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Center President
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Honored by Poland



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(and pen) of Michigan
Capitol Confidential**

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MACKINAC  **CENTER**
FOR PUBLIC POLICY

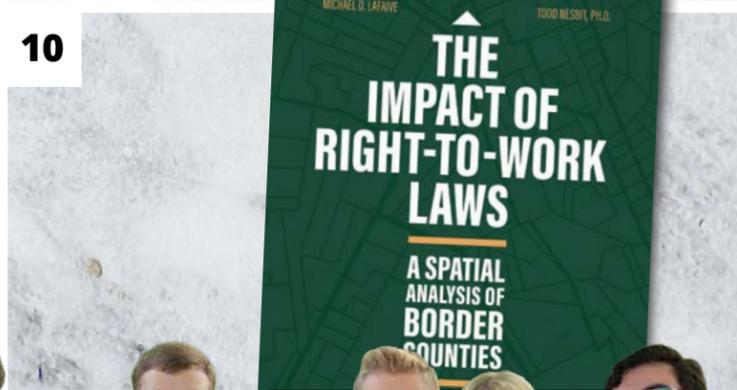


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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

A School Choice in Michigan

"A new report by the Mackinac Center, a Michigan think tank that supports education choice, finds the program could reduce costs for the state."

The Editorial Board

Midland DAILY NEWS

Whitmer's lost case sends \$200,000 in attorneys fees to Mackinac Center

"The Mackinac Center for Public Policy will receive the \$200,000 after the Michigan Supreme Court decided Whitmer's attempt to continue a state of emergency under a 1945 law without legislative approval was illegal."

Angela Mulka, Midland Daily News Reporter

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Why Electricity Blackouts Are Coming to Michigan

"Such are the contradictions of the climate agenda. It demands more clean energy, yet drives clean nuclear power out of business. It promises reliability and low costs, but leaves families and job creators wondering if the lights will stay on and hoping their bills won't go higher."

Jason Hayes, Director of Environmental Policy

USA TODAY

School choice is sweeping America. Now, Supreme Court has given parents even more options.

"The Michigan-based Mackinac Center Legal Foundation is seeking to overturn the state's anti-choice amendment and filed a federal lawsuit last year. Even though the amendment's language is "neutral," it was enacted with "anti-religious hostility," according to Patrick Wright, director of the legal foundation."

Ingrid Jacques, USA Today Columnist

Detroit Free Press

Michigan Supreme Court: State must disclose value of tax credits issued to GM

"James Hohman, director of fiscal policy at the Mackinac Center, said offering subsidies to select companies is 'ineffective at creating jobs, unfair to companies that don't get special deals and expensive to the state budget.'"

Paul Egan, Detroit Free Press Lansing Bureau Chief

RealClear Policy

Stabenow's Out of Touch Quip About Her Electric Car

"While Stabenow is focused on getting Michiganders to buy electric vehicles, she's ignoring a much more pressing energy crisis in the state. Michigan's electrical grid is already stressed to its limits."

Holly Wetzel, Director of Public Relations

It's Easier to Change Policy in the States

When recruiting young professionals to work at a state-based think tank, one must overcome the glitter and allure of Washington, D.C. It's understandable. The national government creates money and runs a military that's second to none. D.C. enjoys airtime, clicks, household names, rising stars.

But to assume that the action is in D.C. is to overlook a major reality in America.

Gridlock is the D.C. status quo. New presidents pledge to settle national disagreements, but then they discover something: Issuing executive orders is easier than working with Congress. Have any praiseworthy laws come out of Congress in the last two decades? Few come to mind. And the daily news from D.C.? Pontificating, popularity surveys and tabloid headlines.

Meanwhile, thanks to federalism, the heavy work of making policy happens in the states.

The coronavirus pandemic offers a good example. Throughout 2020 there were few things for the federal government to do, and states were the primary actors in responding to the crisis. Governors became household names across the country, as they experimented with different approaches.

Likewise, if D.C. does respond to a major concern, it's likely the issue reached a critical mass in the states first.

Policy changes move quickly in the states, often driven by our public policy allies. Our friends in Mississippi helped enact major income tax relief that will allow families to keep more than \$5 billion over the next decade. Louisiana passed the Right to Earn a Living Act, which gives people the ability to challenge regulations that prevent them from getting a job. Pennsylvania funded last year's largest expansion of a school choice program — and it was signed by a Democratic governor. In Michigan we advanced auto insurance reform, cut job-killing regulations and secured property rights, even with divided government.

