

THE MESSENGER

The Newsletter of The James Madison Institute
www.jamesmadison.org

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The James Madison Institute

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President's Message

Dear Friends,

It has been a policy whirlwind in 2021 for the great state of Florida. Now that the legislative session has come to a close, Governor DeSantis will be reviewing the recent proposals and passing many of those into law. I hope you enjoy reading about the successes we had this session in the “2021 Legislative Wrap-Up” section in this edition of *The Messenger*. Safe to say our great state, while not perfect, continues to be one of the freest in the country.

This highlights the great progress being made here at The James Madison Institute (JMI). Thank you for your support. Without it, JMI could not be as successful as we are, and the steady, year-over-year march towards greater liberty here in the Sunshine State would never have occurred. Take a moment to reflect on this past year, and how fortunate we are to live in Florida.

All across the state, schools are winding down after a full year of classroom options, people are receiving their vaccinations, and Florida's economy is open and thriving. Reviewing the recent proposals that were passed during this legislative session, it is clear that Florida's legislators are embracing The James Madison Institute's policies of limited government, economic freedom, and free enterprise. This commitment has resulted in

more than \$200 billion in income migration to Florida in the last 20 years with roughly 800 people moving to our state every day. As Florida becomes more and more diverse, it is also becoming more and more free, as these new residents shed the burden of over-regulation and high taxes from their former states. There is an old saying that we use often at JMI: “Freedom works every time it's tried.”

And nowhere has that been more true than here in Florida.

We are the single-most important and influential state in the country when it comes to policy and politics. But none of this could be possible without your generosity and dedication. I hope you can see from this edition of *The Messenger* the important scope of the work of JMI. While there will always be more to do, I can confidently

say that we are more hopeful for the future of our state than we have been in recent memory. Thank you for all you do for The James Madison Institute.

If you have not already done so, I encourage you to visit jamesmadison.org/subscribe and sign up to receive our bi-weekly emails, the Madison Minute, to stay informed on the work we are doing for you and the people of the great state of Florida.

Onward together,



J. Robert McClure III, Ph.D.
President and CEO



JMI EVENTS AROUND FLORIDA



▶ Dr. Bob McClure speaking with Governor Scott Walker and American Conservative Union's David Safavian about free speech on college campuses at CPAC.



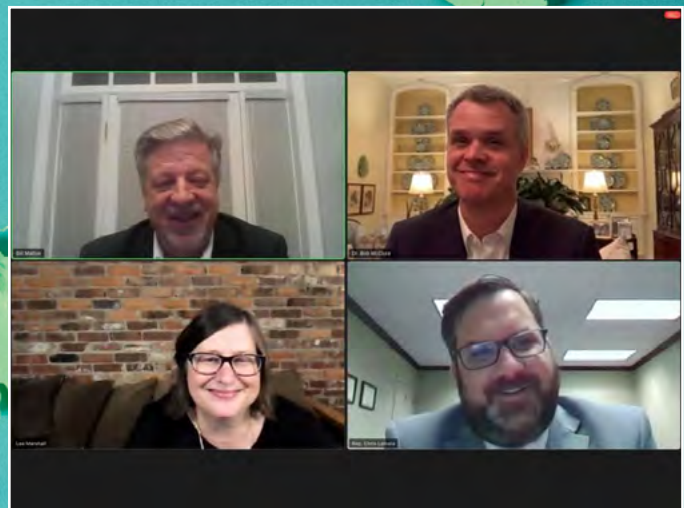
▶ In partnership with Regions Bank, JMI's Campus Representatives hosted a special webinar all about building financial security. Students learned how they can break down their financial goals and gain more control over their money.



▶ JMI President and CEO Dr. Bob McClure, JMI Vice Chairman Glenn Blaich and his wife Sandra at an event in Naples, FL.



▶ Dr. Bob McClure speaking at FitCon2020.



▶ JMI's William Mattox and Dr. Bob McClure with Lea Marshall and Representative Chris Latvala during JMI's 2021 Stanley Marshall Day event.

