In July, Dr. Tim Huelskamp succeeded me as president of The Heartland Institute. I intend to serve as chief executive officer until the end of the year, and then Dr. Huelskamp will hold both titles, as I did since 1994. Conservative and libertarian think tanks do not have a very good record managing corporate successions, but we believe this change in leadership will position Heartland for unprecedented growth and influence for a new era of freedom.

Time to Move On
Being president of The Heartland Institute is probably the best job in the world, but it is also hard work. For the past two years I’ve been looking for someone who could take my place, so Diane and I can finally take some time off to pursue other interests, but even more importantly to take Heartland farther than I have been
able to go, to a higher level of influence on public policy.

David Padden and I co-founded The Heartland Institute in 1984, when I was still attending the University of Chicago. I worked part-time for the first six months, and then Heartland became an all-consuming passion for the following 33 years. Diane Bast, my wife and soul mate, joined Heartland in 1986 and held several positions in the organization, currently senior editor and chief financial officer.

The organization grew from one part-time employee working out of a donated room in a law firm to 40 full-time staff and our own 13,000 square foot building in Arlington Heights, Illinois. With help from a 12-member Board of Directors, nearly 500 policy advisors, 250 legislative advisors, and more than 5,000 donors, we produce an outstanding program that ranks us among the top ten free-market think tanks in the world.

With the help of dedicated board members and Heartland’s senior staff, we found the ideal candidate to take my place and successfully wooed him. He started full-time in July.

Who Is Tim Huelskamp?
Dr. Tim Huelskamp is a former three-term member of Congress and well-known national conservative leader. He was a fifth-generation family farmer in Kansas, where he farmed with his family for more than 30 years (before serving in Congress made that impossible). He left Kansas to earn a BA summa cum laude from the College of Santa Fe and a Ph.D. in political science from The American University in Washington, DC, where he met his future wife, Angela.

Tim served in the Kansas Senate from 1997 to 2011. There, he chaired or co-chaired three committees: Elections and Local Government, Information Technology, and Medicaid Reform. He co-founded and led both a bicameral conservative caucus and a coalition of statewide conservative groups to coordinate legislative efforts.

Tim represented Kansas’ First District in Congress from 2011 until 2017. He helped grow the House Freedom and Liberty Caucuses, chaired and expanded the Tea Party Caucus, fought EPA’s crazy Waters of the United States Rule, worked on budgets and health care reform in the Republican Study Committee, and co-founded Conversations with Conservatives, a monthly House conservative press availability.

The Ideal Candidate
Tim is the ideal candidate to take over leadership of The Heartland Institute. He has served in a state legislature as well as in Congress, giving him the experiences of running for office and then writing and voting on legislation. Elected officials (especially state legislators) are Heartland’s principal audience, and Tim understands their needs better than I ever could.

Tim’s doctorate degree in political science from The American University gives him another qualification I lack. I’ve never been much impressed by college degrees, especially those granted after the Left successfully occupied college campuses and replaced instruction with indoctrination. But a Ph.D. from The American University is an impressive achievement, and in Tim’s case it reflects a sharp intellect and skill at mastering complex subjects quickly and being able to write about them.

Tim was born and lived all his life in Kansas, returning home every weekend while serving in Congress. Kansas has as good a claim as, maybe a better claim than, Illinois to being the very heart of America’s heartland. His values, commitment to family, and work ethic all reflect the best of the heartland.

When Tim interviewed for the job, I was worried he might be tempted to return to Washington, DC, either as an elected official, staff member to the same, or lobbyist, as so many former congressmen do. That worry was quickly dispelled during our first trip to that swampy place. Tim was even more cynical about the people we met and elected officials still serving than I am, something I didn’t think was even possible!

Tim has no intention of returning to Washington. He and Angela and their four children moved to Illinois, just a short drive from the
office, and they intend to put down deep roots here. That’s very good news for The Heartland Institute.

The Ideal Time
Dr. Huelskamp arrives at The Heartland Institute at the ideal time. The election of Donald Trump gave the country a second chance to rescue freedom from a possibly lethal threat. Policy ideas we have long championed—including deregulation, educational choice, market-based reforms of health care finance, and a free-market approach to energy and environmental protection—are suddenly at the forefront of the national debate.

Heartland has the tools to really make a difference in the world. Our original research, publications, and marketing and communications programs put us head-and-shoulders above many other think tanks that are two or even three times our size. The niche we are trying to fill in the freedom movement is much bigger than our current reach. Tim can help us scale up to meet the demand for our good work.

Tim is eager to work with governors and state legislators across the country on ways to reform health care now that “repealing and replacing” Obamacare is off the table, at least for a while. He plans to continue our important work on climate change, the issue that made The Heartland Institute known around the world as a critic of liberal exaggeration and alarmism.

Tim Needs Your Help!
Tim and I will work side-by-side in the coming months to take advantage of all the opportunities to help make freedom rise again. I won’t quit until I am sure the baton has been successfully handed off to someone who can do a better job than I have or could do. I certainly hope you won’t quit, either.