A reader might ask, "Yes, but what about the U.S. Supreme Court?" No question, the Supreme Court is a model of activity. But even when the court issues a landmark decision — such as Janus, Espinoza or Dobbs — states are often the ones that implement it.

A few years ago, I spent a day in the nation's capital. Several policy advocates met, trying to get a House subcommittee hearing scheduled. Note: It wasn't a subcommittee vote, a committee hearing, a vote on the floor, or a signing ceremony. Just a

“Thanks to federalism, the heavy work of making policy happens in the states.”

House subcommittee meeting. We spent all day on it and efforts continued after we left.

Later that week, a school leader called the Mackinac Center. “I have a problem with my school and someone thought you could help.” We met in Lansing that very day, talked to several policymakers and helped draft legislation by day's end. The bill later passed and helped make the situation much better.

The House subcommittee hearing? Never happened. In D.C., even the unimportant things move slowly.

We need good people and trusted institutions both in Washington, D.C., and in the states. But for policy impact, look to the states. ■



Michael J. Reitz

By Michael J. Reitz

*Executive vice president
of the Mackinac Center*



PARTNER
FEATURE

Pooling Our Expertise



Mackinac Center Scholar Teams Up with Reason Foundation

The Mackinac Center cherishes opportunities to work with like-minded organizations —promoting limited government and free markets can leave one feeling a bit lonely these days. The latest chance involved the Reason Foundation, based in California. We wrote and published a study together, explaining why Michigan policymakers should pilot a new road funding program.

Reason’s Robert Poole is a long-established expert on transportation policy, and so the Center was excited when he asked us to collaborate with him. We knew a perfect co-author: Chris Douglas, an economics professor at UM-Flint and member of the Center’s Board of Scholars. He has closely studied road funding issues in Michigan, writing a report on the subject we published in 2018.

The new Reason-Mackinac report explains the advantages of using a road funding system based on mileage-based user fees. The idea is that drivers pay fees based on how much they drive instead of paying taxes at the pump. There are several advantages to such a system.

First, mileage-based user fees will generate more consistent revenue over the long term. Forecasts say average fuel efficiency will continue to increase, as will sales of hybrid and electric vehicles. This means drivers will pay fewer gas taxes per mile driven, and revenues probably won’t keep pace with future road needs. Mileage-based fees do not suffer from this problem.

Second, this system is fair. People who drive more do pay more gas taxes, but mileage-based user fees would apply equally, no matter the engine your

vehicle uses. What’s more, fees could be designed to charge different rates for different roads or vehicle weights — the more expensive the road and heavier the vehicle, the higher the fee.

Poole and Douglas address a common worry associated with mileage fees: providing driving data to the government. This is a legitimate concern, but fees can work without anyone having to compromise their privacy. Drivers could opt to pay a general fee and not submit any detailed

driving information, for example. In a handful of pilot programs now underway, private companies manage the data under strict confidentiality rules, and the government never sees the details.

“The idea is that drivers pay fees based on how much they drive instead of paying taxes at the pump.”

Mileage-based user fees are just the type of policy innovation that forward-thinking, nonpartisan think tanks like the Mackinac Center and Reason Foundation are known for. Both organizations emphasize good public policies first and leave the partisan politics to others. ■



By Michael Van Beek

Director of Research



By Robert Poole

*Director of Transportation Policy
Reason Foundation*

THE NEW FACE OF CAPCON

A profile of James Dickson,
managing editor of Michigan
Capitol Confidential

James Dickson cares about finding unfair advantages in life.

“An unfair advantage is taking what looks like a detriment and finding the part of it that gives you an edge,” Dickson said.

It’s a key insight for the managing editor of Michigan Capitol Confidential, the Mackinac Center for Public Policy’s news website.

“CapCon seems small compared to our competitors in the traditional media,” Dickson said. “But our unfair advantage is our flexibility and our ability to focus on truly holding government accountable.”

When he was a teen, Dickson’s parents moved the family from Inkster to Detroit so he and his sister could take the placement exam to get into Detroit Renaissance High School, a public magnet school. Unfortunately, they didn’t move in time for him to take the exam.