Influence

Washington Examiner

THE DAILY SIGNAL

THE HILL

The Washington Times

THE CITIZEN

FLORIDA POLITICS

CAPITOLIST

Orlando Sentinel

Newsmax

reason
FREE MINDS AND FREE MARKETS

The Dallas Morning News

LONGBOAT
Observer

redefinedED
the new definition of public education

THE FIRST

SARASOTA
Observer

The Gainesville Sun

SPACE COAST
DAILY

wfsu
PUBLIC MEDIA

The Florida Times-Union

Florida Record

Florida Daily

SOUTH FLORIDA
SunSentinel

The American Conservative

News-Press

pensacola
news journal

Tallahassee
Democrat

TC Palm

florida today

Naples
Daily News

Herald-Tribune



Sal Nuzzo participating in a press conference hosted by Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse.



Dr. Bob McClure participating in an interview with State Policy Network.



Dr. Bob McClure being interviewed by Mike Slater on The First TV about the importance of economic freedom and limited government policies in Florida as more and more people move to our state each day.



Dr. Bob McClure speaking to the Republican Women's Club of Duval County.



JMI's Communications Director, Logan Padgett, was named one of Influence Magazine's Rising Stars.



JMI's William Mattox speaks during the Florida Board of Governor's meeting about free speech on college campuses.



Dr. Bob McClure being interviewed by Breitbart News Network on "Radio Row" at CPAC.

2021 Legislative Wrap-Up



Expanded Education Choice for K-12 Students

- Made scholarships available to 61,000 more middle-income families
- Retained priority of serving most vulnerable students first
- Eliminated burdensome requirement of prior-public school enrollment
- Eased charter school approval process to prevent local authorities from blocking competition

Improved Civics Education

- Strengthened emphasis on America's founding principles
- Initiated video library of first-person testimonials about life under communism
- Embraced efforts to reward teachers who emphasize content as opposed to activism



Promoted Philosophical Diversity on University Campuses

- Commissioned annual survey to assess openness to viewpoint diversity
- Enabled data collection to measure prevalence of “self-censorship”
- Provided opportunity for exemplary schools to distinguish themselves

Reformed Regulations Freeing Entrepreneurs

- Protected businesses from frivolous litigation because of the Covid-19 pandemic
- Preempted onerous local regulations on home-based businesses
- Expanded cottage food limitations allowing small local food vendors greater autonomy to grow their business
- Eliminated local licensing requirements on occupations
- Established sales tax parity with out of state online retailers while cutting taxes for in-state businesses
- Increased protections for homeowners from bad faith litigation in property insurance



Expanded Patient-Centered Healthcare Delivery

- Advanced scope of practice rules for physician assistants
- Permitted pharmacists greater autonomy and ability to dispense vaccines
- Further expanded ability of providers to use telehealth



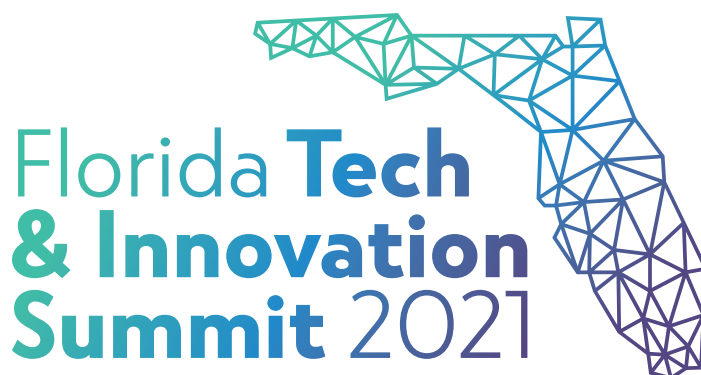
Increased Florida's Innovation Environment

- Enabled greater use of autonomous vehicles
- Modernized and protected Florida's election system making it easier to vote and harder to cheat
- Addressed broadband deployment for 800,000 Floridians in areas not served currently

2021 Tech and Innovation Summit

There is no doubt about it: Florida leads America's future. National commentators have praised the Sunshine State's responsible, limited government and high level of services. The results speak for themselves: Americans have poured into our state to live well and build great things. The challenge is for Florida to protect our policy environment that encourages entrepreneurship and innovation. How can Florida continue to lead the future?

Join The James Madison Institute for the "2021 Tech and Innovation Summit" as we bring together thought leaders in policy, industry, and media to discuss how Florida can best lead in the areas of cryptocurrency, aerospace, next-generation transportation, telecommunications, and digital technologies.



Dr. Bob McClure with Secretary of State Laurel Lee



Left to Right, Dr. Bob McClure with Senator Ray Rodrigues and JMI Board Member Tim Cerio.