Tim needs and deserves your support! Now is a great time to make a special gift to The Heartland Institute. If you are already a donor, please call 312/377-4000 and ask to speak to Tim. I’m convinced you will be as impressed by him as I am!

Joseph L. Bast (jbast@heartland.org) is CEO of The Heartland Institute.

The Heartland Institute is an independent source of research and commentary founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1984. It is not affiliated with any political party, business, or foundation. Its activities are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Heartland’s mission is to discover, develop, and promote free-market solutions to social and economic problems. Such solutions include parental choice in education, market-based approaches to environmental protection and health care finance, tax and spending limitation, and deregulation in areas where property rights and markets do a better job than government bureaucracies.
By the Numbers

During the second quarter of 2017, The Heartland Institute ...


► Released one Heartland Policy Brief and 56 Research & Commentaries, and submitted 178 op-eds.

► Contacted elected officials 185,308 times, including 3,634 one-on-one contacts by phone, email, or in person, and testified four times.

► Generated at least 94 broadcast, 1,129 online, and 360 print media hits reaching 38 million subscribers.

► Added 291 blog posts to Freedom Pub and released 66 podcasts attracting a total listening audience of 528,889 people.

► Hosted 13 events, spoke at seven events, and attended, exhibited at, or cosponsored six events, reaching a total in-person and online audience of 10,320 people.

Center on Budgets and Taxes

► Published two issues of Budget & Tax News and 23 Research & Commentaries on budget and tax issues.

► Logged 942 personal and 35,653 group contacts for a total of 36,595 contacts with legislators, and testified twice on budget and tax issues.

► Logged 237 personal and 8,403 group contacts for a total of 8,640 contacts with legislators on tobacco-related issues.

► Generated at least 12 broadcast, 56 online, and 24 print media hits reaching nearly 3.9 million people.

► Produced 10 new podcasts on budget and tax issues, attracting 59,617 listeners.

► Hosted three events on budget and tax issues and spoke at two events, reaching an estimated total audience of 3,275 people in attendance and viewing the livestreams.

Arthur B. Robinson Center on Climate and Environmental Policy

► Published three issues of Environment & Climate News, 10 issues of Climate Change Weekly, and 11 Research & Commentaries on environment and energy issues, and distributed 129,000 copies of Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming.

► Logged 1,192 personal and 44,810 group contacts for a total of 46,002 contacts with legislators, and testified once on environment and energy issues.

► Generated at least 74 broadcast, 592 online, and 171 print media hits reaching more than 17.9 million people on environment and energy issues.

► Produced 17 new podcasts on energy, environment, and climate issues, attracting 72,954 listeners.

► Hosted two events on environment and...
energy issues, spoke at two, and attended one, reaching an estimated total audience of 1,748 people.

Center for Transforming Education
► Published three issues of School Reform News, 11 issues of School Choice Weekly, six Research & Commentaries, and one Policy Brief on education issues.
► Logged 552 personal and 52,018 group contacts for a total of 52,570 contacts with legislators, and testified once on education issues.
► Generated at least 11 broadcast, 300 online, and 114 print media hits reaching more than 12 million people on education issues.
► Produced 12 new podcasts, attracting 49,174 listeners, and 38 new posts on Freedom Pub on education issues.
► Hosted two events on education issues, spoke at five, and attended one, reaching an estimated total audience of 2,290 people.
► Distributed more than 129,000 copies of Heartland publications, including the final mailings of the book Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming to K–12 science teachers and college science professors.

Consumers for Health Care Choices
► Published 10 issues of Consumer Power Report, three issues of Health Care News, and 17 Research & Commentaries on health care issues.
► Logged 641 personal and 43,466 group contacts for a total of 44,107 contacts with legislators on health care issues.
► Generated at least 11 broadcast, 54 online, and 13 print media hits reaching more than 2.2 million people on health care issues.
► Produced 11 new podcasts, attracting 75,588 listeners, and 27 new posts on Freedom Pub on health care issues.
► Hosted one event on health care issues reaching an audience of 12 people.

Never lose a debate with a global warming alarmist!

The causes and consequences of global warming (aka, “climate change”) are complex and uncertain. Conservatives and President Donald Trump say there is no need to destroy the world’s best energy system to “stop global warming.” Many scientists agree, but the liberal media won’t tell you this. The authors of Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming demolish the claim that “97% of scientists” believe in man-made global warming.

Written by the editors of the Climate Change Reconsidered series, the world’s most authoritative assessment of climate science, this is a book you can read and share. Succinct, authoritative, with key findings highlighted for easy reference.

