groundbreaking policy that reduces red tape and helps experienced, licensed professionals get to work faster without having to jump through unnecessary bureaucratic hoops. Goldwater first enacted this law in Arizona in 2019, and now nearly 4,000 residents of the state are free to work thanks to the law.

Today, about a third of Americans are required to get a professional license—a government permission slip—before they may work in the field of their choice. When someone moves to a new state, they're oftentimes required to go through the licensing process all over again, and that's a costly, time-consuming, and irrational barrier to work. It's also one that falls particularly hard on military families, who frequently have to relocate as part of their service.

But thanks to the Goldwater Institute, those barriers to work are being lifted in state after state, helping Americans get back to work and pursue their American Dream.

MILITARY FAMILIES SUCCEED

THANKS TO THE GOLDWATER INSTITUTE



Bureaucratic red tape that differs from state to state hits military families hard. As a result, military spouses face an unemployment rate that is nearly six times higher than the general population. This is true even though military spouses have high levels of education and job skills that are in demand. At the same time, those regulations also harm veterans who are looking to apply the training and experience they gained in the military to civilian trades and professions.

Goldwater's Breaking Down Barriers to Work Act is helping military families succeed. Goldwater's law recognizes that military members and their families do not forget how to practice their trade or profession just because they move across state lines. By recognizing licenses obtained in other states upon relocating, and by counting military training and experience toward state occupational licensing requirements, this measure provides much-needed relief to those who are putting their lives on the line for our freedom.



EDGE OF INNOVATION

GOLDWATER LEADS THE NATION ON HEALTHCARE FREEDOM

Goldwater's groundbreaking healthcare reforms defend patient choice, give Americans greater access to more affordable healthcare, and protect innovation in medicine.

GOLDWATER'S HEALTHCARE REFORMS ARE SAVING LIVES

Matt Bellina is a former U.S. Navy pilot who was diagnosed with ALS. He has been a strong advocate for Goldwater's Right to Try law.

Up until a year ago, government regulations prevented all Americans from having the freedom to get help from their doctor directly on their smartphones, computers, and landline phones. Not anymore. The Goldwater Institute is cutting through the red tape and is giving patients access to the healthcare they deserve.

In 2021, the Goldwater Institute passed the nation's first telemedicine law allowing patients to use everyday technology to connect with their doctors, get behavioral health services, speech therapy, or care for chronic conditions. That's especially helpful for people who struggle to leave their homes or for those in rural areas that are underserved by medical specialists. Goldwater enacted this law in Arizona,

and now we're working to pass it across the country.

Of course, this isn't the first time Goldwater has been a national leader in healthcare. Our lifesaving Right to Try law—which was adopted in 41 states and became federal law in 2018—protects the right of patients facing a life-threatening illness to use investigational medicines without asking first for government permission.

Right to Try is already saving lives, and it's laying the groundwork for Goldwater's next big reform in healthcare. We will extend the Right to Try to cutting-edge medical treatments that are personalized for an individual patient, using information about that person's own genes and particular disease.



Laura and Jordan McLinn helped lead the national fight for Right to Try.

FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM

**GOLDWATER'S LITIGATORS DO
BATTLE IN COURT TO DEFEND OUR RIGHTS**

33

FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM



The Goldwater Institute is fighting bureaucrats and protecting people's rights in courtrooms across America—and we win like no other. Just ask our clients—real Americans whose lives and livelihoods are threatened by government overreach.

Here are a few highlights of our work from the past year—the stories of Americans who are free to live their lives as they see fit because of Goldwater's efforts.

Imagine a government powerful enough to seize your car in the middle of the night and keep it for six long years, even if you've never even been accused of doing anything wrong. That's exactly what happened to Malinda Harris, an innocent grandma in Massachusetts. Goldwater's litigators took action and got Malinda's car back—but that's not all.

Malinda's car was taken under the state's civil asset forfeiture law, which allows government to take, keep, and profit from someone's property without even charging them with a crime, much less convicting them of one. Malinda is not alone. Hundreds of millions of dollars in cash and property

are forfeited every year across America. This year, Goldwater enacted a law in Arizona that adds safeguards to civil forfeiture to ensure that innocent citizens' property rights are protected—and now Goldwater is taking those reforms across the country.

The Goldwater Institute has taken up the cases of many who have been unjustly targeted by civil asset forfeiture, and we're winning case after case. But it shouldn't take the threat of legal action for innocent Americans to be treated fairly. That's why Goldwater enacted a groundbreaking law to reform civil forfeiture in Arizona, and we're pushing to pass that law in states across the country.

"INNOCENT AMERICANS LIKE ME SHOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THEIR PROPERTY GETTING TAKEN AWAY, AND I'M SO GRATEFUL TO THE GOLDWATER INSTITUTE FOR THEIR HARD WORK IN GETTING MY CAR RETURNED TO ME."