“We were kind of stuck. We had just moved into the city, but couldn’t get into a good high school. But my dad saw a news report that West Bloomfield Schools was accepting students from other districts,” he said. “And that changed our life.”

In high school, Dickson began reading columns in the Sunday Detroit News and Detroit Free Press from the economist Thomas Sowell.

“I was amazed that there was this academic economist who could write articles that a teenager

“I was intrigued by the concept of what we call **Impact Journalism**,” he said. “We don’t hide that we are a free-market organization and that we do stories from that perspective.”

could be interested in,” Dickson said. “Reading him gave me an edge and furnished me with ideas and arguments others just didn’t know.”

In college, he tried to get a job at the Michigan Daily, the main student newspaper at the University of Michigan. But an email from the Michigan Review, a conservative/libertarian newspaper, caught his eye. By the end of his freshman year, he was an associate editor.

“I came into college as a conservative,” Dickson said. “But that group helped me develop an actual philosophy.”

From there, Dickson met John J. Miller, now the director of the Dow Journalism Program at Hillsdale College.

Miller helped him get his first journalism job, at The American Spectator in Washington, D.C. After the year-long fellowship, he came back to Michigan to work for The Detroit News.

After a decade with that publication, Dickson came on to lead Michigan Capitol Confidential.

“I was intrigued by the concept of what we call Impact Journalism,” he said. “We don’t hide that we are a free-market organization and that we do stories from that perspective. CapCon doesn’t get pulled into lots of different directions. This focus is our unfair advantage.” ■



MICHAEL D. LAFAIVE

TODD NESBIT, PH.D.

THE IMPACT OF RIGHT-TO-WORK LAWS

A SPATIAL ANALYSIS OF BORDER COUNTIES



RIGHT-TO-WORK IMPACT STUDY FIRST MEASURE OF MICHIGAN, INDIANA LAWS

Ten years ago this December, the state Legislature adopted a right-to-work statute, which said nobody need be compelled to join or financially support a union as a condition of employment. This worker protection law was the fruit of a two-decade campaign by the Mackinac Center.

The Mackinac Center has repeatedly used its intellectual firepower to demonstrate to the public, opinion makers and legislators that right-to-work states frequently do better economically than those with compulsory union laws.

Among the studies we cited over the years was a 1998 academic paper that looked at counties on state borders, where one state enjoyed right-to-work protections and an adjacent state did not. The study looked at manufacturing employment share, or the number of people in the manufacturing workforce as a percentage of the total private sector workforce. It found that manufacturing's role was 33% higher on the right-to-work side of the border.

Inspired by this original work, I undertook a project with my frequent collaborator, Mackinac Center Adjunct Scholar Todd Nesbit. We attempted to measure any impacts of right-to-work by using a similar method and looking across the nation. In border counties that passed a right-to-work law after 2000, we found manufacturing

employment was 21% higher in 2018 than it would have been otherwise.

For the states of Michigan and Indiana, that figure was 26% and 27% higher, respectively. Our findings were clear that employment gains accruing to the right-to-work states of Michigan and Indiana were coming from Ohio, which lacks right-to-work protections.

This is consistent with other research. A working paper by Harvard scholars published in December 2021, using a similar technique, found the manufacturing employment share to be 28% higher in border counties with right-to-work protections.

“The Mackinac Center has repeatedly used its intellectual firepower to demonstrate... that right-to-work states frequently do better economically than those with compulsory union laws.”

The media response has been positive. The Wall Street Journal published an exclusive op-ed from the Mackinac Center on April 14, with the title “Welcome to Indiana, a Right-to-Work State.” We also wrote op-eds in May for The Hill and The Detroit News. There’s plenty more material from our study to be gleaned for the coming 10th anniversary celebrations — and more efforts to persuade states without such laws to adopt them. ■



By Michael LaFaive
Senior Director of the Morey Fiscal Policy Initiative

Former Mackinac Center President Larry Reed Honored by Poland

The breakup of the Soviet Union was preceded by a growing Western awareness of the sufferings the Polish people endured under an oppressive communist regime. Few people were as influential in bringing global attention to their condition as Lawrence W. Reed, president emeritus of the Mackinac Center. In recognition of his important contribution to Polish freedom, Reed will be presented with the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland. This is the highest honor Poland awards to a foreigner. Previous recipients include President Ronald Reagan and British intellectual Sir Roger Scruton.