Quantity Price per copy
1-10............... $14.95
11-50............... $12.95
51-100.............. $10.95
101 or more ....... $8.95

Available online at heartland.org, Amazon.com, or call 312/377-4000.
On Tuesday, September 12, at 12:00 noon, the Arizona Speaker of the House and Senate President will call to order a planning convention that will recommend rules to govern a Balanced Budget Amendment-focused Article V convention of states and recommend to Congress a place for that convention to convene. The Heartland Institute is working with allies to make sure this historic planning convention—the first to be convened in more than 150 years—attracts the national attention it merits.

Article V of the U.S. Constitution requires Congress to call a convention for proposing specified amendments once two-thirds of the states, currently 34, submit matching petitions calling for a convention. Resolutions asking Congress to call a convention of states for the purpose of considering a Balanced Budget Amendment have been submitted by 27 states—meaning an Article V Convention of States may be just around the corner.

Shortly after Arizona adopted House Concurrent Resolution 2022, which formally called for convening the planning convention in Phoenix, Heartland Senior Fellow Rob Natelson explained its significance: “Americans finally have a real chance to ‘clean up the mess in Washington,’” he wrote in an op-ed published by American Spectator on April 10. He discussed the planning convention on June 27 on the nationally syndicated An Economy of One radio program.

As interest has grown in Article V, some scholars have wondered whether the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia would support such a gathering. In an April 12 op-ed for The Daily Caller, Natelson suggested Scalia’s opinion on the subject really doesn’t matter. He wrote, “Scalia is a revered figure, and rightly so. He was learned, eloquent, principled, and courageous. He also researched and published on many subjects, but Article V law was not one of them. … Despite his brilliance and wisdom, there is no reason to believe that Scalia was an expert in Article V.”

On May 10, we sent a new Research & Commentary examining a Compact for a Balanced Budget to members of the Texas state Senate. That month, Texas and Missouri became the 11th and 12th states, respectively, to pass a convention of states resolution. On May 31, policy advisors John Merrifield and Barry Poulson described the need for balancing the national budget in an op-ed for American Spectator.

Other Issues We’re Watching
Heartland’s government relations, marketing, and public relations staff and policy advisors, research fellows, and senior fellows are monitoring many other issues that involve the U.S. Constitution and state constitutions across the country. Among the issues we addressed during the second quarter:

- School choice: On June 26, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Trinity Lutheran v. Comer it is unconstitutional to exclude religious organizations from benefiting from secular aid programs that are otherwise neutral with respect to religion. More discussion of this landmark victory appears in the Education report in this issue of QPR.

- Civil asset forfeiture reform: States have taken many steps toward limiting civil asset forfeiture, whereby law enforcement agencies are permitted to seize property from criminal suspects without conclusive
Evidence a crime was committed or a prosecution. In the second quarter, Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey signed, the Iowa Senate passed, and Colorado legislators began considering forfeiture reform measures.

► **Protecting private property rights:** President Donald Trump ordered the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers to reconsider the Waters of the United States rule. Efforts are also underway to rein in abuses of the Endangered Species Act and land grabs by the federal government.

► **Reining in regulatory abuse.** Congress and Trump used the Congressional Review Act to roll back executive actions taken by President Barack Obama. In June, Wisconsin became the first state to adopt a state-level REINS (Regulations of the Executive in Need of Scrutiny) Act, requiring legislative approval before state agencies can make costly regulatory rule changes.

► **Free speech:** The U.S. Supreme Court will likely consider for a second time whether teacher unions should be allowed to force non-union members to pay for collective bargaining services they don’t want. Meanwhile, ideological divisiveness continues on campus, evidenced by recent incidents at Middlebury College in Vermont, Wellesley College in Massachusetts, and McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.

**Social Media and Freedom Pub**
The Center for Constitutional Reform issued 125 tweets garnering 10,301 impressions, 596 profile visits, 156 mentions, and 17 new followers. It also posted 14 Instagram updates. Thirteen articles on constitutional reform were added to Heartland’s blog, Freedom Pub, among them these three by Policy Advisor Joseph Morris:

► “Immigration, the Equal Rights Amendment, and the Powers of the Court”: The United States Supreme Court this week decided *Sessions v. Morales-Santana*, a case that exposed a vast gulf in philosophies even as it resulted in unanimous agreement on an outcome.

► “Illinois Supreme Court Affirms ‘Occupy’ Decision”: The Supreme Court of Illinois affirmed lower court holdings that eviction of the Chicago “occupy” movement from public parks did not violate federal or state constitutional protections of peaceful assembly.

► “Justice Gorsuch’s Maiden Opinion”: Writing for a unanimous Court affirming the Fourth Circuit in *Henson v. Santander Consumer USA*, Inc., Justice Neil Gorsuch held that a debt collector seeking to collect a debt that was owed to itself was not obliged to obey an act of Congress that regulates the activities of debt collectors seeking to collect debts owed to third parties. The opinion is concise and eminently readable. He holds that a statute applies to those to whom it says it applies, and not to others.
Congress and the president began work on reforming the enormous federal entitlement system, putting into action ideas Heartland government relations staff and research fellows have studied and recommended for many years.

