

## CATO POLICY REPORT

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# CATO

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# “To Be Governed...”

## **\$34 BILLION A YEAR**

Government is going to spend my money on teachers' salaries and fixing roads and things. That's way better than what I was going to do with it.

—OFFICIAL TWITTER ACCOUNT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
STATE TREASURER JOE TORSSELLA, AUGUST 23, 2019

## **ADDING INSULT TO INJURY**

American farmers are attacking President Donald Trump in the wake of a new hit from China, which comes as part of the lingering trade war between the countries. . . .

“There is a lot of stress out there,” Perdue conceded at the listening session, and attempted to reassure farmers that markets will return once a deal is negotiated. But he also scolded the crowd of thousands:

“What do you call two farmers in a basement? A whine cellar.”

—HUFFINGTON POST, AUGUST 12, 2019

## **CRISES EVERYWHERE**

Grocery stores provide many people with their primary place of social connection and sense of community . . . The increasing use of self-service checkouts—where the customer does not interact with a human—contributes to social isolation and related negative health consequences . . . contribute[s] to retail workers feeling devalued and adds efficiency pressures on workers; [and] has a disproportionate negative impact on people of color.

—OREGON BALLOT INITIATIVE, JULY 18, 2019

Much of the debate centered on “drag queen story hour,” an event held at a California public library. . . . [Sohrab] Ahmari brought up the California event early in the evening, calling it and others like it a “cultural crisis and a moral emergency.” Drag queen story hour, he warned, was a “global movement,” since the group that hosts it has 35 chapters. “It is,” he said, “a threat.”

—REASON, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019

## **I'VE GOT A PLAN FOR MYSELF, AND I HOPE LIZ WON'T INTERFERE WITH IT**

A sea of rowdy sign-waving Warren volunteers lined the sidewalks to greet convention attendees outside a Manchester sports arena before 7 a.m. They chanted, “L-I-Z, she's got a plan for me.”

—ASSOCIATED PRESS, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

## **WOMEN REALLY APPRECIATED BEING ABLE TO VOTE FOR THE SINGLE CANDIDATE**

Communism gave Soviet-era women key freedoms decades ahead of their Western sisters—from the right to vote to legal abortion.

—WASHINGTON POST, AUGUST 11, 2019

## **BLAME MR. CARRIER FOR BIG GOVERNMENT**

In the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century, Congress regularly adjourned during Washington's brutally hot and humid summers.

—WASHINGTON POST, AUGUST 10, 2019

## **ITALIANS WHO USED TO VOTE FOR ILLIBERAL, SPENDTHRIFT LEFT NOW VOTE FOR ILLIBERAL, SPENDTHRIFT RIGHT**

The Italian region of Tuscany is . . . the birthplace of the Italian Communist Party, which was founded in 1921 and has been a bastion of left-wing governance for decades.

But in the past three years, Tuscany has experienced political upheaval as the hard-right, anti-immigrant League party has won elections in many towns.

—NPR, AUGUST 14, 2019

## **THAT DOESN'T SOUND INTRUSIVE OR AUTHORITARIAN OR ANYTHING**

Sen. Bernie Sanders on Tuesday proposed an “extreme wealth tax” on the highest-income Americans, along with a “national wealth registry” that he said would help prevent them from avoiding the tax.

—POLITICO, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

## **WARREN DECLARES THAT PRESIDENTIAL ABUSE OF POWER WON'T END SOON**

On my first day as president, I will sign an executive order that puts a total moratorium on all new fossil fuel leases for drilling offshore and on public lands. And I will ban fracking—everywhere.

—ELIZABETH WARREN ON TWITTER,  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2019