WHEN

**Wednesday, July 14
- Thursday, July 15**

WHERE

**Doubletree by Hilton
Tampa Airport Westshore
4500 West Cypress Street
Tampa, FL 33607**

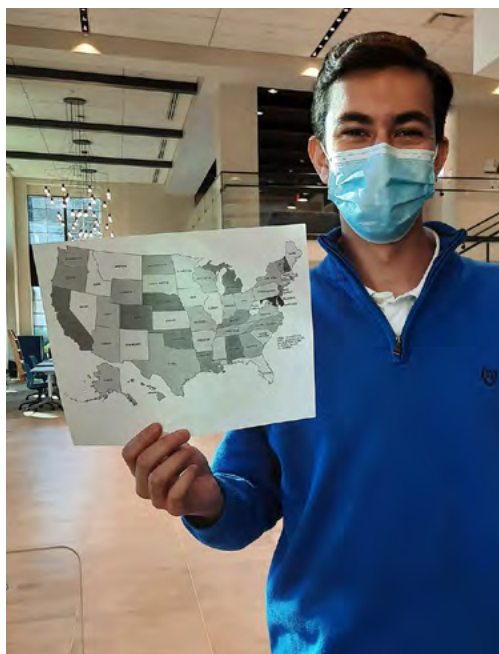
Register at

<https://bit.ly/2021JMITechSummit>

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



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



Bill of Rights Day

On December 15, we celebrated Bill of Rights Day. Throughout the day, we featured some of our JMI Campus Representatives on social media where they had the chance to share their favorite amendment in the Bill of Rights.

Here is what some of them had to say:

Although they're all important, my favorite amendment from the Bill of Rights is the Tenth Amendment. More rights left to the States means more power and closer governance to the People, and states can serve as microcosms for future federal policy."

DANIEL ELLIOT
Rollins College

"We were an armed citizenry willing to fight for our beliefs. Without weapons, we would have had no recourse but to be subjected to England's rule." Imagine how

different the world would be if we stayed under England's control, and the United States was never free. I truly believe, without the 2nd amendment, the world wouldn't be as accessible and prosperous as it is today. That is exactly why the 2nd amendment is my favorite."

IAN KELLER
Jacksonville University

"My favorite section of the Bill of Rights would be the First Amendment. To me, our country's freedom of speech, press, assembly, religion, and protest is one of the most important factors that makes our country so great. Without those freedoms, America wouldn't be the country it is, nor would it be a safe haven for people of all creeds and backgrounds who can always fight for what is right."

ANDREW JAMISON
University of Florida



Thrift Week

The week of January 17th, we celebrated Thrift Week. Thrift Week began on Ben Franklin's birthday in 1916, as he was a huge proponent of thriftiness. Thrift Week principles consist of tenets such as earning all you can, saving all you can, and giving all you can.



An update from a JMI Intern

My time interning at The James Madison Institute was nothing short of what I desired and needed to get a jumpstart to my future. The year 2020 was a difficult time for me, especially being a senior graduating in 2021. Not many organizations or work places were allowing interns, which built up fear in my heart because I didn't know what I wanted to do with my major in Interdisciplinary Social Science. However, JMI came to my rescue. Working alongside Becky, Karen and Bob, I was able to connect and interact with people who modeled what I desire to be in the

future. As the Executive Intern, it was a dream come true being able to see the inner workings of an organization whose mission is bettering society. Now with a clear focus, I am able to move forward with the connections and friendships I have made while being an intern at JMI, and for that I am forever grateful to have been given the opportunity to work with their staff in making the world a better place.

Mi'Kel Engram is a recent graduate of Florida State University with a degree in Interdisciplinary Social Science. He was the Executive Intern at JMI during the Spring 2021 semester.



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.

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

JMI Expands with New Hires

JMI has added two new members to the team!

Emerson George has been hired as the Communications Manager and Karen Hickey joined the team as the Executive Assistant to the President and CEO.



Emerson George

Emerson is responsible for implementing communications strategies to grow the Institute's brand to reach local and national audiences, while increasing the engagement of current supporters and members through timely and effective targeted issue campaigns, earned and paid media, podcast and video content, social media messaging, and more.

A veteran political communicator with an emphasis on crisis management and rapid response, Emerson has served as the Communications Director for several members of Congress, including Congressman John Rutherford (FL-04) and Congressman Gregg Harper (MS-03). During that time, Emerson worked on various nationally high-profile messaging campaigns, including the STOP School Violence Act, which strengthened security and awareness in schools following the

shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, as well as the Congressional Accountability Act review of the sexual harassment policies for members of Congress.

