



Markell gets 'F' on fiscal responsibility

By Amy Cherry

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A Libertarian think-tank releases a new report on fiscal responsibility for which Delaware's governor gets a failing grade.

The CATO Institute report focused on tax spending and economic growth.

Democratic Governor Jack Markell got an "F."

"He has passed over the last several years several very large tax increases on Delaware families and businesses said CATO Institute analyst Nicole Kaeding.

She adds in 2013 Markell made large temporary tax hikes permanent.

"The old saying, 'There's nothing as permanent as temporary government programs,' that applies to tax policy too in Delaware, apparently," she said.

Last year, Markell got a "D." Kaeding says what propelled his score downward was this year's failed pushes for a gas tax hike and a new water tax that gave him a score among one of the eight lowest ranking governors in the nation.

"Basically, Governor Markell has pushed to increase tax after tax after tax," she said.

Governor Markell's office is working on a request for comment from WDEL.