After visiting communist Poland in 1986, Reed began publishing articles about Polish heroes who were leading an underground resistance. While he was at the airport to return home from that trip, he was arrested and detained. Officials searched and seized his possessions before expelling him from the country. Their actions were likely prompted by a speech he gave at Jagiellonian University in Kraków, in which he said a revolution was coming.

Reed returned to Poland several times after its communist regime collapsed, and he continued to forge relationships with freedom leaders.

The Polish president, Andrzej Duda, notes Reed's dedication to the fight for freedom. "In a contemporary free world, Poland has few

“For this long-term commitment to freedom and to Poland, the free Republic of Poland has yet to thank him — until now.”

such dedicated and influential supporters and enthusiasts,” said Duda. “For this long-term commitment to freedom and to Poland, the free Republic of Poland has yet to thank him — until now.”

In his book, “Real Heroes: Inspiring True Stories of Courage, Character and Conviction,” Reed included several chapters on some of the Polish heroes he met during that initial visit. In addition to being a prolific writer about Poland, Reed also raised funds to translate Milton and Rose Friedman’s “Free to Choose” into Polish. He later organized a program that translated and published the works of F. A. Hayek, Ayn Rand, Ludwig Von Mises and other prominent free-market thinkers for a Polish audience.

Reed’s heroic actions have left a lasting mark on the Polish people. Few have done more to assist the fight for liberty, not only in Poland, but around the globe. ■



By Holly Wetzel

Director of Public Relations

Love of America Leads Bretzlaff Foundation to Support Conservative Education

“Every grant we make, in our minds, is to honor her.”



Left to right: Kathleen Lindbeck, Gerry Radtke and Janelle Radtke

Herbert W. Bretzlaff, a well-known and successful automotive sales engineer.

“Every grant we make, in our minds, is to honor her,” Janelle said.

Gerry first met the Bretzlaffs when he delivered newspapers to them as a teenager. That turned into doing yard work and other occasional jobs, which led to the families becoming close friends, he said.

In addition to awarding college scholarships, the foundation supports the intern program at the Mackinac Center, having sponsored some 25 college students in 10-week summer internships since 2015. A major grant from the foundation also made it possible for the Mackinac Center to launch a new leadership development program this year to help existing young staffers grow into movement leaders.

Both Mackinac programs are a good fit for the Bretzlaff mission of advancing American ideals through education, Kathleen said.

After helping thousands of students and interns, the trustees now have decided to disburse the foundation’s remaining funds and close in 2023.

They will miss the work – “this has been our lives for 25 years,” Janelle said. But they also will have the reward of knowing that Hilda Bretzlaff’s vision was carried out as she wished, by the people who knew her and understood her values best. ■

Hilda E. Bretzlaff loved America. She loved the ideals of democracy, a free economy and free enterprise.

Her vision was to establish a foundation that would advance these principles through conservative education. She wanted to help students with high moral character and a conservative mindset gain a college degree and become responsible citizens of the nation she loved.

Hilda Bretzlaff died in 1993 without putting her vision into action. That’s when her close friends, the Radtke family of Milford, learned that Mrs. Bretzlaff wanted them to carry out her plan.

So, they have.

For nearly 30 years, the Hilda E. Bretzlaff Foundation scholarship program, with the Radtke family as trustees at the helm, has helped thousands

of students across the country obtain a conservative college education. Trustees include husband and wife Gerry and Janelle Radtke; their daughter, Kathleen Lindbeck; and Gerry’s sister, Susan Vogt.

“We had a lot to learn,” Janelle said of the foundation’s early days. Consultants helped them with the logistical side of running a foundation, but the key to their success was staying true to the vision of Mrs. Bretzlaff and her husband,



By Lorie Shane
Senior Director of Advancement

Welcoming the Mackinac Center's 2022 INTERNS

Dixon Anderson, who joined the Mackinac Center in October as the graphic design intern, enjoys painting, drawing and playing pickleball. He hopes to pursue graphic design as a full-time career.

Joshua Antonini, who recently graduated from Hillsdale College with a degree in economics, is an environmental policy intern. An avid debater, he plans on graduate studies in political science.

Victoria Aultman returns to the Mackinac Center as the fiscal policy intern. A senior at Saginaw Valley State University, she studies political science and criminal justice. Aultman is a founder of the SVSU Turning Point USA chapter.

