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Cato Institute
 1000 Massachusetts Ave, NW
 Washington, DC 20001-5403
 Phone (202) 842 0200
 Fax (202) 842 3490
[Contact Us](#)

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January 20, 2010

The Massachusetts Health Plan: Much Pain, Little Gain

In 2006, Massachusetts enacted a sweeping health insurance law that mirrors the legislation currently before Congress. In a *new study*, Cato scholars [Aaron Yelowitz](#) and [Michael F. Cannon](#) evaluate the Massachusetts law and find important lessons for the legislation moving through Congress. The bottom line: "The costs may be far greater than legislators and voters believe, while the benefits may be smaller than the conventional wisdom about Massachusetts suggests."

- "The Massachusetts Health Plan: Much Pain, Little Gain," by Aaron Yelowitz and Michael F. Cannon

Are Unions Good for America?

The new special issue of *Cato Journal* challenges the myth that unions benefit all workers and exposes the fallacy of the "high-wage doctrine." It shows that the threat from public sector unions is real and that recent post-election concessions to unions may only be the beginning of a new round of *political rent seeking* and even more onerous labor laws. An expansion of union power, especially in the public sector, would further erode the rule of law and freedom, and have adverse effects on *U.S. competitiveness* and on private sector development.

- [Winter 2010 Issue of Cato Journal](#)

Failing Grade for Head Start

The much anticipated first-grade findings for the *Head Start Impact Study* are finally here, and the results are devastating for proponents of *government-run early childhood initiatives*. The study concludes, "Head Start improved children's language and literacy development during the program year but not later and had only one strongly confirmed impact on math ability in a negative direction." Cato scholar [Adam Schaeffer](#)

Massachusetts Election Refutes Weak Tea Conservatism

Gene Healy in the *DC Examiner*.

Abominable Economics

Daniel Griswold on free trade in the *National Review (Online)*.

No Taxes, Please, We're Democrats

Michael D. Tanner on union health care policies in the *New York Post*.

The Mysterious Ways Of Fannie And Freddie

Johan Norberg in *Forbes*.

Can Google Beat China?

Timothy B. Lee in the *New York Times*.

[[More Commentary](#)]

Healthcare.Cato.org

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Cato University

July 25-30, 2010
 Rancho Bernardo Inn,
 San Diego, California

CATO@LIBERTY

"The Brown Revolution"
 by David Boaz

"Tuesday Links"
 by Chris Moody

"Race to Domination"
 by Neal McCluskey

[[Cato @ Liberty Blog](#)]

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Daily Podcast
 Gov. Gary Johnson - Our America Initiative

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OF SPECIAL NOTE

NEW BOOKS



Financial Fiasco

An easily accessible work on the economic crisis, the book guides readers through a world of irresponsible behavior, showing how many of the "solutions" being implemented are repeating the mistakes that caused the crisis.

Shifting Superpowers

This book aims to energize the debate over the proper direction of U.S. foreign policy in Asia, urging America to adapt to the realities of a changing world in which China is not automatically America's enemy, while India is not consistently America's ally.



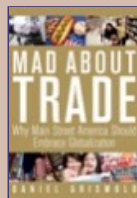
Gridlock

America's transportation system is on the verge of collapse and *Gridlock* reveals how we got into this mess and how to fix it by focusing on free market improvements

to methods of transportation that pay for themselves and increase everyone's mobility.

Mad About Trade

This much-needed antidote to a rising tide of protectionist sentiment in the United States offers a spirited defense of free trade and tells the underreported story of how a more global U.S. economy has created better jobs and higher living standards for American workers.



comments, "President Obama should scuttle all plans to expand government childhood programs. It's past time we turn to the education reform that has proven itself through multiple random-assignment studies: school choice."

Upcoming Events

January 20, 2010

Gridlock: Why We're Stuck in Traffic and What to Do About It

Cato Book Forum, Noon

- "How the Media Are Covering 'Head Start's' Failure," by Andrew J. Coulson
- "Head Start EPIC FAIL," by Adam Schaeffer
- "Head Start's Impact Evanescent — HHS Study," by Andrew J. Coulson

Next Transportation

, Noon

January 28, 2010

ObamaCare's High Implicit Tax Rates for Low-Wage Workers

Cato Policy Forum, Noon

February 2, 2010

The Rule of Law in Russia

Cato Policy Forum, Noon

February 2, 2010

Campaign Finance after *Citizens United*: What Now?

Cato Capitol Hill Briefing, Noon

February 4, 2010

From Poverty to Prosperity: Intangible Assets, Hidden Liabilities and the Lasting Triumph over Scarcity

Cato Book Forum, Noon

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