Before joining the team at JMI, Emerson served as the communications director for the Florida Department of Health, and has worked on several political campaigns, including the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections, and the 2018 Florida gubernatorial election, among others.

A Tallahassee native, Emerson attended the University of Mississippi where he served as the Vice President of the Student Body, President of the Campus Senate, and President of the College Republicans. Emerson graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science.

Emerson enjoys spending time with his golden retriever, Archie, his two brothers, his nieces: Taylor and Sophia, and his nephew: Roman.



Karen Hickey

Karen Hickey is the executive assistant to the president at JMI. She is responsible for managing the logistical needs for the JMI office while ensuring a functional environment for all JMI employees.

Previously, Karen worked for the Young Actors Theater as an office manager where she established a smooth operation of the office while maintaining student enrollment and registration, orchestrating financial aid and scholarships along with payments, and served as a point of contact for many operations that occurred at the office.

Karen is a former preschool teacher at Killearn Kids Preschool. During her time at the preschool, Karen maintained organization through developing lesson

plans, communicating effectively with parents and directing twelve school-wide learning programs.

Karen is a graduate of Tallahassee Community College and later went on to earn her Child Development Associate certificate and Preschool Director's Credentials.

Married to her high school sweetheart, Jason, Karen loves to spend time with her husband and two children.

In her free time, Karen serves as treasurer for the organization, Keys to Exceptional Youth Success (KEYS), which raises educational scholarships for students with disabilities. She is an active member of Killearn United Methodist Church. Karen loves to cook, go to concerts and travel. Her favorite trip was driving to Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks.

JMI Adds a New Board Member

Being involved and supportive of your local and professional community is what JMI's newest Board member, William Shepherd, has done for well over 20 years.

Being consistently listed as one of the best lawyers in America for litigation, white collar crime, and government investigations, Mr. Shepherd is an experienced trial lawyer in Holland & Knight's West Palm Beach and Washington, D.C. offices.

Mr. Shepherd focuses his practice on litigation and dispute resolution, white collar defense and investigations, Florida government advocacy, and State Attorneys General. He has testified before Congress, the U.S. Sentencing Commission and the Florida Legislature on a variety of criminal law policy issues.

In private practice, Mr. Shepherd has assisted Fortune 50 companies and family-owned businesses alike to resolve matters with the Florida Attorney General as well as a number of national, multistate Attorney General matters.

In furtherance of this public advocacy, Mr. Shepherd was called upon, pro bono, to write the amicus brief before the U.S. Court of Appeals

for the Eleventh Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court in the landmark case overturning *US v. Yates* and the conviction of commercial fisherman John Yates under Sarbanes-Oxley for the "destruction" of three red grouper. The case was highlighted in media



William N. Shepherd

around the world and Mr. Shepherd published an Op-Ed in the Wall Street Journal the day of the oral argument.

In addition to his involvement in national criminal and social justice reform issues, Mr. Shepherd has also

been actively engaged in updating Florida's evidence code to meet the national Daubert standard. As Florida's statewide prosecutor, he advocated for its adoption in the legislature. After successful passage, Mr. Shepherd advocated before The Florida Bar on the issue and ultimately in the Florida Supreme Court as the author of amicus briefs in various cases on behalf of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and in a separate matter on behalf of the Florida Chamber and Associated Industries of Florida. Daubert is now the law in Florida.

His balance of civil and criminal matters helps him keep a keen eye on risk and a broader perspective on developing solutions to clients' problems.

As a seven-year veteran of the Florida Attorney General's Office and a former Division Director of the Year, Mr. Shepherd brings a great depth of knowledge and appreciation for the pitfalls, both civil and criminal, facing clients under investigation by state attorneys general.

Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Mr. Shepherd served, at the appointment of the attorney general, as the statewide prosecutor of Florida.



Honoring George Gibbs

A great friend of the Institute passed away, George Gibbs. George, and his lovely wife Ann, have been friends of the Institute for over two decades.

Descending from a long line of Jacksonville natives and shipbuilders, Mr. George Gibbs was immersed in the industry from an early age, working for his father's and grandfather's shipyard and shipbuilding companies.

