



Governor grading report exemplifies partisan divide

Friday, January 18, 2019

In John Hood's Jan. 7 column, he cites a "report card" issued by the Cato Institute evaluating the fiscal performance of the nation's governors. It is no surprise that the Cato Institute, formerly the Charles Koch Foundation, would look favorably on Republican governors.

As stated in the Cato report "This report grades governors on their fiscal policies from a limited-government perspective. Governors receiving an A are those who have cut taxes and spending the most, whereas governors receiving an F have raised taxes and spending the most."

If you believe that cutting taxes and spending indicates good governing then it is easy to agree with the report's conclusion. However, if you believe that there is an important role for government to play in promoting the common good and that those efforts should be paid for through taxes then the report's grading is probably the inverse of what it should be.

These fundamentally opposite views of the role of government in today's society is at the heart of our current partisan divide.

Dave Garraty

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