For the past several years, gifts from Lega-

cy Society members have been a signifi-
cant source of support for the Cato Institute. By significant, I mean more than 10 percent of our total revenue last year. That is a big and important number—so thank you.

Gifts from Legacy Society members come in many forms, and all are welcome. Most frequently a gift of cash is made under a will. Sometimes Cato is designated the beneficiary of a retirement account. And occasionally, distributions from more complex vehicles, such as foundations or charitable remainder trusts, are involved.

Just as Legacy Society gifts come in a broad array, so too do the individuals who make up our Society. Over the past few years we have received gifts from a family medical doctor, a hedge fund manager, a professor, a successful businessman, a gun collector, an economist, a federal agent, a housewife, and many lawyers.

So I would ask you to think about this important “legacy” way of giving to Cato. It can be a wonderful way of making a gift that will endure long past your lifetime.

If you are interested in leaving a legacy of freedom, it is simple and straightforward to sign up for the Legacy Society—just send me an email indicating that Cato is part of your long-term plans and that you would like to be a Legacy Society member. You do not need to send me the details of your plans, nor do you need to send me a copy of your will or other planning document. Of course, you are free to do so if you wish. We welcome, but do not re-quire, any detailed information that you choose to disclose.

As a small thank you for their important commitment to Cato, each January Legacy Society members receive a Cato book, CD, or DVD. And, even if they are not making an annual contribution at the $5,000 or above level, Society members are invited to attend our annual Benefactor Summit—held each February in some warm place! It is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with the Institute’s scholars and other Cato Sponsors.

Thank you again for your enduring support of Cato! ■

IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ANY ASPECT OF PLANNED GIVING—INCLUDING DRAFTING A BEQUEST TO CATO OR MAKING A BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION OF JOINING THE LEGACY SOCIETY—PLEASE CONTACT GAYLLIS WARD, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT, AT GWARD@CATO.ORG OR AT (202) 218-4631.