Malinda Harris

RIGHT *vs.* WRONG

**GOLDWATER
LEADS
NATIONWIDE
EFFORT TO
DEFEND
PROPERTY
RIGHTS**



College should be a haven for free speech. Instead, universities are turning into cesspools of censorship. The Goldwater Institute is fighting back—and winning.

Violent protests have shut down speakers on campuses across the country, and administrators are not standing up to protect speakers' and students' First Amendment rights. As both a deeply held commitment and a living tradition, freedom of speech is dying on our college campuses and is increasingly imperiled in society at large. The Goldwater Institute created a law to restore free speech on college campuses, including provisions with "teeth" that allow attorneys to go to court and enforce the law. We have already enacted our policy in five states, with even more to come.

But that's not all. Nationwide, Americans are seeing their freedom to speak silenced. They're being "canceled" by the woke mob, losing their jobs, and are being publicly vilified for daring to question ideas or for saying things that are politically incorrect. That happened to college journalist Rae'Lee Klein, who spoke out on Twitter about a controversial national

news story and encouraged people to consider the facts. Her school tried to silence her, removed her from her job as the university's student radio station manager, and violated her First Amendment rights. This kind of administrative bullying on college campuses is increasing—colleges are revoking admissions for students based on years-old personal social media posts, restricting the operations of right-leaning student political groups, and amending speech codes to use ambiguous and vague words that enable subjective standards for enforcement.

Goldwater's pro bono American Freedom Network came to Rae'Lee's defense and made sure her rights were vindicated. "The win is significant for students everywhere—thought-policing has no place in our schools," said Klein's attorney and American Freedom Network member Jack Wilenchik. "Rae'Lee Klein stood up to harassment and acted on journalistic principle." Klein commented, "Without the Goldwater Institute and its American Freedom Network, I may never have been able to stand up for my and my fellow students' rights."



FREE TO SPEAK ON CAMPUS

**GOLDWATER FIGHTS TO DEFEND THE FIRST
AMENDMENT IN AMERICA'S UNIVERSITIES**

~~BIG GOVERNMENT'S~~ ~~BIG HANDOUTS~~

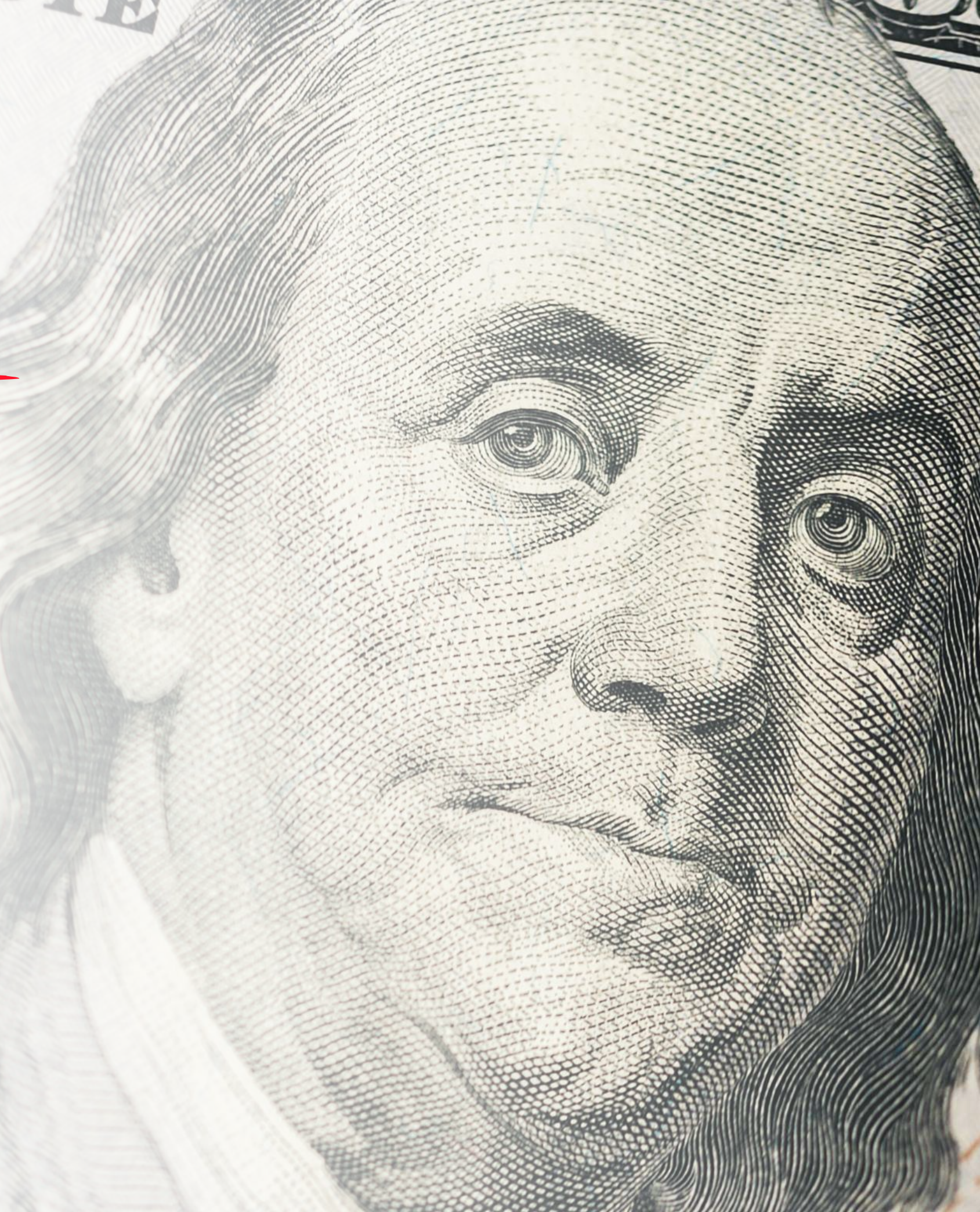
**GOLDWATER HOLDS GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABLE WHEN TAXPAYERS'
RIGHTS ARE TRAMPLED**