Both companies, Atlantic Marine and Atlantic Dry Dock, provided critical industrial infrastructure to downtown Jacksonville, Mayport and Fort George Island.

At the age of 27, Mr. George Gibbs followed his dream of forming his own shipyard, Atlantic Marine.

During its early years, Atlantic Marine mainly built steel-hulled fishing boats. As the company

grew, Atlantic Marine expanded its capability and expertise to include aluminum patrol and steel research vessels, tugboats, ferries and supply boats.

Notably, the company was one of the first shipyards in the country



to build casino boats. The company also built two shuttle-booster retrieval ships for NASA — the Liberty Star and the Freedom Star.

In 1966, George expanded the business to include Atlantic Dry Dock, as he sought to provide the best in ship repair and conversion. Atlantic Dry Dock performed hundreds of overhauls on U.S. Navy vessels ranging from small minesweepers to mighty aircraft carriers, including the *USS Forrestal* and *USS Saratoga*. George's work culminated in the largest reconstruction job ever performed outside a Navy shipyard on the *USS Kennedy*.

Following the successful conversion of the Miami yacht, *The Floridian*, the mega-yacht world discovered Atlantic Dry Dock, which led to many other successful overhauls.

"We are very appreciative of George Gibbs, and his lovely wife Ann, for their commitment to JMI over the last two decades. There is no doubt that Mr. Gibb's memory will live on through his generous Legacy gift. We would also like to thank the entire Gibbs family for their support to JMI."

Dr. Bob McClure, JMI President & CEO

With his sharp business acumen, George continued to expand his shipyard business in 1990 by acquiring a shipyard facility in Mobile, AL. Under George's leadership, the new construction shipyard greatly expanded their services by adding a 853-foot dry dock capable of lifting 40,000 tons. This addition enabled the company to work on some of the largest ships in the world such as Royal Caribbean's *Monarch of the Seas* and Carnival's *Imagination*.

Under his quiet and strategic leadership, his companies became highly successful, all while becoming globally recognized for their careful consideration of each customer's time schedule and budget considerations.

In total, Atlantic Marine built 350+ new construction vessels for businesses all over the world. During Atlantic Marine's peak, the two locations had over 3,000 employees.

In addition to his own business enterprises, he was deeply involved in Jacksonville's business and civic

community. In 1982, he served as the Vice-President of Business and Industry for the Chamber of Commerce, and later served on the boards of Jacksonville Federal Reserve, The James Madison Institute and the Episcopal School of Jacksonville.

Mr. Gibbs never took for granted the business environment that allowed him to create his own success through his entrepreneurial endeavors and firmly believed in maintaining these opportunities for generations to come.

Serving on The James Madison Institute Board of Directors for 18 years, Mr. Gibbs supported several organizations that upheld his belief that the free-market system must be preserved and that the government that "governs least, governs best."

In addition to spending his workdays around boats, George's favorite past-time activities always involved being close to the water. He was an avid sailor his entire life and owned many sailboats and trawler boats. While he explored many

areas via sailboat, he was always drawn to cruising the Bahamas and the British Virgin Islands.

Before passing in October 2020, Mr. Gibbs committed a *Legacy Society* gift to The James Madison Institute.

By making a planned gift, Mr. Gibbs joined the distinguished group of friends who have made the decision to join JMI's *Legacy Society*.

Mr. Gibbs' planned gift has helped to provide the necessary resources for JMI to continue to research and educate policymakers and the public on the issues of the day—all while ensuring his legacy is cemented by helping others across the Sunshine State.

With the help of Mr. Gibbs' legacy gift, JMI continues to find solutions to build a better Florida.

Philanthropy plays a very important role at JMI. Mr. Gibbs' support ensures that we can continue to pursue advancement in public policy and share the principles of economic freedom, personal responsibility and limited government.



Recent JMI Publications

On Wayfair, Tread Lightly

A report by The James Madison Institute in partnership with the National Taxpayers Union Foundation examines the “economic nexus” rules implemented in states as a result of the 2018 South Dakota v. Wayfair Supreme Court decision and outlines the steps that Florida legislators should take and, more importantly, the pitfalls they should avoid in crafting legislation to impose tax obligations for online retailers.

The report details many common mistakes made by other states that rushed to impose regulations in the wake of the 2018 court case, hoping to receive a massive windfall of tax revenue that ultimately ended up being far less than projected and often resulted in burdensome policies that hurt small retailers.