Jordan Barker has been an advancement intern since March. He studies business management at Northwood University, where he participates in Collegiate DECA. Barker looks forward to enjoying a boat he bought with a friend.

Caleb Bartes, also an advancement intern, studies communications, economics and government at American University. He loves creating art. Bartes plans a future of fighting for justice reform and free-market advocacy.

Phoebe Johnston is an environmental policy intern. She is the vice president of Kappa Kappa Gamma at Hillsdale College, where she studies economics and biology. Johnston plans to continue environmental policy work after law or graduate school.

Olivia Miller is returning to the Mackinac Center, working in advancement. A rising sophomore at the University of Texas-Dallas, she studies business and economic policy. She serves as a vice president for Alpha Kappa Psi and enjoys travel.

Amelia Molitor joined the Center as an Advancement and Events intern. She will be attending Walsh University in the fall, where she intends to study clinical psychology. In her free time, she enjoys painting, reading, and baking.

Genevieve O’Gara is the inaugural Frank Beckmann Center for Journalism intern. She is a rising senior at Hillsdale College, where she studies English. O’Gara, who enjoys reading and baking, hopes to work in publishing, perhaps as an editor.

Gabriel Powell is a communications intern. He is a rising senior at Hillsdale College, where he studies politics. Powell is a member of the mock trial team and plans to attend law school.

This summer’s education policy intern is **Andrew Reder**, who studies economics and management at Northwood University. A leader in the campus Turning Point USA chapter, he enjoys coin collecting.

Kyle Sweitzer joined the Mackinac Center as an advancement intern. A recent graduate of Grove City College, he studied political science and was a marketing fellow for the Institute for Faith and Freedom. He plans to continue working in the liberty movement.

Olivia Traxler joined the Mackinac Center as a communications intern. In addition to studying communications at Notre Dame, she belongs to several recreational clubs. Traxler hopes to pursue a career in marketing and communications. ■



By Gabriel Powell
Communications Intern

Left to right: Jordan Barker, Dixon Anderson, Kyle Sweitzer, Amelia Molitor, Olivia Miller, Genevieve O’Gara, Caleb Bartes, Phoebe Johnston, Andrew Reder, Olivia Traxler, Gabriel Powell, Victoria Aultman and Joshua Antonini.



WE'VE BEATEN DOWN THE UNION 'DUES SKIM' IN MICHIGAN AGAIN AND AGAIN

The Biden administration is trying to revive it for other states



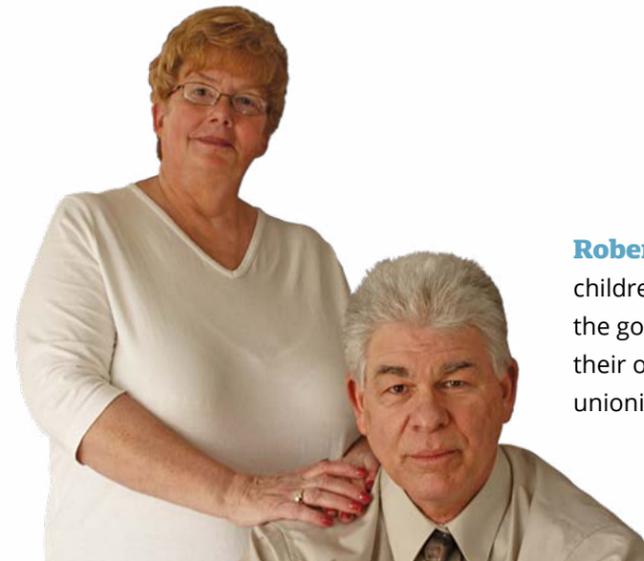
In 2009, the Mackinac Center began investigating a scheme where former Gov. Jennifer Granholm worked with a union to force tens of thousands of day care providers to pay money to the United Auto Workers and AFSCME unions.

A few months later, Robert Haynes — a retired Detroit police officer — reached out to tell us that he and his wife Patricia were ensnared in a similar scheme. Bob and Pat receive monthly Medicaid checks to take care of their two adult children.

“My wife and I have two special needs children,” Bob wrote. “My daughter is 32 and my son is 29. They are 100 percent dependent on us for their care. We get a monthly check to assist with their care. Last year, we were put into the SEIU without our knowledge. In our view, we are not home care providers but parents to our children. We didn’t join the SEIU [but] we now pay monthly dues that are deducted from the check without [our] even having a say. So, yes, this is a money grab that has been forced on people.”

