

THE MESSENGER

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Trusted Solutions for a Better Florida

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President's Message

Dear Friends,

As I write this, we at The James Madison Institute (JMI) have closed our offices with the exception of one employee per day and are conducting all JMI business from home. Much like you, it is a bevy of Zoom calls, phone calls, emails, texts and use of social media. I've been through the 1987 market meltdown, 9/11, swine flu, the 2008 financial crisis, SARS, and everything else in between, but have never experienced anything quite like what we are seeing now. By the time you receive our newsletter, my hope is that we are opening up our economy again, the curve has flattened, loss of life has lessened significantly and Americans are, however tentatively, trying to establish some level of normalcy.

The struggle to advance free-market principles in the face of pandemics and government overreach continues. Bills are being passed in Congress with dubious additions that threaten our liberties. Until further notice, we have an election in November, 2020. Florida remains at the forefront of the struggle between the forces of freedom and those of statism. We here at JMI continue to educate our elected officials and work with the White House and other national partners to arrest this odious pandemic and rebuild our economy. Through the use of technology, we also continue to educate and inspire the next generation. Our work has not stopped. We've just become incredibly creative in how we go about our business!



The coronavirus and this administration's response to it are going to impact our economy and the public policy arena for years to come. This we already know. But what you may not know is that JMI is on the frontlines, addressing the issues that will matter tremendously on the back side of this pandemic, both here in the Sunshine State and in Washington.

JMI has advanced sensible reforms for years, and many of them have recently passed. These reforms will help mitigate the effects of pandemics like the coronavirus. Check out our 2020 Legislative Successes on our website at jamesmadison.org.

As a community, a state and a nation, we will get through this struggle, and be stronger for it. That is why freedom matters. The work we do at JMI is critical to how our elected officials respond to instances like this. Without limited government, personal responsibility and economic freedom, the challenges today would be far less hopeful.

I cannot thank you enough for your support of the important work we do here at JMI! We will continue to advance the cause of freedom, especially during times like these, and we look forward to seeing you again soon as a friend and supporter who shares our belief in the power of liberty.

Please stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob McClure". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

J. Robert McClure III, Ph.D.

▶ Governor Ron DeSantis addressing guests at JMI's 2020 Annual Dinner at the DeVoe L. Moore University Center Club at Florida State University.



▶ JMI's Sal Nuzzo hosting a panel discussion at a screening of *Little Pink House*, a movie about the *Kelo v. New London* United States Supreme Court case regarding eminent domain.



▶ JMI's Director of Development Austin Moser with Virginia Walden Ford at a screening in Orlando of "Miss Virginia," a movie about the movement to bring school choice to Washington, D.C.



▶ Senator Manny Diaz, Former Representative Michael Bileca, and Representative Byron Donalds with Dr. Bob McClure and William Mattox at JMI's Stanley Marshall Day celebration during National School Choice Week.



▶ Senator Kelli Stargel speaking to students at an event hosted by JMI's Florida Southern College Campus Representative Brayden Lacefield about Florida's 2020 legislative session and the Bill of Rights.



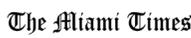
▶ Wall Street Journal's Kimberley Strassel speaking to a room full of Florida State students prior to JMI's 2020 Annual Dinner.



JMI
EVENTS
AROUND
FLORIDA

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN YOUR AREA SOON!

Influence



JMI's Executive Vice President Becky Liner and "Ben Franklin" at Palmetto Elementary School in Orlando, Florida during Thrift Week 2020.



Dr. Bob McClure and JMI Board Member Tim Cerio participating in an interview with Brad Swanson for Florida Internet and Television.



JMI's Sal Nuzzo discussing the policy dynamics of innovation in genetic testing and the economics of life insurance at the Florida Chamber's Insurance Summit in Miami.



JMI's Sal Nuzzo participating in a panel on criminal justice at a Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee event.



JMI's Sal Nuzzo interviewing Charles Koch Institute's Taylor Barkley at TechStates2019, an event hosted by the Center for Growth and Opportunity at Utah State University.



JMI's Dr. Bob McClure and Florida's Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis celebrating "Thrift Week" with the 2020 Thrift Week Proclamation.