E-commerce has grown in importance during the COVID-19 era, as lockdowns and social distancing have increased the demand for online retailers. With this in mind, some analysts have declared that post-Wayfair tax rules are crucial for state budgets to stay afloat. However, Florida should learn from the mistakes of others and be mindful of the potential harm that poorly-crafted legislation can do to small businesses that are even less equipped to deal with additional expenses due to the pandemic.



Deplatforming and Freedom: A Primer for Policy

In recent years, technological platforms have expanded content controls to limit or ban more and more speech online. Many worry that these controls may catch important speech in a too-broad net, which threatens our culture of free speech. This is a technological issue, as most social media platforms are designed as centralized networks where administrators retain control over what content can be shared and with whom.

JMI's report examines the differences between centralized and decentralized platforms and details the unique challenges faced by policymakers wanting to create policies that promote free speech online while continuing to foster innovation and digital self-determination.

Florida has been a leader in creating an environment where technologists and innovators can flourish. Continuing to welcome these communities to our state through policies designed to make it easier for them to build and experiment will encourage the kind of technological innovations that can capably address deplatforming.



Protecting Florida's Most Vulnerable: Market-Based Reform to Improve Nursing Home Care

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted significant shortcomings in our healthcare system and, perhaps most particularly, in the nursing home industry. Nursing home residents represent six percent of cases and 40 percent of fatalities nationwide. In Florida alone, more than 7,700 nursing home residents have died from COVID-19—about 40 percent of the state's total fatalities.

The JMI report details the importance of competition in the nursing home industry to better incentivize providers to improve the quality of care. This can be achieved, among other reforms, by eliminating burdensome Certificate of Need (CON) laws which dissuade competition, impede expansion and disincentivize innovation, often resulting in large-scale institutional care settings.

The report states that “Lawmakers must recognize that regulatory requirements only create minimum standards of care. They do not create incentives for providers to go beyond those minimum standards. The best way to encourage quality beyond regulatory standards is competition. Hence, anti-competitive policies like Certificate of Need laws should be eliminated.”



Expanding Regulatory Sandboxes to Fast-Track Innovation

A report from The James Madison Institute's Center for Technology and Innovation examines how Florida legislators can expand regulatory sandboxes to unleash innovation across a wide variety of industries.

A regulatory sandbox is an environment where pioneering companies may safely experiment under the watchful guidance of regulatory agencies. Regulatory sandboxes help innovative new firms fast-track their products and services to market while maintaining an appropriate level of government oversight. Firms that successfully complete a sandbox program will grow enough to become a full-fledged business that is regulated in the same way as every other incumbent.

With Florida's financial technology (fintech) sandbox beginning operations this month, the Sunshine State is at the cutting edge of embracing new industry solutions, having adopted this program just four short years from the time that the United Kingdom first initiated the concept of a fintech sandbox.

As lawmakers continue to look for solutions to recover from the fallout of COVID-19, Florida's unique fintech sandbox policy presents an opportunity to create regulatory sandboxes in more industries or even an industry-neutral, “general-purpose” sandbox. This will open up new possibilities for access to affordable and innovative products and services that are needed now more than ever.



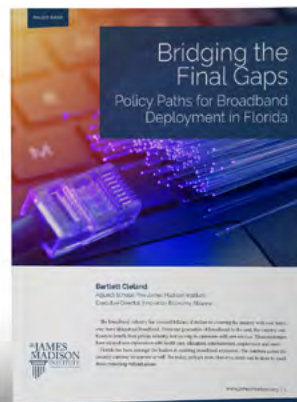
Recent JMI Publications

“Bridging the Final Gaps: Policy Paths for Broadband Deployment in Florida”

A report by The James Madison Institute outlines the principles and policies that have made Florida a leader in enabling broadband expansion and examines how the state should continue to build on its past and current success to expand reliable, affordable broadband access for all Floridians.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly 96 percent of Floridians have access to high-speed broadband. Most Floridians enjoy not just access, but competition from broadband service providers to win their business, often with two or three competitors in urban areas including wireless, cable, and satellite.

At the same time, 800,000 Floridians remain separated from broadband, a challenge made more apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic. By understanding the investment and infrastructure needs as well as the regulatory barriers of the industry, Florida’s policymakers can build on the successes, avoid the pitfalls, and ensure reliable access for everyone in the Sunshine State.