This dues skim resulted in an estimated 80,000 day care and home caregivers being forcibly unionized, with \$35 million taken from their paychecks and given to unions.

We could not let that stand.



Robert and **Patricia Haynes** are the parents of two adult children with cerebral palsy. The SEIU was skimming dues from the governmental aid the Haynes received for watching over their own children instead of institutionalizing them. The SEIU unionized over 45,000 home-help providers.



Steven Glossop shows the check he received of all the returned dues that were previously taken out of his mother’s Medicaid checks.

Over the next few years, the Mackinac Center worked tirelessly on behalf of people like Bob and Pat Haynes. We filed a lawsuit, wrote more than 100 investigative stories and identified dozens of individuals who were harmed. We shot videos, got legislation passed, killed a union-funded constitutional amendment, participated in a U.S. Supreme Court case, gave comments to Congress and saw a new federal rule put into place.

We helped kill these shady unionization deals in Michigan. Today, Michigan’s public sector collective bargaining law does not allow workers to be unionized simply because they receive



“The Department of Health and Human Services has proposed a new rule to reinstate the dues skim in many states.”

government payments. Even though we won here, however, unions had put the dues skim in place in other states.

In a 2014 Supreme Court case, *Harris v. Quinn*, the nation’s highest court held that home care providers do not have to pay union dues. But these two unions and their allies did all they could to keep care providers from knowing that. Some \$200 million was being skimmed from home caregivers and given to unions every year across the United States. After hearing from people whose money was unjustly taken in this scheme, the Trump administration established a rule in 2019 ending the diversion of Medicaid payments to unions.

The federal agency that oversees Medicaid said the rule was meant to ensure that caregivers get paid fully and directly. The agency added that it did not wish to prevent or discourage anyone who wants to join a union from doing so.

Unfortunately, the Biden administration wants to reverse the Trump-era rule. The Department of Health and Human Services has proposed a new rule to reinstate the dues skim in many states. This would restart the flow of dollars from caregivers to unions. It would also resume coercion, as few caregivers voluntarily sign up to pay unions. Within a year of Michigan ending the dues skim,

more than 80% of home caregivers left the SEIU Healthcare Michigan union. The union convinced very few families to stay.

The proposed rule would reduce the amount of money going toward families. Most people being paid from these funds care for their own friends and family, and a dues skim takes money that should be available to help the sick and disabled. Those who depend on people outside their family may suffer the most: Directing federal Medicaid money away from its intended purpose is likely to exacerbate the current shortage of home health care workers.

This new proposed federal rule will not affect Michigan, thanks to legal and policy victories the Mackinac Center has helped caregivers win. But we stand by to help litigate and fight this issue across the land, state by state. While every worker should have a choice in whether to join and pay money to a union, no one should be forced to pay dues. ■



By Jarrett Skorup
Senior Director of Marketing and Communications



By Patrick J. Wright
Vice President for Legal Affairs

ONLINE RESOURCES



Mackinac.org/blog

Keep up-to-date on the latest policy stories from Mackinac Center analysts.



MichCapCon.com

Michigan Capitol Confidential reports with a free-market news perspective.



WorkersForOpportunity.org

Advancing the liberty of employees across the country and protecting First Amendment rights.



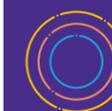
MiPace.org

Parent Advocates for Choice in Education.



Mackinac.org/MCLF

Our public interest law firm advances individual freedom and the rule of law in Michigan.



OpportunityMichigan.org

Want to get more engaged with public policy in Michigan? Opportunity Michigan is right for you.



Frank Beckmann Center for Journalism

Keeping citizens informed with news and analysis that expose government overreach and abuse.



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140 West Main Street, P.O. Box 568
Midland, Michigan 48640 | 989-631-0900
Mackinac.org | mcpp@mackinac.org

Project Manager
Taylor Piotrowski

Editors
John LaPlante
Tim Cavanaugh

Designers
Jonathan VanDerhoof
Dixon Anderson



Are You Listening to the ‘Mackinac On Michigan’ Show on WJR?