JMI's Becky Liner and JMI's UCF Campus Representative Zak Myers at a reception following UCF Day at the Florida Capitol.



JMI's Becky Liner and Logan Padgett participating in a "Women in Government" event hosted by the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

Civics Education Initiatives

with the Preston A. Wells, Jr. Center for American Ideals



Thrift Week is an annual JMI event that allows us to educate students and the wider public about the importance of the time-honored ideals of wise earning, spending, saving, and giving. This year, a central focus of Thrift Week 2020 was the distribution of copies of our curriculum guide, All

 PRESTON A. WELLS, JR.
CENTER *for*
AMERICAN IDEALS
at The James Madison Institute



About the Benjamins, to approximately 500 fourth and fifth-graders in Orlando, along with our series of Thrift infographics for their teachers. The students were thrilled to have JMI visit. They were especially interested in our Benjamin Franklin re-enactor, who drew much crowd participation from his entertaining educational presentation.



POLICY GONE VIRAL

As Florida addresses the COVID-19 pandemic, our team at JMI is still hard at work – effective policy has never been more important to our state, and to our country.

Although we have postponed our events and scheduled gatherings for the near future, we are still impacting today’s decision-making and working to ensure that when this crisis passes – and it will pass – we emerge stronger. To that end, we have launched a video series called “Policy Gone Viral.”

We’re using the technology of the day to provide short commentaries, highlights of research, hopefully some humor, and even some face-to-face interaction. Social distancing doesn’t mean social seclusion.

We are releasing “Policy Gone Viral” on our Facebook and Twitter pages, and in our Newsletters – so please subscribe or follow us however you like.

Guests so far have included FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, Representative and Doctor Cary Pigman, Representative Chip LaMarca, R Street Institute’s Shoshana Weissmann, Secretary Mark Inch, Secretary Jonathan Satter, Director Danny Burgess, Mike Miller, as well as a number of others..



2020 TALLAHASSEE ANNUAL DINNER

In the midst of a tumultuous and unpredictable legislative session, The James Madison Institute and its special guests came together on February 18 for the 2020 Tallahassee Annual Dinner. Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez spoke to our sponsors during the sponsor reception. JMI welcomed Florida

Governor Ron DeSantis and Kimberley Strassel, an author, commentator, and Wall Street Journal columnist. Both provided us with laughter and fresh insight. Thanks to our honored guests and attendees, the 2020 Tallahassee Annual Dinner was a success and left us hopeful about Florida's future.





2020 Legislative Successes in Florida



Expanded Patient-Driven Healthcare Reforms

- Increased access to care by allowing highly qualified nurses to practice at the highest level of training.
- Increased supply of practitioners available to test and treat for routine medical conditions such as strep and flu.
- Improved access to common medications such as antibiotics through the use of automated pharmaceutical dispensing machines.



Embraced Occupational Freedom through Deregulation

- Enacted aggressive occupational licensing reform that greatly increases opportunities for individuals, small businesses, and burgeoning entrepreneurs.



Positioned Florida as an Innovation Leader

- Cast a vision for state technology that addresses interoperability and puts in place a mechanism for achieving that vision.
- Enacted a regulatory sandbox for financial technology to help embrace the innovation economy in Florida.

📍 Bob with Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez at JMI's J. Stanley Marshall Day Reception.





Increased Student Learning Options

- Accelerated expansion of Florida’s new Family Empowerment Scholarship, increasing the total number of recipients from 18k to 46k.
- Maintained priority for the poor while enabling middle-class families to snag unfilled slots.
- Eliminated penalty against economic ascension by adopting “once eligible, always eligible” policy.
- Defeated attempts to deny parents the freedom to send their children to faith-based schools.
- Adopted preferences for siblings, military brats, and some students with no prior public school attendance.



PUNDITS on the PORCH

HOSTED BY DR. BOB MCCLURE & SAL NUZZO

Freedom, Culture and Florida's Future



JMI continues to expand its influence with its podcast series, “Pundits on the Porch,” with Dr. Bob McClure and Sal Nuzzo. “Pundits on the Porch” features interviews with political and policy “pundits” about freedom, culture, and Florida’s future.

