

wreg.com /news/sns-ap-ms--cato-barbour,0,1208376.story

WREG

Conservative group gives Barbour 'C' on fiscal policy; gov's office says 1 tax misunderstood

By Associated Press

12:44 PM CDT, October 1, 2010




JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — A libertarian think tank is giving Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour a "C" for fiscal policy — a rare example of a conservative group criticizing the potential 2012 presidential candidate on money issues.

The Cato Institute says in a report this week that Barbour "has a conservative reputation, but his tax and spending record over seven years as governor has not been very conservative."

The group criticizes Barbour for signing laws increasing Mississippi's hospital tax and cigarette tax.

Barbour spokesman Dan Turner says the Cato Institute erroneously thought the hospital tax reinstated in 2009 was a new tax. Turner says it was an updated version of a tax that had been in place since 1992, and the federal government required Mississippi to make revisions.

NEW ARTICLES FROM **HowLIFEWORKS**

	Why Most Shampoos Are a Waste of Money
	The 5 Dumbest Things You Can Do If You Owe Too Much Money
	Who Gets to Use Unsold Cruise Cabins at Huge Discounts