The largest a.m. radio station with the strongest signal in Michigan is WJR, and thousands tune in every month to listen to the “Mackinac On Michigan” public policy show. The show is hosted by long-time radio voice Kelly Cobb and Jarrett Skorup from the Mackinac Center.

Here’s a review of the shows aired so far in 2022.

JANUARY **Patrick Anderson**, the CEO of the Anderson Economic Group, discussed why inflation is such a problem. **Sen. Aric Nesbitt** talked about the budget priorities of Michigan Republicans and **Matt Frendewey** of ExcelinEd explained why school shutdowns harmed students. **James Hohman** of the Mackinac Center explained why there’s plenty of money in the state budget to cut income taxes.

FEBRUARY **Nolan Finley** from The Detroit News discussed Michigan’s gubernatorial races, **Rep. Tom Albert** talked about the state’s largest-ever budget, and **Ben DeGrow** from the

Mackinac Center discussed upcoming school choice initiatives.

MARCH **Corey DeAngelis** of the American Federation of Children talked about teachers unions pushing school shutdowns and why Michigan children need more options. **Kyle Melinn** of MIRS News discussed the year’s leading political issues, and **Rep. Pam Hornberger** gave us the scoop on negotiating the state budget.

APRIL **Kathy Hoekstra** of the Pacific Legal Foundation discussed local governments auctioning off peoples’ homes and keeping the profits. Political reporter **Beth LeBlanc** of The Detroit News gave us the big issues in Lansing in 2022. Republicans **Tudor Dixon** and **John James** told us about their races for governor and the U.S. House, respectively.

MAY **Ingrid Jacques** of USA Today discussed the current state of politics. **Beth DeShone** of the Great Lakes Education Project told us about

a new citizen initiative that could bring Michigan new educational options, and **Mike Van Beek** of the Mackinac Center brought us up to speed on what’s happening with auto insurance. We also spoke with gubernatorial candidate **Kevin Rinke**.

JUNE Our first summer show featured **Erin McDonough** of the Instance Alliance of Michigan, talking about false claims of the state’s auto insurance law, and **James Dickson** of Michigan Capitol Confidential on the big issues in investigative journalism. Michigan Freedom Fund strategist **Tori Sachs** spoke on 2022’s political issues, and **Emily Lawler**, politics editor at the Detroit Free Press, discussed what she’s tracking this campaign season.

You can listen to the “Mackinac On Michigan” show on 760 WJR by tuning in live or listening to the replay online. The show airs every third Tuesday of the month from 7-8 p.m. Listen over the air or online at www.WJR.com to hear the latest about what’s going on in Lansing and Washington, D.C., when it comes to the economy, schools and other issues you care about. You can also hear a replay at <https://thegreatvoice.com/Shows/mackinac-on-michigan>. ■

BY THE NUMBERS

27

The number of guests so far, ranging from Detroit Free Press reporter Emily Lawler to congressional candidate John James.

5,000

The average number of people listening during any five minute period of the show.

50,000

Watts of power output from the WJR transmitter, covering a 200 mile radius around Detroit.

7

Hours of radio recorded so far, with more to come.



The Mackinac Center’s work, including this magazine, is made possible by the Mackinac Center Board of Directors:

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Double Your Impact with a Beckmann Center Gift

What if your charitable giving could stretch further despite the inflation that is pushing up your grocery, gas and business bills?

One way to do that is by supporting the Frank Beckmann Center for Journalism at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. Every dollar you donate to the Beckmann Center this year will be matched, dollar for dollar, through a \$3 million challenge grant sponsored by a generous donor.

That means that your giving and your impact will go further.

Your gift of \$50 will generate \$100 toward keeping people informed about what is going on in Lansing. A gift of \$500 will provide \$1,000 for work to ensure that government turns over public documents that rightfully belong to the people.

A gift of \$1,000 would mean \$2,000 for new efforts like our monthly radio show, "Mackinac On Michigan," airing the third Tuesday of each month on WJR-AM 760 in Detroit.

Our immediate goal is to raise \$1 million for the Beckmann Center in 2022, which will open the door to an additional

\$2 million in matching funds. We already have raised more than \$975,000 toward this target.

Frank Beckmann understood that keeping citizens informed and engaged is essential to democracy, and never more than in difficult economic and political times like today.

If you want to maximize your charitable and public policy impact this year, please consider a donation to the Frank Beckmann Center for Journalism.

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By Jim Walker
Vice President
for Advancement