Expanding Access to Telehealth in Florida: Recent Progress and Opportunities for Improvement

A joint report by The James Madison Institute and Reason Foundation examines Florida’s current structure for telehealth services and introduces innovative recommendations on how the Sunshine State can further provide alternative healthcare solutions.

Prior to 2019, the delivery of healthcare resources proved restrictive with various patchwork regulations and licensing requirements. However, in 2019, the Florida legislature reformed the definition of telehealth services as well as authorization requirements and allowed licensed out-of-state providers to practice in Florida.

Since that time, Florida has taken steps to widen healthcare reach to all Floridians while reducing the associated costs. However, there are still plenty of areas where improvement is needed. The joint report outlines how reforming the conformity of Florida’s scope of practice laws, the difference in limiting services for Statewide Medicaid Managed Care, and the policies surrounding Florida’s private insurance reimbursement will help to provide affordable telehealth services to Floridians.



Union Time on the Taxpayer Dime

“Local governments in Florida are allowing a ‘blatant misuse of taxpayer money’ by paying employees to perform union tasks unrelated to their public duties, essentially giving away scarce tax resources to private entities for private benefit,” The James Madison Institute says in a new policy brief.

In this JMI report, Sean Higgins, a research fellow at Competitive Enterprise Institute concludes that Florida should put an end to “union release time,” a taxpayer-funded subsidy that allows members of public employee unions to conduct union business during working hours without loss of pay.

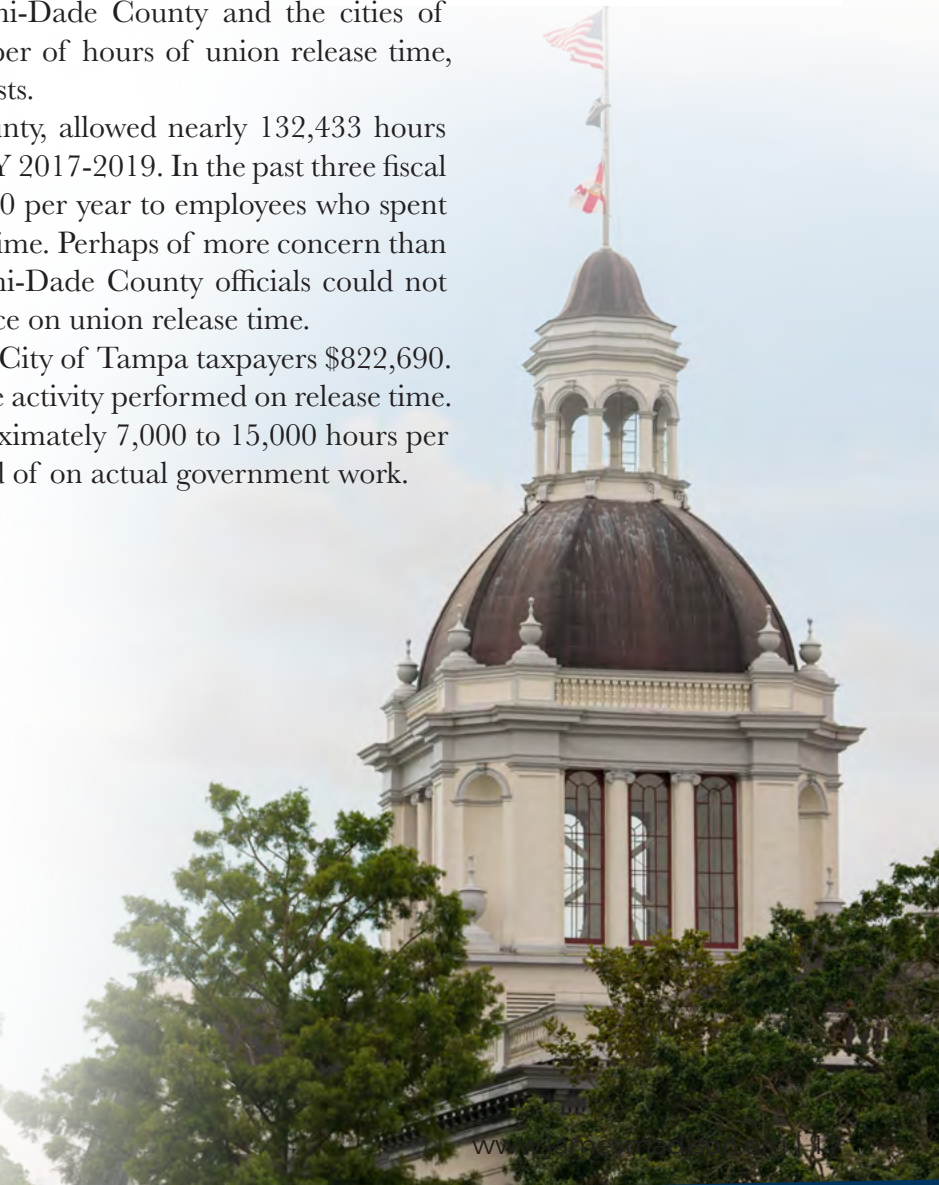
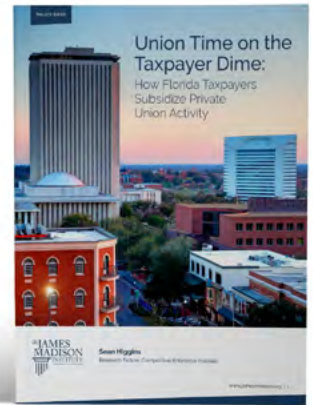
Even after the Supreme Court ruled in *Janus v. AFSCME* that a public sector worker cannot be forced to join a union as a condition of employment, Florida municipalities give public employee unions access to millions of taxpayer dollars each year in the form of release time, according to the JMI policy brief.