President Donald Trump included several welfare reform provisions in his budget proposal, adding work requirements and recommending the states’ share of the funding burden for food stamps be increased from 8 percent to 25 percent. The president also signed a congressional resolution blocking a U.S. Department of Labor regulation that had prevented state governments from testing welfare program applicants for evidence of illegal drug use.

Heartland Senior Fellow Peter Ferrara encouraged Trump to base new welfare reform proposals on the 1996 reform of Aid to Families with Dependent Children by “extending the block grants … to all of the close to 150 federal and state means-tested welfare programs.”

U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan and cosponsors introduced the Welfare Reform and Upward Mobility Act of 2017, which proposes adding work requirements to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The sponsors cited reforms in Alabama, spearheaded by Heartland in 2016, which led to an 85 percent reduction in the number of able-bodied single adults dependent on food stamps.

RealClearPolicy published an op-ed by Research Fellow Jesse Hathaway, who explained welfare reform is in the best interests of the people, but “bureaucracies care first and foremost for the welfare of their employees— at the expense of the people its programs are designed to help.” Townhall published a related op-ed by Hathaway urging members of Congress to keep their campaign promises by pushing for sweeping entitlement reforms.

State Pension Reform Victories
Heartland worked with, educated, and persuaded state and national lawmakers to fix the growing problem of underfunded public worker pensions.

We sent lawmakers in Michigan and Pennsylvania state-specific Research & Commentaries addressing pension reform measures they were considering. Lawmakers in both states heeded Senior Policy Analyst Matthew Glans’ advice: Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf and Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder both signed into law pension reform bills that will change retirement benefits for most state and school employees.

Promoting Federal Tax Reform
U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and White House economic advisor Gary Cohn described Trump’s blueprint for federal tax reform, releasing a one-page memorandum containing 11 proposals. Ferrara told Budget & Tax News the plan “would restore booming economic growth, create new jobs, and raise wages for working people.” Investor’s Business Daily, The Daily Caller, and Washington Examiner published opeds by Ferrara addressing the plan.

Heartland hosted an event with Dan Pilla, one of the country’s premier tax experts, focusing on Trump’s tax plan. Twenty-nine people attended, 1,077 viewed the event’s livestream, and Director of Communications Jim Lakeley recorded a podcast with
Pilla. Pilla spoke in favor of the plan’s key provisions, which include reducing the number of tax brackets and rates, lowering the corporate tax, and eliminating the alternative minimum tax and the “death tax.”

Trump also proposed a “tax holiday” for repatriation of overseas corporate capital, about which Hathaway wrote for *American Greatness*, “Dithering and delaying on corporate tax reform has real costs. Because of America’s arcane rules on how multinational businesses’ profits are taxed, many businesses are incentivized to move their headquarters out of the United States, taking untold billions of dollars in tax revenue with them.”

**Defending Civil Liberties**

With Heartland’s help and encouragement, state lawmakers across the country reformed their civil asset forfeiture laws, better protecting the rights to due process and property against government interference.

Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey signed a civil asset forfeiture reform bill into law, the twentieth such bill enacted nationwide. In a press release to nearly 4,000 media contacts in Arizona, Hathaway declared the new law a win for residents’ constitutional rights. He appeared as a guest on talk radio shows in several states, including Delaware and Texas, explaining how those states’ lawmakers can join the reform bandwagon.

Colorado lawmakers, who received a *Research & Commentary* from Heartland in advance of their vote, approved a measure requiring law enforcement agencies to track how and why they seized property from suspected criminals and how they used the proceeds. In Wisconsin, Hathaway testified before the State Senate Committee on Labor and Regulatory Reform, and the sponsor of a bill requiring a criminal conviction before people’s cash or other property can be forfeited joined Heartland’s *Budget & Tax News* podcast.

**Fighting MFA, Urging State Tax Reform**

Heartland released a *Research & Commentary* explaining how the proposed Marketplace Fairness Act—which would allow state governments to require out-of-state online retailers to collect sales taxes from all consumers—violates basic tax principles. Hathaway and Nan Swift, federal affairs manager for the National Taxpayers Union, discussed the measure on the *Budget & Tax News* podcast.

On a more positive note, Nebraska legislators began considering an ambitious tax reform plan that would cut top individual and corporate income tax rates while changing the way agricultural and ranch land are valued for property tax purposes. Heartland sent Nebraska legislators a *Research & Commentary* on the proposed reforms.

The North Carolina state Senate and House unveiled tax plans that include positive reforms for taxpayers. *Budget & Tax News* interviewed Patrick Gleason, director of state affairs at Americans for Tax Reform, who said North Carolina has become significantly more friendly to taxpayers over the past few years—and taxpayers have noticed.
The Heartland Institute’s Center on Climate and Environmental Policy scored significant victories in the second quarter, as policies we fought for long and hard over the previous years were adopted and policies we had fought against were reversed.