\$2.4 BILLION. That's how much taxpayers in Virginia, New York, and Tennessee handed over to Amazon in exchange for the company locating new offices in their states. \$2.85 BILLION. That's how much Wisconsin taxpayers promised to pay Foxconn for the Japanese company to build an electronics factory in their state—and now it may not even be built.

Taxpayer-funded subsidies allow government to pick winners and losers, and they put hardworking, taxpaying businesses at a competitive disadvantage. These handouts are unconscionable, and in many cases, they're blatantly illegal. Enough is enough. The Goldwater Institute is fighting in court to put an end to Big Government's Big Handouts—and we're winning.

The Goldwater Institute took this issue all the way to the Arizona Supreme Court last year—and we won. In a unanimous decision, the court agreed with Goldwater that the city of Peoria violated the state Constitution's Gift Clause, from misusing taxpayer dollars and giving gifts to private entities, when it gave away millions of dollars to two private businesses who promised nothing in return to the public, but only to run their own businesses for their own private profit.

The Goldwater Institute will continue to lead the nation in holding bureaucrats accountable, defending taxpayers, upholding the law, and putting an end to these cronyist sweetheart deals.



Florida Governor Ron DeSantis speaks at Goldwater's 2021 Annual Dinner.



IN MEMORIAM

43

DONOR THANK YOU

THANK YOU!

As a supporter of the Goldwater Institute, you are the bedrock of our work to secure this nation's future and protect the American Dream for the generations to follow.

Your steadfast commitment to our calling makes the difference every day. Your dedication empowers us to stand up for the principles of free markets and individual liberty. Your enthusiasm inspires our efforts to help more Americans pursue lives filled with freedom and happiness.

At the Goldwater Institute, we are deeply grateful for your investment in a brighter tomorrow that rewards hard work, fair play, and a generosity of spirit. Whether you support the Goldwater Institute with your money, your time, or your encouragement, our achievements are possible only because you care.

Thank you for your fellowship as we continue our mission to defend and strengthen the freedoms guaranteed to all Americans by the U.S. Constitution and the constitutions of the fifty states.



DR. BARBARA & LOGAN VANSITTERT

Dr. Barbara and Logan Van Sittert of Phoenix, Arizona, were true patriots and constitutionalists who recognized an urgent need for voices dedicated to promoting liberty and free thought. With the largest gift in the Goldwater Institute's history, they established the Van Sittert Center for Constitutional Advocacy, a permanent center to defend our founding principles and instill those values into the next generation of Americans.

The Goldwater Institute is forever thankful for Barbara and Logan's friendship, kindness, and generosity. In their memory, we pledge to carry out the fight for freedom that was so dear to their hearts.



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OUR FIGHT CONTINUES



At the Goldwater Institute, we're unstoppable warriors for the American Dream—and we intend to stay that way. So long as Leftists seek to topple America's principles, so long as government continues to reach beyond its role and into taxpayers' pockets, so long as parents, patients, and professionals are kept from living their lives as they choose, Goldwater will be on the frontlines of the fight.

That's because Americans' freedoms—our freedom to work, to own property, to speak up, to make decisions about our health and our kids' education—are what make it possible to achieve our own individual American Dreams. This is a fight the Goldwater Institute was born to lead—and win.



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