Baker Institute Sample Bequest Language

A bequest intention for the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University in your will assures a legacy that lasts beyond your lifetime. Certain revocable gifts, such as bequests, may be credited for campaign purposes.

Unrestricted Gift
A gift that can be used where the need is greatest.

“I give to the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) headquartered in Houston, Texas, the sum of $_____* for its general purposes.”

Gift for a Specific Purpose
A gift that is to be used for a specific purpose. Please contact the Development Office so that we may suggest language that would ensure the institute is able to use your gift for your intended purpose.

“I give to the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) headquartered in Houston, Texas, the sum of $_____* to be used for [state purpose].”

Perpetual Named Endowment Fund
A gift that lasts in perpetuity.

“I give to the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) headquartered in Houston, Texas, the sum of $_____* to be used as a permanent endowment, the income only from which shall be used for the institute’s general purposes [or describe the specific purpose, if desired].”

Residuary Bequest
Leaves as a gift any remainder after all other bequests have been paid.

“All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, I give to the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) headquartered in Houston, Texas, for its general purposes.”

Contingency Gift
Takes effect only if a primary intention cannot be met.

“If [name of beneficiary] does not survive me, or shall die during the administration of my estate or as a result of a common disaster, then I give to the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) headquartered in Houston, Texas, all of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to be used for its general purposes.”

Safety Language
Preferred language whenever a bequest to the Baker Institute is restricted for a specific purpose.

“Should the fulfillment of the purpose of our gift become impracticable, unlawful, impossible to achieve, wasteful, obsolete or inappropriate, as determined by the director of the Baker Institute, then our gift should be used for the purpose most keeping with our interests, in consultation with our/my executor.”

* Rather than leaving a certain sum, you can include language that refers to a percentage of your estate or a description of the property you wish to give.

For more information, please contact Vince McElligott, senior director of development, by telephone at 713.348.2923, by fax at 713.348.5993 or by email at vmcelligott@rice.edu. Additional information is also available on www.bakerinstitute.org.