

THE CHRONICLE OF
PHILANTHROPY
Connecting the nonprofit world with news, jobs, and ideas

Update on the News: Cato Institute Controversy

March 6, 2012, 11:05 am

Charles and David Koch, the conservative billionaires, have donated \$30-million to the Cato Institute since its founding in the 1970s, *The New York Times* reports in a follow-up article about the [lawsuit](#) the brothers filed last week as part of an attempt to ensure their continued control over the composition of the organization's board.

But they gave nothing last year to the organization that Charles Koch helped found, a sign of the tensions that were brewing over how involved in politics Cato should be, the newspaper says. Robert A. Levy, chairman of the board, told *The Times* that "we can't be perceived as a mouthpiece of special interests. The Cato Institute as we know it would be destroyed."