No victory was larger than the one the country experienced on June 1, 2017. In a Rose Garden media event—with Heartland President Joseph Bast, Senior Fellow Fred Palmer, and Corporate Relations Officer Aaron Stover in invited attendance—President Donald Trump announced he was withdrawing the United States from the Paris climate accord. The White House specifically asked Heartland to attend as a leader in the fight for sound climate policy.

The road to victory was not easy. Although Trump had often said the Paris agreement was a bad deal and he would take the nation out of it, intense outside pressure and infighting within the administration raised the specter Trump would renege on his promise. With withdrawal in jeopardy, Heartland scholars discussed, in print and on the radio, the importance of U.S. withdrawal from the agreement. Research Fellow H. Sterling Burnett was a guest on the nationally syndicated Breitbart News Daily; Research Fellow Bette Grande spoke on the nationally syndicated Mike Siegel Show; and Bast appeared on the nationally syndicated Neal Ashbury’s Made in America.

The Federalist published an op-ed by Bast, “President Trump Should Run, Not Walk, Away from the Paris Climate Treaty,” in which he wrote, “The Paris Climate Treaty empowers enemies of American greatness at home, too. A future administration could use the treaty, just as the Obama administration began to do, to justify policies that transfer billions of dollars to Third World dictators, cripple the American economy, and hurt American workers.”

Townhall published an op-ed by Research Fellow Isaac Orr, “To Put America First, Trump Must Exit the Paris Climate Agreement.” Orr wrote, “Not only will the agreement, which is not based on the most recently available scientific data, result in the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs, it will do so while providing virtually zero environmental benefits.” And American Spectator published an op-ed by Burnett titled “Four Reasons Trump Should Withdraw from Paris Climate Agreement.” Burnett wrote, “There is no political upside to reversing course; environmentalists won’t suddenly love him, and ‘the swamp’ establishment won’t choose to embrace him. But there is a substantial political downside to
flip-flopping, as many who supported Trump based in whole or in part on this promise would become among his fiercest critics—and rightly so.”

Heartland signed a joint letter from more than 40 free-market advocacy groups, discussed in dozens of articles, encouraging Trump to withdraw from the Paris agreement. The New York Times published an op-ed about the coalition letter: “On Monday, a coalition of about 40 conservative advocacy groups, some of which directly advised the Trump campaign and transition, signed a letter to Mr. Trump supporting Mr. Pruitt’s view. Many of the signers have a history of denying the established science of climate change and lobbying against climate change policy, such as The Heartland Institute, Americans for Tax Reform and the Heritage Foundation.” The Washington Examiner also reported on the letter.

With Trump’s decision to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement, Heartland’s work had just begun. Heartland scholars appeared on more than 50 radio shows explaining why Trump’s decision was good for the United States. During the first week of June, Bast appeared on six radio shows, including CBS News in Los Angeles on KNX-AM and the Brian Mudd Show on WIOD-AM in Miami, Florida; Burnett was a guest on radio nine times, including the nationally syndicated American Family News and the Georgene Rice Show on KPDQ-FM in Portland, Oregon; and Heartland climate writer Tom Harris, executive director of the Toronto-based International Climate Science Coalition, appeared on nine radio shows, including the regionally syndicated Michael Cohen Show on WILS in Michigan and the Brett Winterble Show on KFMB-AM in San Diego, California. Policy Advisor Steve Milloy was a guest on the nationally syndicated Fox & Friends on the Fox News Channel.

Heartland scholars were also in demand in international markets to discuss the geopolitical ramifications of Trump’s Paris pull-out. The Tokyo Broadcasting System in Japan aired an interview with Bast, I24 News on Israeli TV interviewed Senior Fellow Fred Palmer, Chinese media outlet CGTN interviewed Research Director Ed Hudgins, and Chinese media outlet NTDTV interviewed Burnett.

On June 1, more than 50 newspapers around the country—including USA Today, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Arizona Republic, Cincinnati Enquirer, Indianapolis Star, and Tallahassee Democrat—published “Climate Agreement Withdrawal: ‘Trump Just Stepped on the Gas’ Toward Catastrophe,” quoting Palmer in opposition to the story’s theme. That same day, Fox News published a front-page op-ed by Burnett and Executive Editor Justin Haskins, “Trump’s Paris Climate Decision Should Be Celebrated by Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.” They wrote, “Despite the Paris agreement’s immense costs, the treaty’s proponents insist it is a necessary step forward in the alleged battle against human-caused climate change. But even the U.N. Environment Programme, a noted climate alarmist agency, admitted on its own website the treaty
would deliver no meaningful environmental improvements."

Also in June, the Kansas City Star published Grande’s commentary titled “Trump’s Paris Decision Is a Boon for Plains States”; the Detroit News published an op-ed by Burnett, “Trump’s Paris Climate Choice Puts America First”; and the Toledo Blade published an op-ed quoting Bast in opposition to the article’s theme, “Quitting Paris Accord a Huge Mistake.”

