



Libertarian Cato Institute gives Chafee a 'D' on budgetary issues

By Randal Edgar - October 10, 2012

PROVIDENCE, R.I. -- The CATO Institute, a libertarian think-tank based in Washington, D.C., gives Governor Chafee a "D" on budgetary matters.

The institute's "Fiscal Report Card on America's Governors" says Chafee has "presided over a substantial increase in spending" that has "generated a demand for taxes." General fund spending during fiscal 2013 "is expected to be up by more than 11 percent from fiscal 2011," the report says.

Chafee spokeswoman Christine Hunsinger said the governor "believes that the best way to build a strong economy" is to invest in education, infrastructure and workforce programs while maintaining fiscal predictability and stability. Credit rating agencies have recognized the administration's efforts, she said.

The report praises Chafee for supporting "major reforms to the state pension plan."