Working in conjunction with JMI, researchers from the Competitive Enterprise Institute compiled public records from Miami-Dade County and the cities of Tampa and Jacksonville to examine the number of hours of union release time, activities paid for with release time, and the costs.

Miami-Dade, Florida’s most populous county, allowed nearly 132,433 hours on release time at a cost of \$4.3 million from FY 2017-2019. In the past three fiscal years, Miami-Dade County paid over \$600,000 per year to employees who spent 100 percent of their working hours on release time. Perhaps of more concern than the actual dollar figures is the fact that Miami-Dade County officials could not provide information on what activity takes place on union release time.

In FY 2018 and 2019, release time cost the City of Tampa taxpayers \$822,690. The city also did not keep records related to the activity performed on release time.

City of Jacksonville employees spent approximately 7,000 to 15,000 hours per year on union activity, while on the job, instead of on actual government work.



An Update from Florida's College Campuses

Serving as the Ave Maria University Campus Representative has been a great joy over the past two years. JMI's commitment to free speech, rigorous inquiry, and creative outreach is a breath of fresh air in the charged atmosphere present on many campuses. Though the pandemic has negatively impacted our ability to host in-person gatherings, we've been able to facilitate successful virtual events and socially-distanced live lectures. We've touched on themes ranging from family policy to administrative law to personal finance, and we've encouraged rigorous and civil dialogue between folks of different backgrounds. I'm incredibly proud of the work JMI does and it's been



an honor to facilitate these discussions to touch the next generation of leaders.

Max Bodach recently graduated magna cum laude from Ave Maria University with degrees in Political Economy & Government and History. He was a JMI Campus Representative at AMU from the fall of 2019 to the spring of 2021. He now works in PR in Washington, D.C.



JMI's Campus Representatives posted on social media a Madison-themed survey for students to vote for who they think would win the matchups from the NCAA March Madness Sweet 16 through the end of the tournament. The graphics also included fun facts about the schools, the NCAA, and the tournament itself. The students with the best bracket won gift cards and prizes.

Fun Facts!



The father of Robert Emmett Bledsoe Baylor, founder of Baylor University, served as a captain directly under General George Washington in the Continental Army



After perfecting the research initially done by Benjamin Franklin, air conditioning was invented in 1933, and one year after, the University of Houston became the first air conditioned university in the country



The Internet started at UCLA in 1969. The first Internet transmission was sent from UCLA to Stanford University.



Gonzaga was founded in 1880 specifically to provide education for Native American tribes in the area

Centers



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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.

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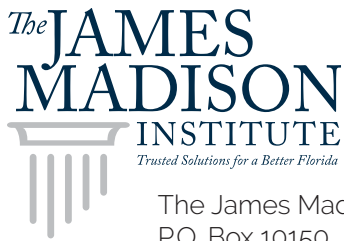
MISSION: To promote liberty, economic prosperity, and the rule of law by recommending property rights policy that will:

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
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THE ADVANCEMENT *of* LIBERTY
at The James Madison Institute

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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