**ICCC-12 Impact Continues**

Heartland’s 12th International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC-12), held in late March, continued to receive attention in the second quarter. As a follow-on to ICCC-12, CBS News interviewed Bast about climate realists and their place in the climate change debate. The interview ran on April 22. The Des Moines Register discussed Bast’s CBS appearance later in April, and Climate Depot published an op-ed by Director of Communications Jim Lakely, “CBS Evening News Runs Story on Heartland Institute ‘Climate Realist’ Joe Bast for Earth Day.” Lakely wrote, “Earth Day coverage dominated the CBS Evening News on April 22, as one might expect. What distinguished tonight’s CBS Evening News from every other edition ever aired was the inclusion of a perspective from ‘climate realists.’”

KUT 90.5 published a news story on U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith’s (R-TX) presentation at ICCC-12, and the Houston Chronicle published an op-ed discussing Smith’s presentation. Tidewater News (Franklin, Virginia) and The Sentinel (Carlisle, Pennsylvania) published an op-ed “‘Climate Science’ Isn’t Science. It’s Religion,” in which the author wrote, “The Heartland Institute’s 12th International Conference on Climate Change was nothing like I expected. When joining a group described in pejorative terms as ‘deniers,’ one would expect to see furtive movements and disreputable haircuts, yet the crowd displayed good humor and a welcoming attitude.”

**Why Scientists Disagree Hits Classrooms**

The Heartland Institute’s effort to extend the reach of climate realism continued in the second quarter with distribution of *Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming* to 129,000 K–12 science teachers and college science professors across the country.

Frontline published a news story on Heartland’s climate education efforts, “Democrats Condemn Climate Change Skeptics for Targeting Teachers.” Lennie Jarratt, project manager for Heartland’s Center for Transforming Education, was interviewed by Babette Holder, president of the Frederick Douglass Foundation of Illinois, as part of a Facebook live series. Jarratt discussed Heartland’s *Why Scientists Disagree* distribution as 12,000 people watched the live feed.

The Washington Times published an op-ed quoting Bast, “House Democrats Urge Teachers to Trash Book by Climate Scientists on Global-warming Dissent.” The author wrote, “Heartland Institute president Joseph Bast fired off a statement Monday asking,
‘Is this a belated April Fool’s Day joke? If not, it should be.’” The Powerline blog also published an item discussing Heartland’s climate education effort, “Democrats Lose Argument, Try to Burn Books.”

Over the course of the quarter, Jarratt corresponded via email with 210 teachers and spoke with 142 teachers by phone in response to requests for books, information, and replies to their inquiries about the book. In response to one teacher’s request, Lakely delivered a PowerPoint presentation on climate realism to 35 students of a Lisle (Illinois) High School science class. As part of a classroom assignment, the students had read Why Scientists Disagree prior to Lakely’s presentation.

Supporting an Energy Renaissance
Heartland continued in the second quarter to fight proposals to raise energy taxes, and we promoted efforts to reduce regulations and unleash an American energy renaissance.

For example, we sent Research & Commentaries (R&Cs) that helped beat back efforts by state legislators in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island to impose state carbon taxes. In response, a Rhode Island state representative asked Heartland to send someone to testify against a carbon tax proposal. On May 17, Policy Analyst Tim Benson answered the call, telling the Rhode Island House Committee on Finance, “A carbon-dioxide tax would make everything more expensive for working families in Rhode Island, who are already pinched by the state’s high costs, leaving them less to spend and save—all without any guaranteed environmental benefits.”

A series of Heartland R&Cs refuted claims by anti-fossil fuel activists that hydraulic fracturing—aka fracking—pollutes groundwater. We sent an R&C to members of the West Virginia legislature summarizing a Duke University report stating groundwater in West Virginia is not being polluted by fracking. We also sent an R&C noting “Studies Find Fracking in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas Not Contaminating Groundwater” to legislators in those states.

Heartland published the final Policy Study in its six-part series addressing frac sand mining, this one titled “Air Quality and Industrial Sand (Frac Sand) Mining.” Coauthors Orr and Mark Krumenacher, a senior principal of GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc., explain industrial sand facilities do not cause harmful levels of air pollution and pose no threat to human health or the environment. Rock Products (Jacksonville, Florida) published a news story highlighting the study. The article’s author wrote, “The study is unparalleled by any literature focused on the subject of industrial sand and should serve as a resource for any individual, group, municipality or governmental agency that has a genuine interest in understanding the facts pertaining to this industry, the authors remarked.”

Tim Benson
Policy Analyst
Establishing and Expanding ESAs

The Heartland Institute was busy during the second quarter informing parents and lawmakers about the benefits of education savings accounts (ESAs). The quarter brought victories in Arizona, Florida, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey signed into law a measure allowing nearly all Arizona students to participate in the state’s ESA program by the 2020–21 school year. School Reform News reported on Ducey’s action, and Heartland voiced its support for the law with a press release to 4,277 media contacts.