In the last few months, we have released episodes with Representative Byron Donalds; Majority Leader Dane Eagle; Representative Jamie Grant; Representative Alex Andrade; Halsey Beshears, Secretary of Florida’s Department of Business and Professional Regulation; Danny Burgess, Executive Director of Florida’s Department of Veterans Affairs; DeVoe L. Moore; Simone Marstiller, Secretary of Florida’s Department of Juvenile Justice; and other notable “pundits.”

Head over to iTunes or the JMI Podcast Page to subscribe and listen!



An Update from Florida's College Campuses

VINCENT CORTELLESA

Florida Atlantic University Campus Representative 2019-2020

As The James Madison Institute Campus Representative at Florida Atlantic University, I had the pleasure of engaging with the student community on issues that are more imperative than ever. I worked with both the College Republicans and Turning Point USA on campus and pioneered a movement that emboldened free-market principles. I was fortunate to be able to work with highly respected professors such as Dr. Marshall DeRosa in the Political Science Department and Dr. Siri Terjesen of the College of Business. By affiliating with these organizations and professors, I was able to participate in an event held by Charlie Kirk, the President of Turning Point USA, in an effort to discuss the numerous benefits of the free market and capitalism.

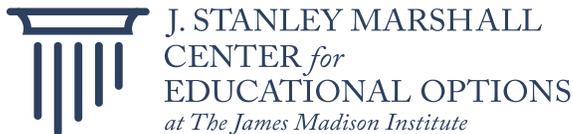
Throughout my time as the JMI representative on campus, I was able to discuss these topics with both sides of the political aisle. The prosperity of everyday Americans is a non-partisan issue,

and I truly discovered that in my position. I had countless positive interactions with members of the College Democrats, and other left-leaning student organizations. As a US Navy veteran, I have significant experience working with people from different parts of the country with numerous socioeconomic upbringings. This clearly helped me in understanding students' perspectives when it comes to economic matters. The most critical aspect of our education

process will be in improving the civics and economics education at the K-12 and undergraduate level. I am encouraged that the current Florida administration led by Governor DeSantis has made this a key point in their efforts to support advancements in learning. Lastly, I would like to specifically thank Ms. Becky Liner for her support for all of the JMI representatives throughout the state because, without her, none of what we accomplished would have been possible.



Centers



MISSION: To promote policy reforms that empower Florida parents to choose the schools, courses, resources and programs that best meet their child's unique needs, interests, aptitudes and learning styles.

.....



MISSION: To help students of all ages learn more about the time-honored ideals that have animated American life since our nation's founding by providing high-quality resources to teachers and students.

.....



MISSION: To raise up young leaders who impact American culture with the principles of limited government, economic freedom, and individual responsibility through training and experience.

.....



MISSION: To provide meaningful and practical solutions to technology advances currently occurring, while also promoting a policy landscape that is conducive to advances that are yet to come.



MISSION: To advance free-market solutions that promote entrepreneurialism and create economic opportunities for all.

.....



MISSION: To promote liberty, economic prosperity, and the rule of law by recommending property rights policy that will:

1. Maximize an owner's right to enjoy and use one's property
 2. Prevent government attempts to overregulate the use of property, limit government ownership of property, and eliminate government abuse of property owners
 3. Promote responsible stewardship of all property regardless of ownership—private, corporate, and public
-



MISSION: To build a network of supporters, investors, ambassadors, and friends across the Sunshine State who protect and promote the ideas of free markets, economic opportunity and prosperity for every Floridian.



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**LEAVE A
LEGACY OF
LIBERTY**

The Publius Society

The James Madison Institute's Publius Society is a group of men and women who believe the most important legacy they can leave their children is a bequest of freedom.

Become a friend of the people of Florida and join The James Madison Insititute's quest to leave a permanent legacy of liberty to future generations.

If you are interested in joining The Publius Society, please contact us at jmi@jamesmadison.org or call 850-386-3131.



WHY PUBLIUS?

Publius was the pseudonym chosen by James Madison, John Jay, and Alexander Hamilton, in their original collective writing of The Federalist Papers. The Roman name "Publius" also means "a friend of the people."

These 85 papers from the anonymous "Publius" appeared in newspapers across the country to support the ratification of the U.S. Constitution.