



Thank you for your generous support of the Goldwater Institute and for your courageous defense of liberty. As a member of Goldwater's Freedom Society, you stand on the frontlines expanding freedom in America. From sea to shining sea, your generosity protects Americans from government overreach and ensures that all Americans enjoy their constitutionally guaranteed liberties.

We welcome your questions and feedback at any time!

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## Investor's Impact Report

May 2024

# Letter from the President

For over 35 years the Goldwater Institute has championed the cause of freedom across our country. Over the past year, Goldwater has won dozens of victories in courtrooms across the United States. We're eliminating DEI from universities, fighting for parental rights in schools, and defending educational freedom from coast to coast.

Nineteen states have now adopted Goldwater's Education Savings Accounts legislation. This allows families to choose the best possible education for their children. Additionally, the Goldwater Institute's Van Sittert Center for Constitutional Advocacy is developing curriculum materials for high school students that focus on actual history rather than political activism.

Without your generous support, none of these victories and projects would have been possible. Reforming our education system will be a battleground issue in the upcoming election and, rest assured, Goldwater will continue to uphold the principles of freedom in all taxpayer-funded schools and universities. Thank you for all your support.

**Victor Riches**  
President & CEO

# Letter from a Scholar

Equality of opportunity is the heart of the American Dream: the principle that, through liberty, we all should have the same chance to make our lives what we want them to be; to go as far as our will, hard work, and talent will take us. And it is true that for most of our history, equality of opportunity has not been there for all Americans. But those truly on the side of equal justice have always made it the North Star Goal in setting public policy -- part of our Nation's constant striving to build "a more perfect union."

Equality of opportunity is how I was able to become a lawyer, and ensuring that all have equal opportunity has been at the heart of my thirty-year legal career as an education advocate. What has disappointed me in the last decade or so is how many in education have given up on equality of opportunity in favor of "equity" (based on the impossibility of equality of outcome), DEI indoctrination and Identity Politics. What I also came to see was that these same people championing diversity didn't want diversity of viewpoint -- they wanted people that looked different but who all thought alike while also applying different standards to different people based on solely on race. I am proud to be part of the team here at the Goldwater Institute, to be able to resume advocating for equality of opportunity for all and grateful to the Goldwater Institute investors that support this work that is the heart of the American Dream.

**Chris Thomas**  
Director of Legal Strategy

# By the Numbers

*The Goldwater Institute's recent accomplishments include:*

**110** Bills Goldwater has prompted in 2024

**9,000** People in Arizona alone who benefitted from Goldwater's Occupational Licensing reform "Breaking Down Barriers to Work Act"

**326,423** Kids who currently participate in ESAs nationwide

**2,057** New Goldwater Institute Donors in 2023-24

# Goldwater Victory!

Two sisters, Vera and Apollonia Ward, were the victims of government theft under a process called "civil forfeiture"—a civil name for government bullying. Under civil forfeiture, the government can take, keep, and profit from someone's property without ever charging them with a crime.

In the case of the Wards, the sisters were excited to open a small pet business... until the government swept in. Using civil forfeiture, the government stole \$17,000 from the Wards, even though they'd done nothing wrong and had proof of their innocence.

When the government refused to return the sisters' money, Vera began looking into attorneys who could help them fight back. She discovered the Goldwater Institute.

**Because you helped us build the American Freedom Network of pro bono attorneys, the Ward sisters recovered the money the government had stolen from them. Thank you!**