

## **Libertarian Cato Institute rates McCrory a top governor**

By Lynn Bonner  
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Is this a a good list for Gov. Pat McCrory to be on?

The Cato Institute, a libertarian think-tank based in Washington, gave McCrory and three other governors A's for their fiscal policies. Read: tax cuts and limited increases in general fund spending.

The other three governors – all Republicans – receiving the top grade were Gov. Mike Pence of Indiana, Gov. Paul LePage of Maine and Gov. Sam Brownback of Kansas. Both LePage and Brownback are in tough reelection battles, with Brownback on the spot for major tax cuts that have failed to produce promised economic growth. LePage is controversial for a number of reasons. Pence, like McCrory, is in the middle of his term.

Cato praised McCrory for tax code changes that replaced the tiered individual tax rates with a single rate, cut the corporate tax rate, and expanded the sales tax to some service contracts, movies and amusements.