The Missouri state Senate passed a tax-credit funded ESA; Policy Analyst Tim Benson testified before the Missouri Senate Education Committee in support of ESAs months earlier. Florida Gov. Rick Scott and Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam signed measures extending their ESA programs to more students. North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed an ESA bill, but both houses of the legislature overrode his veto, making North Carolina the sixth state to adopt an ESA program.

In a new Heartland Policy Brief, “Education Savings Accounts: The Future of School Choice Has Arrived,” Benson wrote, “ESAs are not a silver-bullet solution to every problem plaguing the nation’s school system, but they certainly allow families much greater opportunities to meet each child’s unique education needs.” The government relations department’s weekly e-newsletter, The Leaflet, and three Research & Commentaries also addressed ESAs during the second quarter. The Las Vegas Review-Journal published a letter to the editor by Senior Fellow Robert Holland about ESAs, vouchers, and the education establishment’s opposition to them.

Reducing Federal Interference

The Trump administration has prompted a renewed focus on national education policy. School Reform News reported on Vice President Mike Pence’s tiebreaking vote to confirm Betsy DeVos as the new U.S. education secretary, and School Choice Weekly immediately started covering DeVos’ efforts: her support for giving military families more options for educating their children; her declaration that education is a states’ rights issue; and her meeting with the Home School Legal Defense Association.

Heartland hosted a “Women in Education” event at the Andrew Breitbart Freedom Center. Research Fellow Joy Pullmann discussed her book, The Education Invasion: How Common Core Fights Parents for Control of American Kids, while Vicki Alger, a research fellow at The Independent Institute, discussed her book Failure: The Federal Miseducation of America’s Children. Lindsey Burke, director of The Heritage Foundation’s Center for Education Policy, discussed the state of education reform in Congress and the proposed Trump education budget. Leslie Hiner, vice president of programs at EdChoice, discussed state-level reforms. The event attracted an in-person audience of 48 and 1,365 online view-
ers. Research Fellow Teresa Mull recorded a podcast with Burke.

Curing Blaine Damage
Expansion of ESAs, tax-credit scholarships, and vouchers has been hindered by anti-school-choice activists who file lawsuits citing state constitutions’ Blaine amendments, which prohibit the use of tax dollars by religious institutions. That tool may have been weakened dramatically in June, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled it is unconstitutional to exclude religious organizations from benefiting from secular aid programs that are otherwise neutral with respect to religion. We sent a press release about the Court’s decision in *Trinity Lutheran v. Comer* to 21,436 media contacts, and Jarratt discussed the decision on *The Mike Schikman Show*.

The Court followed its *Trinity Lutheran* decision by rejecting lower-court decisions regarding a proposed voucher program in Douglas County, Colorado and a 1930s-era state-funded textbook-lending program in New Mexico that allowed participation by religious schools. The cases have been sent back to their respective state supreme courts for further consideration in light of *Trinity Lutheran*.

Months before the Court’s landmark decision, *School Choice Weekly* had reported on the possibility that Blaine amendments would be limited, and Mull and Benson recorded a podcast titled “Are Blaine Amendments on Their Way Out?” Mull also recorded a podcast with Michael McShane, director of education policy at the Show-Me Institute, titled “SCOTUS Hears Arguments in Blaine Amendment-Centered Case.” *Breitbart* published an op-ed by Mull, “Will Public Schools Survive if Blaine Amendments Don’t?”

Calling Out Bias
Heartland’s work on behalf of parents and students doesn’t end when the kids graduate from high school. We’ve extended our reach onto college campuses, where the suppression of free speech has become a significant and very public problem.

A former Heartland intern, Katie Clancy, tweeted a picture indicating a course at her college, Butler University (Indiana), was ridiculously anti-Trump. Executive Editor Justin Haskins saw the tweet, and together they wrote a story and published it on Heartland’s website. At that time, there hadn’t been a single story published about the course. Haskins sent an e-mail to two dozen media outlets and several, including the *Washington Times* and Fox News.com, picked up the story and gave Heartland credit for breaking it. Then *Fox & Friends* reported on it, as did *Hannity*, *Time*, the Associated Press, and many Indiana television stations. Eventually, nearly 70 articles were published about the Butler course. The *Indianapolis Star* and *USA Today* published an op-ed by Heartland’s higher education editor, Jane Shaw, titled “Anti-Trumpism in the Classroom at Butler.”

Also addressing campus free speech, *The Hill* published an op-ed by Holland titled “Universities Invent New Devices to Stifle Speech and Protect Snowflakes.” Shaw reported for *School Reform News* about colleges embracing the trend of uninviting speakers with so-called “controversial” ideas; colleges turning students into community activists under the guise of civics education; and the increasingly virulent—and violent—efforts by anti-free-speech protestors to intimidate speakers and audiences on campuses.
Congress is officially halfway to replacing the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the U.S. House of Representatives having passed in May its Obamacare replacement bill, the American Health Care Act (AHCA). AHCA advanced to the Senate, which in June proposed the Better Care Reconciliation Act (BCRA). As this issue of QPR went to press, that bill appears to be going nowhere.

