

THE GOLDWATER INSTITUTE
INVITES YOU TO THE RELEASE OF

*Education Scholarships:
Expanding Opportunities for Students, Saving Taxpayers Money*

A Goldwater Institute Policy Report by Darcy Olsen

FEATURING

Marcia Alexander, Mother of scholarship recipient Brenna Alexander, Glendale

The Honorable Jon Kyl, U.S. Senator, Arizona

Jaime A. Molera, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Arizona

Darcy Olsen, Executive Director, Goldwater Institute

Results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress show that 25 percent of Arizona's students are unable to read by eighth grade and 30 percent struggle with basic arithmetic. Academic skills are generally even weaker among students from lower-income families. What can policymakers do *today* to help Arizona's neediest students? A new Goldwater Institute study urges leaders to learn from successful reforms in Florida and Pennsylvania, and to implement a tax credit that will encourage businesses to help students. Under this plan, businesses that donate funds to scholarship organizations could receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit, and students could redeem their scholarships at a private school of their parents' choice. If legislators act now, the plan could raise scholarships for an estimated 4,500 needy students by fall and help more than 22,000 students over five years. As children use the scholarships, the overall cost of education declines. Moderate projections show this plan saving Arizona taxpayers an estimated \$53 million over five years.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2002

9:00–10:15 AM

The Goldwater Institute McClelland Auditorium
500 East Coronado Road, Phoenix

(One block north of McDowell and just west of 7th Street)

Brunch and a short reception will follow the program.

Please RSVP by March 22 by calling (602) 744-9616 or e-mail rsvp@goldwaterinstitute.org
To obtain a copy of the study or for more information, call (602) 462-5000.