Heartland covered the evolution of the bills in Health Care News and the weekly Consumer Power Report. Senior Fellow Peter Ferrara, Policy Advisor Devon Herrick, and President Tim Huelskamp discussed the Senate bill on FM, AM, XM, and online radio stations in multiple states.

A series of ominous scores of the bills by the Congressional Budget Office undermined reform momentum. In op-eds for Investor’s Business Daily and Townhall, Ferrara and Research Fellow Michael Hamilton, respectively, rebuked CBO for scoring the bills under the same faulty criteria by which the agency scored Obamacare.

Proposing Medicaid Reform
Heartland championed free-market Medicaid reform in an op-ed published by The Wall Street Journal and promoted on Twitter by former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, among other fans. The op-ed presented a proposal by Hamilton, Executive Editor Justin Haskins, and Publications Director Sam Karnick to make most Medicaid families self-sufficient over time by giving them control over health savings accounts. Hamilton explained the plan on National Public Radio in Minnesota, Business for Breakfast (Denver, Colorado), and Freedom & Prosperity Radio (Virginia). Communications Director Jim Lakely discussed the plan in three segments on the Conservative Commandos Radio Network.

Arkansas became the first state to roll back its Medicaid expansion under Obamacare, moving 60,000 people off the state’s hybrid expansion plan and requiring some of the remaining participants to work. Oregon is considering similar legislation. Ohio legislators approved a freeze on enrollment in Medicaid for able-bodied adults, but Gov. John Kasich vetoed the measure. The Kansas legislature sustained Gov. Sam Brownback’s veto of Medicaid expansion legislation, and the Virginia House of Delegates rejected Medicaid expansion.

Heartland worked closely with lawmakers in several states, including Kansas and Virginia, to craft arguments against Medicaid expansion. As lawmakers in Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, North Carolina, and Ohio began crafting waiver requests for proposed Medicaid overhauls, we sent them a Research & Commentary, “States Pursue Work Requirements for Medicaid.”

Easing Physician Regulations
Most families not trapped by Medicaid are stuck in another third-party health care payment system: insurance. But that is gradually being replaced by a free-market model known as direct primary care (DPC). In exchange for monthly fees paid directly to them instead of through insurers, DPC providers offer a wide range of services.

Maine became the 23rd state to exempt DPC providers from onerous insurance requirements. Similar laws were passed or went into effect in Alabama, Indiana, and Kentucky. Heartland sent Research & Commentaries to lawmakers in those states and others, and Health Care News covered the legislative action throughout the quarter.
Physicians are also seeking reform of maintenance of certification (MOC) requirements, asking lawmakers to protect their licenses, hospital admitting privileges, and participation in insurer networks. Dr. Paul Teirstein, president of the National Board of Physicians and Surgeons, discussed MOC on the Health Care News podcast.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed into law a bill prohibiting the state medical licensure board and insurers from discriminating against physicians who forego MOC. Legislators in Florida, Maine, and Michigan introduced similar measures. Heartland has educated lawmakers about MOC through Research & Commentaries and Health Care News.

Cleaning Up Dental Regulations
As medical doctors fight for the right to keep their licenses, a relatively new kind of dental care provider is struggling to gain licensure. Dental therapists function as members of dental teams alongside dental hygienists and assistants, all of whom are employed and supervised by licensed dentists. In “Dentists Know Best, So Let Them Choose,” published by Dentistry Today, Hamilton addressed common objections to licensing dental therapists.

An article at Watchdog.com quoted Hamilton’s work and noted he has “testified in support of dental therapy before a number of state legislatures, most recently in Connecticut.”

We sent Ohio lawmakers a Research & Commentary in support of licensing dental therapists, whose relatively low average wage enables dentists to treat more Medicaid patients. Medicaid patients also would benefit if lawmakers resist overregulating dental support organizations (DSOs), companies that perform nonclinical, administrative functions for affiliated dental practices. Heartland sent Missouri lawmakers Research & Commentaries promoting freedom for DSOs and dental practices in the state.

Drugs and Money
In an exclusive interview with Health Care News, U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson made the case for national legislation to enable terminal patients to try treatments only partially approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Alaska, Iowa, and the Pennsylvania House of Representatives have this year passed state-level right-to-try laws.

Dr. Scott Gottlieb’s confirmation as FDA commissioner signals needed deregulation of the drug industry is on its way, but other Trump actions could prove harmful. During the presidential campaign Trump endorsed importation of prescription drugs from foreign countries. Four former FDA commissioners have asked Trump not to pursue that plan, and a coalition of 14 self-described “conservative, free-market organizations,” including The Heartland Institute, wrote a letter to Congress urging opposition to any proposals to allow the importation of foreign-made prescription medicines.
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